CITY OF AKRON 2025-2029 CONSOLIDATED STRATEGY AND PLAN

FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

August, 2025

Shammas Malik, Mayor
City of Akron, Ohio

Kyle Julien, Director
Department of Planning and Urban Development
www.akronohio.gov

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

This 5-Year Consolidated Plan for the City of Akron, Ohio outlines the process and planning for the allocation of future formula program funding thru the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program. Comments and concerns from residents, organizations and community leaders were used to help develop this Plan.

The goal of the Consolidated Strategy and Plan is to provide a five year strategic plan to serve as a working guide for the application of resources to address local housing, quality of living environment and economic needs. The National Affordable Housing Act requires that for certain federal housing and urban development programs, the City must have an approved Consolidated Strategy and Plan. A strategic plan is a specific course of action for revitalization. It analyzes the full local context and linkages to the larger region. It builds on local assets and responds to the needs of the community. It integrates economic, physical, community and human development in a comprehensive and coordinated fashion so that families and communities can thrive. A strategic plan also sets forth goals, objectives and performance benchmarks for measuring progress.

An approved Consolidated Plan satisfies the statutory requirements for Akron's three community Planning and Development formula programs: CDBG, HOME and ESG. The statutes for the housing and community development grant programs set forth basic goals that relate to the major commitments and priorities of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Each of these goals must primarily benefit low and very-low income persons.

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

There are three broad strategy goals - to provide decent housing, to provide a suitable living environment for all Akron residents and to expand economic opportunity. At least 70% of the Community Development Block Grant funds are required to be used for activities that principally benefit low-income persons. All HOME funds and ESG funds will be used for activities that benefit low-income persons.

Objectives include retaining affordable housing, increasing the availability of permanent housing that is affordable to low-income people, increasing supportive housing with features and services that enable persons with special needs to live in dignity and assisting homeless persons to obtain affordable housing. Outcomes include improving the safety and livability of neighborhoods, increasing access to quality facilities and services and creating jobs.

The City will support the rehabilitation of existing housing through rehabilitation assistance on an income-qualified basis. Rehabilitation assistance will be combined with Lead Abatement in homes with children under the age of six. Akron will afford property owners the opportunity to make an investment in each property to improve its outward appearance and make sure that its major systems - heating, electrical and plumbing - are in good working order. Neighborhood parks and public facilities will also be addressed, as well as necessary public improvements to infrastructure including streets, street trees and sidewalks.

The City will also continue to fund a number of programs that have proven their value such as supporting non-profit housing development, providing a Waiver Demolition program to assist property owners in removing deteriorated structures and Minor Home Repair to offer small-scale assistance to low-income homeowners or the elderly on a fixed income to correct an emergency problem. The City will consider removing blighted conditions and assembling vacant lots to facilitate new housing construction to afford more housing choice to Akron residents as opportunities present themselves. Demolition is viewed as a last resort. Efforts will be made to pursue additional funding and partnerships with area agencies to rehabilitate homes rather than tear them down.

The City allocates funding to a variety of programs primarily benefiting low-income residents including community service programs, community gardens, support of neighborhood-based initiatives, blight removal, new construction and assisting neighborhood businesses in Great Street program areas.

3. Evaluation of past performance

The overall goals of the community planning and development programs are to develop viable communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and to extend economic development opportunities to low and moderate income persons. These are the goals that have been guiding Akron's process for a number of years. While the goals stay the same, the process can fluctuate based on funding levels, housing conditions in specific areas of the city, local needs and a variety of other factors. Existing conditions and past performance are constantly evaluated to develop the current action plan.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

Each year the City of Akron convenes a meeting of interested citizens, community organizers, neighborhood residents and others including affordable housing representatives, providers, social service agencies, homeless housing representatives, lending institutions and the Public Housing Authority to allow citizens an opportunity to present their views on community needs. The 2025 Annual Plan represents the first year of the new five-year strategy for 2025-2029. The City held public meetings at all wards to facilitate discussion on residents needs in the second half of 2024. The Needs Meeting for the 5-Year Consolidated Plan was held on May 29, 2025 at the Reach Opportunity Center. Information is disseminated utilizing the City's website, the City's social media, mailing lists, neighborhood based groups, block clubs, City Council newsletters and various print media.

Presentations are also made at ward meetings and community gatherings.

After the community needs meeting, three public hearings were held, first at Akron Planning Commission (June 13, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.) than two public meetings at Akron City Council (July 14, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.). Meetings are advertised in local newspapers and online. A mailing list of local agencies, businesses and citizens is used to notify interested parties by mail. A community survey was also undertaken as part of the preparation of the Plan. Citizen input reaffirmed established goals to meet objectives in both the Five Year Plan and Annual Action Plan.

Broadband Specific: Broadband internet access in Akron and closing the digital divide has become necessary for the success of the City of Akron and its citizens. In late 2022, the City of Akron issued a Request for Information (RFI) for a "Partnership for Broadband Internet" regarding supplier's capabilities and interest for providing broadband internet throughout the City. This initiative included a City-wide broadband plan, as well as planning investments in broadband infrastructure, securing funding from state, federal, and private partners, and implementing targeted projects with quantifiable and durable benefits to City of Akron residents. The City of Akron has expanded broadband services to provide service at all community services and will leverage this as part of our Digital Divide plan to better support technology education to our citizens.

Resilience Specific: The City of Akron Engineering Department assists in addressing flood prone areas, public land and water resources in the City. Additionally, the City of Akron is a member of NEFCO (Northeast Ohio Four Regional Planning and Development Organization). The city is located within Summit County and has access to the resources made available by Summit County Emergency Management Agency. The Agency, in times of emergency (i.e. floods, natural disasters, hazard mitigation, etc.) is able to respond and lead the City in addressing the emergencies as needed.

5. Summary of public comments

The City of Akron held meetings in all ten wards of the City through the second half of 2024 and the Annual Needs Meeting on May 29, 2025 to gain resident input and assess residents needs. Comments included the need for more affordable housing, concerns over increasing homelessness, how to crack down on slum landlords, more strict code enforcement, rights of tenants of slum landlords, the problem of lending and comps in areas with low housing values, community service programs to maintain parks, the need for rent assistance, discussion on tiny homes, evictions, public services, senior assistance, counseling, assistance with online services, transportation, efficient use of funds, maximizing leverage, emergency repair assistance for extremely low-income homeowners, the value of rehabilitation as opposed to demolition and how increasing costs hamper rehabilitation efforts among a wide range of topics and pointed discussions.

Approximately 50 residents attended the June 13, 2025 public hearing at Akron City Planning Commission. All comments were favorable. Public comments in favor of the Plan included a formerly

homeless person, the CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Summit County, the Executive Director of the Access Emergency Shelter, the Director of Housing Services at the United Way of Summit and Medina County and the Executive Director of the Summit County Continuum of Care. Additionally, a member of Planning Commission spoke to stress the openness of the process of preparing the Plan and that all comments are considered.

Approximately ten people (plus City Council members) attended the Akron City Council Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting held at 1:00 p.m. on July 14, 2025. The Executive Director of the Access Women's Shelter and the Director of Housing Services at United Way Summit and Medina spoke in favor of the plan and the use of the funding. Council members advocated for more funding. There was discussion on the utility of tiny homes in terms of affordable housing and homelessness. Council members wanted a summary of any changes in allocations and how funds were spent by Ward.

Approximately five people (plus City Council members) attended the Akron City Council public hearing held at 5:00 p.m. on July 14, 2025. The Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity Summit County spoke in favor of the plan. Two area residents spoke in favor of the plan subject to funding being allocated as it was intended.

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

All comments were accepted.

7. Summary

N/A

The Process

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	AKRON	
CDBG Administrator		Helen Tomic, Dept, of Planning and Urban Dev.
HOPWA Administrator		
HOME Administrator		Helen Tomic, Dept. of Planning and Urban Dev.
ESG Administrator		Helen Tomic, Dept. of Planning and Urban Dev.
HOPWA-C Administrator		

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Helen Tomic, City of Akron Office of Integrated Development

Dept. of Planning and Urban Development

Long Range Planning Manager

Municipal Building Room 401

166 South High Street

Akron, OH 44308

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

1. Introduction

The City of Akron Department of Planning and Urban Development (DPUD), is the lead agency in the coordination and management of the process and preparation of the Plan. The City will lead and coordinate the consolidated planning, submission and implementation process. The City will continue to be involved in activities over the coming year which enhance coordination between public and non-profit housing providers and private and public health and service agencies.

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)).

As in previous years, coordination and communication is ongoing between public and non-profit housing providers and private and public health and social service agencies. The City will continue to schedule regular meetings with the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority, the Homebuilders Association, area community development corporations, neighborhood organizations, neighborhood residents, business associations, the Continuum of Care and health and social service providers.

The City works closely with area CDC's and the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority to facilitate improvements to neighborhoods and public housing. The City has facilitated the funding and preparation of neighborhood plans by area CDC's and neighborhood organizations to both guide and spur reinvestment in low and moderate income neighborhoods. The City also works with neighborhood residents, businesses, social service agencies, etc. when preparing Redevelopment Plans for project areas to remove blighting conditions and/or facilitate investment. In the past few years (since 2015), City assistance and collaboration has resulted in substantial new developments of affordable housing. Where new housing is involved, the City works with both the Homebuilders Association and private builders as necessary.

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 Akron is the collaborative applicant for the Akron / Barberton / Summit County Continuum of Care. The City is the recipient of Continuum of Care (CoC) and local ESGP funds. The City and CoC members meet regularly to review systems of care for the homeless and HUD requirements. The City of Akron consults and collaborates with the Continuum of Care Steering Committee in developing the policies and procedures for the implementation of ESG program rules. This process includes the development of performance standards for the administration of the ESGP program and all Continuum

of Care projects (SHP and S+C). This collaboration will continue as we move forward and continue to review and update policies and procedures for the Continuum of Care as a whole.

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

The City of Akron and the Continuum of Care recognize the need to develop and continuously review performance standards for the administration of the ESGP program and all Continuum of Care projects. The City of Akron will continue to coordinate with the CoC to:

* Maintain a planning process to oversee ESG and CoC policies and procedures for committee structure, meeting guidelines, roles and responsibilities, performance measures, and criteria for poor performers;

* Investigate gap prioritization within the ESG and CoC and continuously review and update process for determining relative priorities with community input;

* Continue to review and update short-and long-term strategic goals in the establishment of permanent supportive housing. Review and update ESGP performance measures and outcomes as necessary.

* Adopt and maintain a written ESG and CoC plan

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	**Agency/Group/Organization**	United Way of Summit and Medina
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-homeless Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The United Way of Summit County is the local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) administrative agency. The City and United Way work closely to provide homeless data to make policy and funding decisions as they apply to Akron's homeless population. The City contracts with the United Way to provide a Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program. United Way also provides an Information & Referral Program, a twenty-four hour centralized information, referral and follow-up service which serves as a linkage between persons in need of human services and available non-profit and government services.
2	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Battered Women's Shelter
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Battered Women's Shelter is a contributing member of the Continuum of Care. They provide life skills, self-sufficiency, and self-care programming for clients, opportunities for volunteers and community involvement, while offering a welcoming, safe haven for victims of abuse, and senior victims and children of victims regardless of their sex or age. The Battered Women's Shelter also provides counseling to children who witness violence in an effort to break the cycle of violence and abuse and help promote peace in every family.
3	**Agency/Group/Organization**	HUMILITY OF MARY HOUSING, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	H.M. Life Opportunity Services provides permanent supportive housing services for homeless women and children. H.M. Life advocates for the continuation of supportive services as clients move to independent living to include assistance with furnishings, household items, and car repairs.
4	**Agency/Group/Organization**	CANAPI
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Community Aids Network provides rapid re-housing to HIV/AIDS homeless adult individuals. Agency was consulted to determine homeless housing needs of the HIV/AIDS population.
5	**Agency/Group/Organization**	ACCESS, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-homeless

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	ACCESS provides an emergency shelter and services to homeless single adult women and to homeless women with children. ACCESS also provides homeless women and children. Agency was consulted to determine the homeless emergency housing needs of women and children.
6	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Family Promise of Summit County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Family Promise of Summit County provides an emergency shelter for families with children. Agency was consulted to determine homeless emergency housing needs of homeless families.
7	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Legacy III, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Legacy III provides rapid re-housing to single women recovering from chronic substance abuse.
8	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Shelter Care, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Shelter Care Inc. provides emergency shelter to runaway or homeless youth and provides non-residential counseling to youth and families. Shelter Care was consulted to determine homeless housing needs of the homeless youth in Akron.
9	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Akron Community Service Center and Urban League
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Akron Community Service Center & Urban League provides a Summer Enrichment Day Camp program which provides an opportunity for low income children to attend a structured educational and recreational camp, that extends academic, social, and cultural education in addition to the traditional recreational activities.
10	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Community Legal Aid Services, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Community Legal Aid Services, Inc. provides a Financial Information and Legal Education program to low-income residents. The City of Akron reached out to Community Legal Aid to assess the legal needs of our low and moderate income residents.
11	**Agency/Group/Organization**	FAIR HOUSING CONTACT SERVICE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Support activities that further access to housing within the City of Akron, including handling complaints, conducting systemic tests of the housing market, provide informational and resolution services to tenants and landlords and provide homebuyer counseling to low and moderate income residents.

12	**Agency/Group/Organization**	INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AKRON, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The International Institute of Akron, Inc. provides assistance in access to services and achieving self-sufficiency.
13	**Agency/Group/Organization**	VANTAGE Aging, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Mature Services, Inc. provides Senior Activities Program of Homecare, Chore, Outreach and Volunteer Services to senior citizens and disabled residents of Akron. The Homecare services involve light housekeeping, laundry, meal preparation and personal care. Chore services involve heavy cleaning and trash removal. Outreach services consist of assessing and reassessing client eligibility for services. Volunteer services means the placement of volunteers in Community Development and Emergency Solutions Grant funded programs.
14	**Agency/Group/Organization**	VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Victim Assistance Program, Inc. provides crisis intervention, information and referral, individual support, support group referrals and other victim related services to residents immediately and directly affected by major crimes including domestic violence, sexual assault, homicide, elder abuse, and trauma situations.

15	**Agency/Group/Organization**	East Akron Neighborhood Development Corporation - EANDC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing / Neighborhood Development
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Akron met with the East Akron Neighborhood Development Corporation to discuss goals related to the 2025 to 2029 Five Year Plan and 2025 Action Plan as they pertain to developing a housing strategy for low and moderate income residents.
16	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Nazareth Housing Development Corporation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Lead-based Paint Strategy Housing
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Akron met with the Nazareth Housing Development Corporation to discuss goals related to the 2025 to 2029 Five Year Plan and 2025 Action Plan as they pertain to developing a housing strategy for low and moderate income residents.
17	**Agency/Group/Organization**	The Well Community Development Corp.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Lead-based Paint Strategy Housing / Neighborhood Development
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Akron met with the Well Community Development Corporation to discuss goals related to the 2025 to 2029 Five Year Plan and 2025 Action Plan as they pertain to developing a housing strategy for low and moderate income residents.
18	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Kenmore Neighborhood Alliance
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Development Corp. Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Neighborhood Development

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Akron met with the Kenmore Neighborhood Association to discuss goals related to the 2025 to 2029 Five Year Plan and 2025 Action Plan as they pertain to developing a housing strategy for low and moderate income residents.
19	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority provides affordable housing options to approximately 10,000 households throughout Summit County. Their public housing program consists of over 4,000 apartments and single-family homes that receive federal rental subsidies for low income families as well as disabled and elderly individuals. In addition, AMHA owns and/or manages over 800 apartments that are federally subsidized and/or financed with low income housing tax credits or tax exempt bonds. AMHA also administers rental subsidy to over 5,000 households through the Housing Choice Voucher Program. The City works closely with AMHA. AMHA was consulted to determine their goals and anticipated outcomes for the next year. The City has been working closely with AMHA on the redevelopment of AMHA's Summit Lake Apartments and the surrounding neighborhood.
20	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Community Support Services, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Persons with severe and persistent mental illness
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	CSS was consulted to determine how the needs of persons with severe mental illness can best be assisted to reduce the risk of homelessness.

21	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Harmony House, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City worked with Harmony House to determine how the needs of homeless youth ages 18 to 24 could better be served.
22	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Akron/Barberton/Summit County CoC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Akron works closely with the Continuum of Care on all homeless related issues. The anticipated outcome is an increase in efficiency in dealing with homelessness.

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

N/A

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	City of Akron	

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

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

The City meets regularly with the Summit County Department of Community and Economic Development in the implementation of the plan and planning activities. The City also works closely with the Summit County Continuum of Care to address issues relating to homelessness.

Narrative (optional):

Broadband Specific: Broadband internet access in Akron and closing the digital divide has become necessary for the success of the City of Akron and its citizens. In late 2022, the City of Akron issued a Request for Information (RFI) for a "Partnership for Broadband Internet" regarding supplier's capabilities and interest for providing broadband internet throughout the City. This initiative included a City-wide broadband plan, as well as planning investments in broadband infrastructure, securing funding from state, federal, and private partners, and implementing targeted projects with quantifiable and durable benefits to City of Akron residents. The City of Akron has expanded broadband services to provide service at all community services and will leverage this as part of our Digital Divide plan to better support technology education to our citizens.

Resilience Specific: The City of Akron Engineering Department assists in addressing flood prone areas, public land and water resources in the City. Additionally, the City of Akron is a member of NEFCO (Northeast Ohio Four Regional Planning and Development Organization). The city is located within Summit County and has access to the resources made available by Summit County Emergency Management Agency. The Agency, in times of emergency (i.e. floods, natural disasters, hazard mitigation, etc.) is able to respond and lead the City in addressing the emergencies as needed.

Lead-based Paint Hazards: The City of Akron aggressively pursues lead abatement activties in our older housing and has successfully applied for and received numerous federal Lead Hazard Reduction Grant program grants, including $7,000,000 in the latest round of funding in late 2024.

PR-15 Citizen Participation – 91.105, 91.115, 91.200(c) and 91.300(c)

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

Each year the City of Akron convenes a meeting of interested citizens, community organizers, neighborhood residents and others including affordable housing representatives, providers, social service agencies, homeless housing representatives, lending institutions and the Public Housing Authority to allow citizens an opportunity to present their views on community needs and the Annual Action Plan. This meeting was held on May 29, 2025 at the Reach Opportunity Center. For the Five Year Plan, meetings were held at all ten wards of the City through the second half of 2024 to gain public input. Information is disseminated utilizing City social media, the City of Akron website, mailing lists, neighborhood based groups, block clubs, neighborhood Ward meetings and various print media outlets. Additionally, at every weekly City Council meeting, time is set aside at the end of the meetings for public comments. Comments are noted and contacts are arranged as necessary to follow up.

After the community needs meeting, three public hearings are held, first at Akron Planning Commission (June 13, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.) than two public meetings at Akron City Council (July 14, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.). Meetings are advertised in local newspapers and online. A mailing list of local agencies, businesses and citizens is used to notify interested parties by mail. A community survey was also undertaken as part of the preparation of the Plan. Citizen input reaffirmed established goals to meet objectives in both the Five Year Plan and Annual Action Plan.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)

1	Public Meeting	Area agencies and the public	Approximately 40 representatives from area agencies and the public attended a meeting for the 5-Year plan held at the Reach Opportunity Center on May 29, 2025.	Needs included more affordable housing, concerns over increasing homelessness, how to crack down on slum landlords, more strict code enforcement, rights of tenants of slum landlords, the problem of lending and comps in areas with low housing values, community service programs to maintain parks, the need for rent assistance, discussion on tiny homes, evictions, public services, senior assistance, counseling, assistance with online services, transportation, efficient use of funds, maximizing leverage,	All comments were accepted.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
				emergency repair assistance for extremely low-income homeowners, the value of rehabilitation as opposed to demolition and how increasing costs hamper rehabilitation efforts among a wide range of topics and pointed discussions.		

2	Public Hearing	Area agencies and the public	Approximately 50 residents attended the June 13, 2025 public hearing at Akron City Planning Commission	All comments were favorable. Public comments in favor of the Plan included a formerly homeless person, the CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Summit County, the Executive Director of the Access Emergency Shelter, the Director of Housing Services at the United Way of Summit and Medina County and the Executive Director of the Summit County Continuum of Care. Additionally, a member of Planning Commission spoke to stress the openness of the process of preparing the Plan and that all	All comments were accepted.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
				comments are considered.		
3	Public Hearing	Area agencies and the public	Approximately ten people (plus City Council members) attended the Akron City Council Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting held at 1:00 p.m. on July 14, 2025.	The Executive Director of the Access Women's Shelter and the Director of Housing Services at United Way Summit and Medina spoke in favor of the plan and the use of the funding. Council members advocated for more funding. There was discussion on the utility of tiny homes in terms of affordable housing and homelessness. Council members wanted a summary of any changes in allocations and how funds were spent by Ward.	All comments were accepted.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	Public Hearing	Area agencies and the public	Approximately five people (plus City Council members) attended the Akron City Council public hearing held at 5:00 p.m. on July 14, 2025.	The Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity Summit County spoke in favor of the plan. Two area residents spoke in favor of the plan subject to funding being allocated as it was intended.	All comments were accepted.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Needs Assessment

NA-05 Overview

Needs Assessment Overview

The City has an aging housing stock. Nearly sixty percent of the City's housing units were built prior to 1960. Over 25% were built prior to 1940. Housing in need of maintenance is most prevalent in low-income neighborhoods, but no area of the City is immune to this. For many residents, maintenance of their home has become problematic. Maintenance needs are widespread. Neglected, vacant and abandoned homes can be found scattered through entire neighborhoods. Maintenance to aging sewer lines, streets, public parks and public facilities is a constant necessity.

Approximately one of every five households in the City earns less than 30% of the HUD Area Median Income (approximately 17,925 households City-wide). While the majority of these households are in lower-income census tracts, the need for assistance to maintain safe, warm and dry housing can be found City-wide. Households with small children (under the age of 6) are even more financially burdened, with nearly one in every three of these households earning less than 30% of the Area Median Income. While one-third of the City's total households earn more than the HUD area median income, only 15% of households with children under the age of six fall into this category. Small family households, often with more than one person earning income, are the least financially burdened income group, but 18% of these households still earn less than 30% of area median income. Households with at least one person aged 75 or older are also excessively cost-burdened.

Access to community service programs to support infant mortality, public safety and the judicial system, access to housing, financial empowerment centers, information and referral and other needs is sometimes difficult for lower-income residents and seniors. The City attempts to target programs to low-income areas to increase residents' access to these beneficial programs.

Combating homelessness and conditions that lead to homelessness are ongoing priorities. The Akron / Barberton / Summit County Continuum of Care and the City of Akron meet regularly to both establish and monitor programming targeted to in-need populations.

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

Summary of Housing Needs

In Summer 2024, the City released "A Housing Action Plan for Akron" which outlined existing housing conditions and housing strategies. The Summit County Housing Research Collaborative is nearing completion on a plan to identify needs, establish priorities and develop actionable recommendations relating to housing in Akron and Summit County. Akron has an aging housing stock. Nearly sixty percent of the City's housing units were built prior to 1960. Over 25% were built prior to 1940. Housing in need of maintenance is most prevalent in low-income neighborhoods, but no area of the City is immune to this. For many residents, maintenance of their home has become problematic. Maintenance needs are widespread. In some neighborhoods, declining property values has led to slum landlords. Properties are being purchased by out of town or out of State owners. Vacant and abandoned homes are a reality the City will continue to address. As housing continues to age, maintenance of housing in Akron neighborhoods will continue to be a priority.

Demographics	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2020	% Change
Population	198,330	197,375	-0%
Households	83,685	85,170	2%
Median Income	$34,512.00	$40,281.00	17%

Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2016-2020 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households	17,925	13,895	17,750	8,115	27,480
Small Family Households	5,720	3,305	6,595	3,100	11,620
Large Family Households	855	990	1,285	375	1,265
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	3,430	3,900	3,805	1,905	6,460
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	1,305	2,455	2,140	685	2,355
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger	3,540	2,105	2,905	940	1,680

Table 6 - Total Households Table

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

Housing Needs Summary Tables

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

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	345	120	155	80	700	25	105	35	0	165
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	80	0	20	40	140	30	4	0	0	34
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	205	185	215	15	620	15	80	65	0	160
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	7,900	1,835	60	0	9,795	2,405	950	110	30	3,495

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	1,510	4,060	2,545	150	8,265	760	1,595	2,090	320	4,765
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	1,345	0	0	0	1,345	445	0	0	0	445

Table 7 – Housing Problems Table

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

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

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	8,530	2,140	450	135	11,255	2,480	1,145	210	30	3,865
Having none of four housing problems	4,945	6,205	8,650	3,145	22,945	1,975	4,405	8,440	4,805	19,625
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 8 – Housing Problems 2

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

3. Cost Burden > 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	3,895	1,695	1,215	6,805	495	530	650	1,675
Large Related	495	395	130	1,020	160	60	165	385
Elderly	1,835	1,460	435	3,730	1,375	1,710	850	3,935
Other	3,770	2,455	919	7,144	1,185	255	540	1,980
Total need by income	9,995	6,005	2,699	18,699	3,215	2,555	2,205	7,975

Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

4. Cost Burden > 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	0	0	635	635	445	240	0	685
Large Related	0	0	80	80	130	0	0	130
Elderly	1,490	530	95	2,115	1,020	620	70	1,710
Other	0	3,335	595	3,930	845	0	0	845
Total need by income	1,490	3,865	1,405	6,760	2,440	860	70	3,370

Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	255	150	225	50	680	45	54	10	0	109
Multiple, unrelated family households	24	25	10	4	63	0	30	55	0	85

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Other, non-family households	15	10	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	294	185	235	54	768	45	84	65	0	194

Table 11 – Crowding Information – 1/2

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

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

Table 12 – Crowding Information – 2/2

Data Source Comments:

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

Housing repair needs consistently increase at lower-income levels in both owner-occupied and renter-occupied housing. Seniors are often at risk. Young singles who rent are often cost-burdened until they get established in life.

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

The Battered Women's Shelter of Summit and Medina Counties (BWS) and its sister agency The Rape Crisis Center (RCC) provide the emergency, transitional and rapid rehousing services needed by persons and families who are homeless due to domestic violence and sexual assault. Together these two organizations lead our County in maintaining and advocating on behalf of these vulnerable pockets of crime victims. The Battered Women's Shelter of Summit County provides approximately 40,000 nights of emergency shelter annually to women, men and children who presented themselves as being homeless or at risk of homelessness due to interpersonal violence. At 100 beds, the BWS operates one of the largest emergency shelters in the State to offer refuge to any person or family fleeing domestic violence. Additionally, the Rape Crisis Center assists over 1,000 victims of rape, sexual assault or stalking annually. While providing crisis and trauma services to the victims of these sexual crimes, the staff ensures that each person has safe housing on an immediate and ongoing basis. Any survivor needing shelter is transported to the BWS and provided with supportive services.

These statistics, provided by each agency are consistent with those they have recorded in previous years, therefore we are estimating that approximately 4,000 persons will receive some form of housing support over the next 5 years. The domestic violence / sexual assault housing programs (shelters) can accommodate approximately 150 people on any given night. The facilities operated by BWS are capable of supporting victims of all ages, male victims, and persons with physical or mental disabilities.

What are the most common housing problems?

In consultation with the City of Akron Housing Rehabilitation Division, local CHDO's and CDC's, the most common housing repair problems confronting Akron residents continues to consist of leaking roofs, windows, furnaces, hot water tanks, foundation issues, sewer and water lines, painting and siding. Lead based paint in pre-1978 housing is a condition that needs to be addressed. For homes located in neighborhoods with low housing values, large rehabilitation projects are often not cost effective without assistance. Low home values hinder new construction in terms of construction loans.

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

The need for housing improvements is widespread at lower-income levels where housing maintenance costs exceed the capacity to save for necessary maintenance. Families with children under the age of six are especially cost burdened.

Low-income families of all types are the most severely impacted by housing maintenance needs. Single parent households and seniors can be severely impacted. Rebuilding Together, an agency which serves elderly with housing repair needs, provides repair services for senior low income homeowners through a contract with the City of Akron. Each year, the City provides funding to serve approximately 100 low income senior households. These households receive assistance to address minor home repairs. The program always has a waiting list of seniors requiring assistance. Rebuilding Together has been operating this program in Akron since 1996.

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

Vulnerable households are precariously housed throughout the City. Many are one paycheck away from evictions without the financial means to find other housing. Others live in substandard housing conditions with little opportunity to attain better housing due to limited income.

Home Again, formerly the ARRA funded HPRP program, is a collaboration between the City and the United Way of Summit and Medina. The United Way coordinates and implements the homeless prevention rapid re-housing program for the CoC. The Home Again program is available to all individuals

and families residing within Akron who are currently homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless but for this assistance.

Decreases in homeless prevention and rapid re-housing funds at the federal level significantly decreased the number of clients served. The CoC has worked to maintain HPRP services at lower funding levels. Home Again, the local HCRP program, has collaborated with the City to obtain ESGP and HOME funds, State of Ohio funds, and County TANF funds. The CoC will continue to pursue other funding sources to assist client needs. The CoC has in place a housing locator system providing assistance to clients and case managers in locating affordable, safe, and decent housing. At any given time, rentals are available. Case managers work closely with clients to determine eligibility for mainstream resources. Home Again outreach is ongoing with all providers.

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

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

Several factors can be linked to housing instability and pose an increased risk factor to homelessness. Despite the overall affordability of housing in Akron, there is a continued need for affordable, safe, and decent housing. In many instances, individuals have obstacles to employment, this in turn impacts their ability to attain and retain housing.

Employment opportunities for homeless individuals with obstacles to employment, including substance abuse, criminal histories and psychiatric diagnoses, remain difficult. Although the CoC continues to coordinate with area job training programs, obtaining employment in the private job market continues to be an issue for this population.

Additionally, the lack of decent and affordable housing in the City creates housing instability and poses an increased risk of homelessness for those households with a high cost burden or severe cost burden. In many instances, households in extremely low and low-income categories, predominantly renters, are at the greatest risk of homelessness. The data above indicates that nearly all low and extremely low-income renters, including the elderly, experience a cost burden that is greater than 50 percent of their income to meet their housing needs.

Discussion

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

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

Introduction

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	13,645	3,130	1,770
White	6,230	1,825	665
Black / African American	6,300	1,125	890
Asian	310	15	104
American Indian, Alaska Native	65	0	20
Pacific Islander	4	0	0
Hispanic	215	60	35

Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:
1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4.Cost Burden greater than 30%

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	9,270	4,465	0
White	4,955	2,850	0
Black / African American	3,685	1,250	0
Asian	225	150	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	20	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	210	25	0

Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:
1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4.Cost Burden greater than 30%

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	5,170	11,895	0
White	3,160	7,490	0
Black / African American	1,635	3,555	0
Asian	245	340	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	60	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	50	130	0

Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:
1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4.Cost Burden greater than 30%

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	865	7,315	0
White	685	5,060	0
Black / African American	150	1,905	0
Asian	4	170	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	25	0
Pacific Islander	0	40	0
Hispanic	10	0	0

Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:
1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4.Cost Burden greater than 30%

Discussion

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

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

Introduction

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	11,185	5,600	1,770
White	4,975	3,080	665
Black / African American	5,270	2,150	890
Asian	265	60	104
American Indian, Alaska Native	35	30	20
Pacific Islander	4	0	0
Hispanic	170	105	35

Table 17 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:
1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4.Cost Burden over 50%

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	3,030	10,700	0
White	1,545	6,255	0
Black / African American	1,305	3,640	0
Asian	125	255	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	20	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Hispanic	40	190	0

Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:
1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4.Cost Burden over 50%

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	925	16,145	0
White	550	10,100	0
Black / African American	190	5,000	0
Asian	140	440	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	60	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	180	0

Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:
1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4.Cost Burden over 50%

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	240	7,945	0
White	170	5,575	0

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Black / African American	50	2,000	0
Asian	4	170	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	25	0
Pacific Islander	0	40	0
Hispanic	10	0	0

Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:
1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4.Cost Burden over 50%

Discussion

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

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

Introduction:

Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	54,040	14,375	14,195	1,835
White	37,900	8,415	6,655	710
Black / African American	12,755	5,080	6,485	890
Asian	1,250	285	360	114
American Indian, Alaska Native	160	50	35	20
Pacific Islander	40	0	4	0
Hispanic	755	275	180	35

Table 21 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

Discussion:

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

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

Black / African Americans make up 29% of the City of Akron's total residents (55,801 of a total population of 189,664) but make up over 45% of the persons with housing cost burdens in excess of 50% of their income. In 2017, the "Elevate Greater Akron" plan was released. The report was the result of about a year of work among leaders at the City of Akron, Summit County and the Greater Akron Chamber focused on answering some questions about our economy and the best ways to drive opportunity for the region.

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

N/A

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

Specific neighborhoods are located in North Hill and West Akron. Schools have adapted to changing demographics of the student population. Small groceries and retail establishments in this area are now catering to serve new populations.

NA-35 Public Housing – 91.205(b)

Introduction

Totals in Use

Program Type									
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers in use	0	8	3,996	4,818	176	4,574	48	5	0

Table 22 - Public Housing by Program Type

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

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Characteristics of Residents

Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers				
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher	
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
Average Annual Income	0	5,871	9,871	9,233	12,018	9,136	5,863	6,790
Average length of stay	0	5	6	5	3	5	0	15
Average Household size	0	3	2	2	1	2	1	1

Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers				
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher	
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
# Homeless at admission	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	0	1	1,006	651	89	559	2	1
# of Disabled Families	0	1	1,028	1,227	44	1,151	25	3
# of Families requesting accessibility features	0	8	3,996	4,818	176	4,574	48	5
# of HIV/AIDS program participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of DV victims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 23 – Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Race of Residents

Program Type									
Race	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
White	0	0	1,675	1,717	93	1,587	28	4	0
Black/African American	0	8	2,260	3,079	83	2,965	20	1	0
Asian	0	0	55	15	0	15	0	0	0

Program Type									
Race	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	5	6	0	6	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition									

Table 24 – Race of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Ethnicity of Residents

Program Type									
Ethnicity	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	0	1	27	39	2	37	0	0	0
Not Hispanic	0	7	3,969	4,779	174	4,537	48	5	0
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition									

Table 25 – Ethnicity of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

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

There are over 35,000 unduplicated households between AMHA's Public Housing waitlist and Housing Choice Voucher waitlist. The following households on the waitlist have indicated the need for an accessible unit:

Public housing family: 0.81%

Public housing senior: .26%

HCVP: 5.97%

It is important to note that younger disabled tenants are increasingly living in senior housing. Some AMHA senior buildings have a population of 50% younger disabled tenants.

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

There are over 35,000 households on both AMHA's Public Housing waitlist and Housing Choice Voucher waitlist. Younger disabled tenants are increasingly living in senior housing. Some AMHA senior buildings have a population of 50% younger disabled tenants. Requests for physical modifications of rental units, transfer to accessible units and requests for an additional bedroom for a live-in aide or medical equipment are common. Of the requests for physical modifications, walk-in or roll-in showers, grab bars in the bathrooms, lower countertops in the kitchen/bath and no-stair living are the most frequent.

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

AMHA can only speak about its population and has encouraged the CoC to seek a consultant to determine the housing needs of the county's population. The Summit County Housing Research Collaborative is nearing completion on a plan to identify needs, establish priorities and develop actionable recommendations relating to housing in Akron and Summit County.

Discussion

NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)

Introduction:

The City of Akron and the Summit County Continuum of Care represent a broad collaborative effort to provide housing and supportive service to homeless clients thru the CoC system. Homeless providers meet on a regular basis to develop strategies to further enhance the local CoC system thru review and collaboration by providing homeless prevention, emergency, transitional, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing to homeless individuals, families, and special needs populations.

The CoC Committee evaluates the needs in the community and identifies existing gaps. The Continuum of Care system provides the homeless with not only shelter, but supportive services to equip them with the tools necessary to assist them in overcoming this difficult period in their lives. CoC agencies worked are working closely to develop a communitywide central intake system that encompasses all aspects of homeless assistance. As part of this process, the City of Akron and the CoC developed and utilize a system-wide assessment tool for all homeless assistance systems and entry-points. The implementation of a centralized intake system streamlines the entry process for homeless clients and allows them to be triaged to the proper programs based on needs. With an established centralized intake system the CoC can identify system-wide obstacles to entry in the CoC and work with CoC partners to address common obstacles homeless face when entering the system.

Screening tools are also in place to make determinations on client needs. The use of screening tools allows case managers to establish the immediate needs of the client, available resources, and housing options. This process allows case managers to make referrals to the appropriate service providers as determined by the initial screening.

For homeless prevention and rapid re-housing services the CoC has developed and utilizes a common screening tool during intake. The Home Again Housing Resource Specialists determines client eligibility for homeless prevention or rapid re-housing services. Clients are then referred to the appropriate service providing agency. Home Again partner agencies have established working relationships with area agencies that serve the homeless and clients at imminent risk of losing their housing.

Homeless Needs Assessment

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Persons in Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	0	168	500	300	350	30
Persons in Households with Only Children	0	5	100	150	270	3
Persons in Households with Only Adults	145	306	2,000	1,400	1,000	45
Chronically Homeless Individuals	61	46	100	60	40	600
Chronically Homeless Families	0	0	5	3	4	400
Veterans	15	31	200	130	160	60
Unaccompanied Child	0	5	200	150	270	3
Persons with HIV	0	4	20	10	18	60

Table 26 - Homeless Needs Assessment

Data Source Comments:

Indicate if the homeless population is: Has No Rural Homeless

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

Nature and Extent of Homelessness: (Optional)

Race:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
White	206	90
Black or African American	242	46
Asian	3	1
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	2
Pacific Islander	1	1
Ethnicity:	**Sheltered:**	**Unsheltered (optional)**
Hispanic	11	2
Not Hispanic	467	144

Data Source Comments: Above chart did not include Multiple Race: 8 sheltered and 4 unsheltered

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

The City of Akron and the Continuum of Care conducted a point-in-time count on January 27, 2025. A total of 624 persons were identified on the night of the count (478 sheltered / 146 unsheltered). 84 of these were families with children. An estimated 46 were veterans.

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

Based on the chart above, Whites makes up approximately 49% of the homeless population and Black / African Americans make up approximately 47%. Black / African Americans comprised 50% of the sheltered population to Whites 43%. Whites made up 62% of unsheltered population and Black / African Americans 31%.

Describe the Nature and Extent of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness.

The 2025 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count identified 624 total persons in shelters or on the streets on January 25, 2025. Of those, 478 were sheltered (76%) and 146 were unsheltered (24%). 168 people were in familes (27%) and 456 were individuals (73%). 90 of the 624 people were under the age of 18 (13%). Homeless numbers have been increasing over the past few years.

Discussion:

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

Introduction:

There are certain segments in the populations that may require "Special Needs". Persons meeting one of the following criteria are classified as special needs populations:

- Mentally ill
- Handicapped
- Elderly and frail elderly
- Developmentally disabled
- Drug/alcohol abusers
- AIDS
- Veterans

Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:

The City of Akron continues to work with our partner agencies to identify and provide appropriate affordable housing options for non-homeless special needs populations, many who are at risk of being homeless. The Non-Homeless Special Needs population includes elderly and frail elderly, persons with severe mental illness, developmentally disabled, physically disabled, alcohol and drug addicted, persons with AIDS and related diseases, and veterans.

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

Mental Health – Akron, the CoC, and the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority continue to administer Shelter Plus Care and HUD-VASH vouchers to clients with mental health concerns, which allow mental health clients to live in the community. However, such assistance must be coupled with the necessary mental health support services. Supportive service needs are in part met by local levy funding. However, other federal, State and local funds are also available often through competitive grant applications. The need for additional vouchers remains high if we are to meet our needs.

Physically Disabled - There continues to be relatively little accessible housing for people with physical disabilities. The Dorothy Jackson Apartments (28 units) was designed for the handicapped. The Public Housing authority has units to accommodate some handicapped persons but there continues to be a need for affordable accessible housing and home modification for supportive housing. As the population becomes older and living longer, there will be a need to modify homes to allow residents to remain in

their homes. Future homes should take into account modifications such as no step entryway and electrical outlets 18 inches from the floor for those in wheelchairs.

Elderly and Frail Elderly – As the City continues to partner with local developers for the creation of new senior housing options, the need continues as our population continues to age. Vacancy rates for elderly housing have in the past demonstrated that there are currently enough standard units. However, programs tailored to frail elderly (for both seniors in public housing and for seniors residing in apartments or their own homes) could be a cost effective alternative to nursing home care. Programs which promote shared living among the elderly would result in less of a strain on the housing budget of the elderly and could address the problem of "over-housing" (elderly households living in large housing units which they often cannot maintain).

Developmentally Disabled - Housing for the developmentally disabled continues to be an essential need. Multiple units apartments (up to four) with an individual in residence are necessary. Supportive services are necessary for individuals living at home with family / parents / relatives.

Persons with Alcohol/Drug Addiction - The Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board (ADM Board) is the local government authority responsible for planning, funding and evaluating alcohol and drug services along with mental health services. The ADM Board contracts with treatment agencies to provide needed services. The services array includes outpatient treatment, intensive outpatient treatment, drop-in-observation services, non-medical residential services, medically supervised detox, case management, and medication assistance maintenance. The public substance abuse system in Summit County has agencies designed to serve special populations with culturally specific programs as well as programs to target the elderly and teens. There is a waiting list for residential services. The need for more affordable housing exists for persons in this category but more units have been added since 2020 through new construction assisted with HOME funds.

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

Affordable housing is needed county-wide for persons with AIDS. Some of these individuals also fall into other categories of special needs such as those with drug addiction. Persons with AIDS often need progressively more intensive medical care due to the nature of the disease. Therefore, affordable housing options must be attainable as clients seek medical care.

If the PJ will establish a preference for a HOME TBRA activity for persons with a specific category of disabilities (e.g., persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness), describe their unmet need for housing and services needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2) (ii))

N/A

Discussion:

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

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities:

Public Facility Needs

The City of Akron operates approximately 130 parks and recreation areas, encompassing over 2,100 acres. Half of these are parks are developed, active parks. The rest are categorized as natural or passive parks. Aging park facilities are in constant need of upgrades.

The City of Akron has prepared a Bicycle Network Plan that establishes a vision for cycling in Akron and a baseline policy document from which a bikeway planning program can be implemented. This Plan is meant to integrate bicycle education and planning through all departments, engage community involvement and guide the funding of activities and projects that foster a safe and friendly environment for bicyclists and motorists throughout the city and region. This plan identifies principles, goals, objectives and recommendations regarding the establishment of a comprehensive bikeway network and related infrastructure, safety, educational and promotional programs to create a bicycle friendly community. The City continues to undertake improvements to enhance conditions for cycling in Akron including the striping of bike lanes. Bicycle accommodations are considered as part of the routine preparation, planning and engineering of all street improvement projects.

The City continues to try to reduce vandalism, maintenance requirements and non-staff operating costs and to improve recreational opportunities and user safety. The City also seeks to continue to increase/improve police and fire protection and increase the efficiency of garbage collection, public health services and snow removal.

How were these needs determined?

Consultation with the City's Engineering Division, Public Service Division, Planning staff and residents.

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Improvements:

The 5 year Capital Investment Program is a schedule of capital improvements in the City of Akron that are programmed to meet the following objectives:

- To maintain and repair facilities vital to the residents of Akron.
- To reduce long-term operating costs.
- To encourage private investment.
- To match Federal, State and private funds.
- To provide for the orderly growth of the City.

When the budget is adopted, it represents the priorities of Akron's citizens. Each year, a list of requested capital investments is compiled from suggestions made at periodic meetings with all

members of Council, request forms completed by City personnel, cabinet meetings, and citizens. The Department of Planning assembles all of the requests and prepares a preliminary capital budget based on available revenues and the five objectives listed.

How were these needs determined?

The Planning Department consults with the Engineering Division, the Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (AMATS), City Council and residents.

Akron's aging infrastructure requires constant repair. The City of Akron owns and operates a very complex water and sewer system that serves the residents of Akron as well as the majority of Summit County. It requires constant improvements to meet increasingly stringent EPA standards. In addition the City is still implementing its $1.4 billion combined sewer overflow (CSO) program. There are ongoing significant concerns regarding the affordability of the CSO program for this community.

The City has used the following strategies to establish infrastructure needs and ways to address those needs:

- Programming of Federal Funds - To be eligible for U.S. Department of Transportation funding, major highway and public transportation improvements in the Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (AMATS) area must be reviewed and approved by AMATS. This is done to insure that projects are coordinated between communities and support area-wide goals and objectives.
- Transportation Planning - Major transportation projects must be included in the AMATS Regional Transportation Plan to be eligible for federal funding. This Plan includes recommendations for highways, bridges, major transit capital and operating improvements, park and carpool lots and bikeways. In addition, recommendations are included for carpool matching assistance, improved transportation for elderly and handicapped persons and contingency transportation actions in the event of a major energy crisis.

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:

The City's Community Services Program (CSP) enhances neighborhood stability by funding activities undertaken by area non-profits to assist Akron residents in obtaining a variety of necessary services. Access to community service programs in the fields of mortality, public safety and the judicial system, access to housing, financial empowerment centers, information and referral and other needs is sometimes difficult for lower-income residents and seniors. The City attempts to target programs to low-income areas to increase residents' access to these beneficial programs.

Duplication and overlapping program initiatives have been reduced by working with community partners.

How were these needs determined?

Consultation with supportive service providers in the City of Akron.

Housing Market Analysis

MA-05 Overview

Housing Market Analysis Overview:

In July, 2024 the City of Akron released the Akron Action Housing Plan and Market Value Analysis. The City of Akron is fortunate to have a variety of homes available at a range of prices that are affordable to many income brackets. However, safe and sanitary housing for persons earning at or below 50% of area median income is still a need. Affordable, safe and secure apartments are also a continued need. The City will continue to work with non-profit housing developers to pursue strategies for providing affordable new housing within the City, including Habitat for Humanity, WENDCO, Nazareth Housing Development Corporation, Mustard Seed Development Center, the East Akron Neighborhood Development Corporation, the Well Community Development Corporation and the Kenmore Neighborhood Alliance. The City will participate, when possible, with private developers to ensure that low-income persons in Akron are served. The City has encouraged non-profit providers to continue to pursue other funding entities to continue their services in their neighborhoods.

There is an ongoing need for new housing construction in the City. Over the past twenty years, nearly all of the new housing in the City's neighborhoods has been through tax credit projects. The need for new low-income housing should be balanced by the need for higher value housing in revitalized areas of the City resulting in economic integration and revitalization. In 2017, the City of Akron passed City-wide tax abatement for all new residential construction and significant rehabilitation in order to facilitate investment. This program has been a success, with over 450 permits pulled for new construction and significant renovation projects since 2017.

The City of Akron has assisted in the training of non-profit housing providers in partnership with the U. S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development and Ohio Capital Corporation. Low Income Housing Tax Credit projects have been continuing in the City. Tax credit projects for new single-family housing provide low-moderate income families with single-family homes on a lease-purchase basis. The lease is for 15 years. In the past few years tax credit projects have resulted in new affordable apartment complexes for seniors, families and the homeless.

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

Introduction

All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	63,720	66%
1-unit, attached structure	3,005	3%
2-4 units	10,600	11%
5-19 units	8,635	9%
20 or more units	9,410	10%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc	525	1%
Total	***95,895***	***100%***

Table 27 – Residential Properties by Unit Number

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	20	0%	1,190	3%
1 bedroom	580	1%	9,385	22%
2 bedrooms	9,810	23%	15,425	37%
3 or more bedrooms	32,550	76%	16,210	38%
Total	***42,960***	***100%***	***42,210***	***100%***

Table 28 – Unit Size by Tenure

Data Source Comments:

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

Akron will offer a variety of assistance to increase affordability and assist property owners in keeping properties safe, warm and dry. Historically, the City has chosen a targeted-neighborhood approach for housing rehabilitation. The City has found that a targeted approach creates more of an impact than spreading out assistance in a less centralized area. The basis for allocating investments geographically is based on income levels, with most of the assistance directed to low-income areas. Areas have been chosen based on both income levels and existing conditions. This includes not only the age, value and condition of the housing stock, but also owner occupancy rates, household income and other demographics. These neighborhoods are the backbone of Akron, with affordable housing prices and housing that is generally in good condition. Investment of funds in these neighborhoods helps retain their viability in terms of appearance, housing values and infrastructure. Neighborhood business districts

are usually within a walkable distance. The City realizes that in certain homes, deteriorated conditions make rehabilitation difficult. Acquisition, clearance and new construction may be pursued in conjunction with rehabilitation activities to benefit the entire surrounding area. Demolition is viewed as a last resort, however. Efforts will be made to pursue additional funding and partnerships with area agencies to rehabilitate homes rather than tear them down.Emergency assistance will be available City-wide for urgent needs such as leaking roofs based on income levels. Minor home repair will be offered to low-income seniors. Lead abatement will be combined with rehabilitation assistance in the most distressed households with children. City housing programs are funded by Federal Community Development Block Grants, HOME, the Emergency Shelter Grant program and local bank lending. Local income tax also assists in public improvements in neighborhoods.

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

There are assisted units which will be nearing the 20 year subsidy limit and which may return to the private market, thereby being lost from the assisted housing inventory. The City will work with housing providers to retain and maintain existing HAP (Housing Assistance Payments) housing units.

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

New housing is necessary to meet housing needs of families and individuals at every income level. In 2017, the City passed City-wide tax abatement on residential new construction or rehabilitation. Homeowners continue to pay their existing property tax for a period of 15 years from the date of the improvement to the property. The City continues to seek partnerships with local developers and non-profits to increase the availability of affordable housing units. Recommendations for prospective new development on lots currently owned by the City will be reviewed and evaluated. New market rate housing is in short supply and high demand. Low housing values in many neighborhoods are an impediment to getting new market rate housing constructed. Safe and sanitary, affordable apartments are a constant need.

Describe the need for specific types of housing:

Affordable rentals for all age ranges are a continued need, as is senior housing. At the same time, the City recognizes the importance of maintaining high owner-occupancy rates in neighborhoods to aid in the stability of the housing stock and property values.

Discussion

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

Introduction

Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2020	% Change
Median Home Value	81,200	83,500	3%
Median Contract Rent	553	641	16%

Table 29 – Cost of Housing

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2016-2020 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than $500	10,150	24.1%
$500-999	29,810	70.6%
$1,000-1,499	1,730	4.1%
$1,500-1,999	255	0.6%
$2,000 or more	268	0.6%
Total	***42,213***	***100.0%***

Table 30 - Rent Paid

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Housing Affordability

Number of Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	4,415	No Data
50% HAMFI	17,915	9,135
80% HAMFI	31,785	18,365
100% HAMFI	No Data	23,265
Total	***54,115***	***50,765***

Table 31 – Housing Affordability

Data Source Comments:

Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent ($)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	712	809	1,027	1,297	1,380
High HOME Rent	527	623	810	1,019	1,095

Monthly Rent ($)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Low HOME Rent	527	623	810	951	1,062

Table 32 – Monthly Rent

Data Source Comments:

Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

Housing in Akron is very affordable, but there is still a need for more decent housing for persons earning at or below 50% of area median income. The City partners with area Community Development Corporations and non-profits to create more housing thru lease-purchase low income housing tax credit projects, purchase / rehabilitation projects and new apartment construction.

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

Akron is not generally a city impacted by rising property values, raised rents and gentrification but property values have risen since 2020. In some neighborhoods, declining property conditions and vacant homes have resulted in an increase in out of town investors purchasing multiple properties, investing little, raising rents and not paying property tax. These homes are abandoned after a few years, leaving a vacant home in disrepair with back taxes owed on the lot. In a City with an aging housing stock like Akron's, blighting conditions can quickly take hold and spread through disinvestment. Additionally, income levels in many neighborhoods are not sufficient to maintain homes when repairs are necessary.

Lending institutions continue to maintain a high standard for lending requirements for those seeking credit, especially homeownership.

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

Continued partnerships with the PHA, CHDO's, and developers willing to build LIHTC units are still key to providing and maintaining safe and affordable housing units. Supporting current HAP landlords in their efforts to rehabilitate existing affordable rental units is essential to the maintenance of our current rental housing availability.

Establishing and maintaining relationships with private landlords is essential to the rental housing market. Working with landlords to establish a willingness to take a risk and rent to at-risk clients with a poor rental history is essential to maintain affordable housing units.

An increase to the Housing Choice Voucher Program is important to allow clients the means to rent in safe and decent housing and lower their housing burden. AMHA continues to implement a higher

payment standard for the Housing Choice Voucher Program to help families move into higher opportunity neighborhoods.

Discussion

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

Introduction

Describe the jurisdiction's definition of "standard condition" and "substandard condition but suitable for rehabilitation":

City inspectors utilize the Environmental Health Code (section 150.15 unfit dwellings) and the International Property Maintenance Code (section 108 unsafe structures) when evaluating properties along with HQS Standards from HUD. Below numbers should be, for owner-occupied units with, respectively, one condition (8,870 - 21%), two conditions (65 - 0%), three conditions (0), four conditions (0) and no conditions (34,030 - 79%) for a total of 42, 965 owner-occupied units. For renter-occupied units with, respectively, one condition (19,095 - 45%, two conditions (750 - 2%), three conditions (60 - 0%), four conditions (0) and no conditions (22,295 - 53%) for a total of 42,200 renter-occupied units. Numbers did not self populate in this specific chart in HEROS and could not be entered manually. Further down the page, under Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard - Housing Units with Children Present the totals are 2,540 owner-occupied units and 585 renter-occupied units. Again, these numbers did not self populate in the chart and could not be entered manually.

Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	0	0%	0	0%
With two selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
With three selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
Total	***0***	***0%***	***0***	***0%***

Table 33 - Condition of Units

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	1,580	4%	3,135	7%
1980-1999	4,035	9%	6,100	14%
1950-1979	17,160	40%	17,830	42%
Before 1950	20,185	47%	15,140	36%
Total	***42,960***	***100%***	***42,205***	***99%***

Table 34 – Year Unit Built

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	37,345	87%	32,970	78%
Housing Units build before 1980 with children present	0	0%	0	0%

Table 35 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS (Total Units) 2016-2020 CHAS (Units with Children present)

Vacant Units

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

Table 36 - Vacant Units

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation

<TYPE=[text] REPORT_GUID=[F8DC4D3147433947165558A235C46686]
PLAN_SECTION_ID=[1313801000]>

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

Of Akron's approximately 85,000 housing units, 70,315 were built prior to 1978. Homes built prior to 1978 could contain lead based paint, which can be hazardous to children and specifically those children under the age of 6. City officials have estimated that up to 40 percent of children in some inner-city neighborhoods are threatened and 1 in 10 Akron children are affected by lead base paint. Overall, 56% of Akron's households are at or below 80% of the median income or low /moderate income.

Discussion

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

Introduction

Totals Number of Units

Program Type									
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project -based	Tenant -based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers available	0	8	4,285	4,975	204	4,771	229	45	0
# of accessible units									
***includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**									

Table 37 – Total Number of Units by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Describe the supply of public housing developments:

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

AMHA owns and operates well-maintained family and senior developments throughout the City of Akron and Summit County.

There are approximately 1,850 senior rental units and 2,500 family rental units in the City of Akron. These units are in high-rise elevator buildings, midrise buildings, townhomes and single-family homes. The units are well-maintained and consistently receive high scores from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development's ("HUD") Real Estate Assessment Center. However, there is a large backlog of over $300 million in unmet capital needs as of 2024 due to federal funding limitations.

Public Housing Condition

Public Housing Development	Average Inspection Score
Allen Dickson	99
Alpeter	99
Belcher	98
Bon Sue	98
Buchtel Cotter	88
Cascade Village East / West	92
Cascade Village North	82
Cascade Village South	95
Colonial Hills	91
Crimson	97
Edgewood	91
Edgewood Village 4	92
Edgewood Village South	88
Fowler	85
Honey Locust	94
Joy Park	96
Keys	96
Lauer	96
Maplewood	95
Marion Hall (Edgewood Village Phase 5)	95
Mohawk	87
Nimmer	89
Pinewood	93
Saferstein	86
Scattered Sites	88
Spicer Terrace	88
Summit Lake	86
Sutliff	99
Valley View	92
Van Buren	94
Willow Run	86

Table 38 - Public Housing Condition

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

Kitchen and bathroom refurbishment, roofing and infrastructure modernization are the primary needs of AMHA's aging portfolio. The Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority utilizes around $10 million each

year in HUD funds to rehabilitate their public housing units. AMHA may pursue repositioning the AMHA portfolio through a variety of HUDs repositioning tools to address the significant Public Housing Capital Fund backlog.

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

AMHA Resident Services has developed a Strategic Plan to focus on 5 specific areas that will improve the living environment for residents living in affordable housing with AMHA.

Goal 1: Maintain a stable community within AMHA developments.

Goal 2: Encourage economic independence of residents by extending self-sufficiency program elements to all residents, create partnerships to provide a program to develop general works skills and job placement, and provide a transition program to support the advancement of public housing.

Goal 3: Support AMHA residents' educational achievement.

Goal 4: Enhanced quality of life for residents by targeting health education and services in relation to residents' needs, provide immediate referral to those with mental health issues and develop a program to maintain seniors in their apartments.

Goal 5: Develop adequate resources to support Resident Services initiatives.

The Resident Services department provides holistic, wrap around support to residents through ten comprehensive programmatic areas: The Reach Opportunity Center at Summit Lake, Elderly and Disabled Resident Programming, Service Coordination, Single Family Homes, Health Initiatives, Reasonable Accommodations, Early Childhood Initiative, Digital Opportunity, Family Self-Sufficiency and workforce development. Through broad service coordination, resident concerns are processed through the Request For Service form that includes assistance with job readiness, conflict resolution, rental assistance, financial empowerment, transportation, and food insecurity to name a few.

Discussion:

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

Introduction

Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

	Emergency Shelter Beds		Transitional Housing Beds	Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	
	Year Round Beds (Current & New)	Voucher / Seasonal / Overflow Beds	Current & New	Current & New	Under Development
Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	89	0	63	209	0
Households with Only Adults	180	0	144	395	0
Chronically Homeless Households	0	0	0	291	0
Veterans	6	0	30	81	0
Unaccompanied Youth	16	0	22	12	0

Table 39 - Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

Data Source Comments:

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

The ultimate goal for all homeless clients exiting homeless programs is employment. Mainstream service providers coordinate with clients to increase the percentage of clients improving their access to non-employment income sources. Partner agency case managers increase referrals to the One-Stop Facility, a mainstream resource workforce development system. Benefit Bank Counselors are able to assist with FAFSA application and SSI/ SSDI applications as well as completion of State and Federal Income Taxes. Once a determination of eligibility is made, a list is compiled of possible agencies and referrals that can be utilized. Both clients and case managers can access 211 24 hours a day with a data base of 1400 agencies and services including all mainstream resources. 211 Specialists also proactively inquire about mainstream resources if the caller's initial inquiry indicated they are low income and may be eligible for these benefits.

Summit County Department of Job and Family Services provides training sessions to local homeless shelters on the availability and requirements for enrolling clients in mainstream resource programs. The United Way of Summit and Medina's 211 Information and Referral service screens approximately100,000 inquirers yearly seeking benefits and services. Through direct inquiry and automated messaging callers are informed about the State's Medicaid expansion and insurance options under the Affordable Care Act.

The 211 Call Center, Where to Turn directory, listing thousands of community agencies and the services and benefits they offer, is a referral tool that case managers use. As the client becomes eligible for other opportunities case managers will assist each client in their application and eligibility process through their case management meetings. Expanded eligibility options provide additional opportunities for Medicaid enrollment for homeless clients and low income earners.

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

The City of Akron, in partnership with Continuum of Care, has a system of services and housing options that address the immediate needs of families and individuals that are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Community organizations have developed resource manuals to assist individuals and families in locating appropriate services.

Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing

Home Again, formerly the ARRA funded HPRP program, is a collaboration between the City and the United Way of Summit and Medina. United Way coordinates and implements the homeless prevention rapid re-housing program for the CoC. The Home Again program is available to all individuals and

families residing within the CoC Services Area who are currently homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless but for this assistance.

Veterans

The VA provides case management services to homeless Veterans. The Commons at Madaline Park, a permanent supportive housing project, designates 6 units to veterans. Valor Home provides a 30-bed GPD facility for homeless veterans. CSS operates a Community Resource and Referral Center (CRRC) Project to outreach to homeless veterans.

Chronically Homeless

The local CoC has a one-time capital fund to CoC's to assist with ending homelessness in our community. The CoC assesses local housing inventory to determine where the greatest needs are. Our CoC will continue to work with the VA and Housing Authority to increase the number of vouchers available to the chronically homeless population. HMIS client data is analyzed to determine housing status and eligibility for classification as chronically homeless. PSH providers prioritize housing needs/availability to those identified and meeting eligibility criteria as chronically homeless. Partnerships with local developers and supportive service providers will continue to provide housing needs. A key component to any housing project is funding. Creation of PSH beds is only part of the solution. CoC's must commit to providing coordinated case management services to ensure that clients remain stable and able to maintain housing.

Youth

The City and Continuum of Care continue to focus on improving the quality of life for youth and young adults. Assistance is available for emancipated or homeless young adults to access resources. OMCDC and CSB operate housing programs to address homelessness in the 16-21 year old population. Both offer supportive services designed to assist the youth in obtaining employment, continuing their education, and finding housing. Safe Landing Shelter continues to operate a Street Outreach program providing supportive case management services to youth between the ages of 18-22 who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

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

Introduction

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

Housing accessibility, security deposit assistance, job training and education are all supportive housing priorities. Other needs including accessibility to transportation, access to tobacco-free living and other active living initiatives, down payment assistance for public housing residents moving towards homeownership, funds to help eliminate or expunge criminal history preventing them from receiving housing (funds to cover Certificate of Qualified Employment filing), community building opportunities to help residents connect with neighbors and other community initiatives to address various issues to stabilize the community.

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

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

The City continues to seek input from AMHA to address the housing and supportive services needs of special needs populations.

AMHA has aligned its PBV priorities to include PSH development. AMHA provides a HCVP preference for emancipated youth.

The City continues partnering with area developers to provide new units for the homeless and non-homeless special needs populations. Handicapped accessible units are available. Additionally, units for veterans with special needs are also available.

Programming is continuous at elderly/disabled high-rises, totaling approximately 70 events each month.

Partnerships with local non-profit supportive service providers and housing developers are necessary to continue to create housing opportunities for special needs populations. These partnerships allow for the access of other housing financing opportunities such as low-income housing tax credits and the Ohio Housing Trust Fund.

The need to maintain existing rental housing stock serving low-income special needs residents remains a priority. As opportunities and funds become available to provide assistance to not for profit agencies serving the special needs population, the City will continue to explore opportunities to provide assistance to maintain rental housing stock.

For entitlement/consortia grantees: Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. (91.220(2))

See above.

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

Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment

The City of Akron has established Building and Zoning Codes that dictate how and where development is allowed to occur. While this is in no way intended to restrict affordable housing or residential investment, new construction is reviewed for compliance with the existing Zoning Code. An appeals process is in place to issue variances upon review and approval by Akron City Council. The City has started to implement Form-based Zoning Districts, which are less restrictive in terms of strictly regulating types of residential development.

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

Introduction

Economic Development Market Analysis

Business Activity

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	167	29	0	0	0
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	9,508	6,760	14	9	-5
Construction	2,707	3,258	4	4	0
Education and Health Care Services	15,674	24,696	23	31	8
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	3,644	3,476	5	4	-1
Information	1,141	1,845	2	2	0
Manufacturing	9,425	8,595	14	11	-3
Other Services	2,594	2,611	4	3	-1
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	7,002	14,771	10	19	9
Public Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	9,549	6,528	14	8	-6
Transportation and Warehousing	2,722	2,585	4	3	-1
Wholesale Trade	3,368	3,525	5	4	-1
Total	67,501	78,679	--	--	--

Table 40 - Business Activity

Data Source Comments:

Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	101,480
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	92,605
Unemployment Rate	8.76
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	24.70
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	5.84

Table 41 - Labor Force

Data Source Comments:

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	17,100
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	3,820
Service	13,045
Sales and office	22,190
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	5,844
Production, transportation and material moving	6,495

Table 42 – Occupations by Sector

Data Source Comments:

Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	64,251	75%
30-59 Minutes	17,912	21%
60 or More Minutes	3,990	5%
Total	***86,153***	***100%***

Table 43 - Travel Time

Data Source Comments:

Education:

Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	Not in Labor Force
Less than high school graduate	6,230	1,085	5,010

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	Not in Labor Force
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	21,475	2,225	9,665
Some college or Associate's degree	26,325	1,955	7,070
Bachelor's degree or higher	18,275	750	2,780

Table 44 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status

Data Source Comments:

Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	230	765	960	2,030	1,765
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	2,695	2,650	1,655	4,270	2,780
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	7,230	9,090	6,340	18,000	10,890
Some college, no degree	9,350	8,245	5,435	12,150	5,980
Associate's degree	1,210	2,685	2,595	4,275	1,610
Bachelor's degree	1,885	5,140	3,310	5,900	3,980
Graduate or professional degree	95	1,955	1,855	3,650	2,825

Table 45 - Educational Attainment by Age

Data Source Comments:

Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	19,777
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	29,399
Some college or Associate's degree	30,855
Bachelor's degree	44,961
Graduate or professional degree	54,591

Table 46 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Data Source Comments:

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

Based on the Business Activity Table above, the major employment sectors in the City of Akron include Education and Health Care Service, Manufacturing, Retail Trade, Arts and Entertainment, Professional

and Scientific Services, Wholesale Trade, Finance / Insurance and Real Estate, Construction and Transportation / Warehousing.

Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:

Workforce development is a continued need. Manufacturing and service sectors are in need of people with soft skills (mainly dependability and work ethic). Trades continue to be in demand. The City continues to partner with the vocational schools and trade unions to promote placement growth. Firms in polymer science, biomedical innovation and healthcare continue to attract, and retain, top talent in the region.

Infrastructure needs are constant and include maintenance of local roads and streets, access roads, bridges, sidewalks, waste disposal systems, water and sewer line extensions, water distribution and purification facilities, sewage treatment facilities and gas and electric utility extensions. Road and sewer repairs are ongoing throughout the city, including in the main street corridor.

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

Elevate Greater Akron continues to be implemented as ajoint effort with the city, county and chamber of commerce to increase economic opportunity in the region.

The Bounce Innovation Hub was founded in January 2018 and is the region's first open innovation hub serving northeast Ohio's entrepreneurial and innovation community. Located in a former B.F. Goodrich tire plant, the building comprises more than 300,000 square feet of co-working, creative, event and professional office space. The city works closely with Bounce to help businesses grow and hopefully thrive in Akron through funding and technical assistance.

Industrial Real Estate Group (IRG) continues to renovate sites on the former Goodyear campus which has so far resulted in new hotel rooms, apartments, retail, and entertainment space over the past few years. The build out has made the "East End" a desirable location with several major employers relocating their offices there, resulting in the build-up of local retail.

Amazon acquired the defunct Rolling Acres Mall and invested over $100 million in building a new facility on the site which employs approximately 1500 people. Public investment in the Romig Road area included roadway and public utility improvements.

Improvements in the Main Street Corridor of downtown began in 2017 and included public investment of more than $35 million to remake Main Street. Private investment in the corridor exceeding $120

million primarily focused on residential and mixed-use developments in existing under-utilized office space.

The City is nearing completion on a massive undertaking to reduce combined sewer overflow into the Cuyahoga River. This $1.4 billion project continues to have a significant economic impact, both in terms of hiring the necessary crews to undertake the improvements and the increased rates to residents to help pay for the costs of improvements.

The City has decommissioned the final mile of the Innerbelt Freeway immediately adjacent of downtown to free up space for new development. Plans are still being put in place for possible redevelopment of this site.

In 2021 industry leaders and public partners came together to form the Polymer Industry Cluster to drive economic growth and from the region's strengths in advanced materials. In October the Akron region was designated the official Sustainable Polymer Tech Hub for the United States by the US Government. In July 2024, the Polymer Cluster was awarded $51 million in federal funding and in October 2024, the Polymer Cluster was awarded $31.25 million, from the State of Ohio.

The City worked with downtown businesses to create the Downtown Akron Development Corporation to focus on downtown development issues. That entity has secured funding from a combination of private, non-profit and public entities and earlier this year hired its first Executive Director. Downtown Akron has been a focal area of investment, particularly in the residential market as a number of major residential conversions have occurred in the past few years, and more are in the pipeline.

The City of Akron partnered with the Western Reserve Community Fund (WRCF) to launch the Akron Resiliency Fund. Initially the Resiliency Fund provided low-cost small business loans to help stabilize Akron's small businesses. Long term, the Resiliency Fund supports growth in the small business community of Akron while encouraging further investment in our local economy.

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

The City is a leader in polymer research and the mix of innovation required in high tech firms servicing the polymer and health care industries requires an educated workforce to fill these positions. The City is establishing an environment that will attract these workers and innovative entrepreneurs to Akron. Manufacturing jobs are available for residents who might not have as much education, but have the soft skills necessary to be employable (work ethic, dependability). Advanced technical training is always a need.

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

ConexusNEO is an entity that works with the City, Summit County and other partners to address workforce needs. There are a number of workforce training initiatives available within the City including the On the Job Training Program, the Incumbent Worker Training Program and TechCred administered by the Ohio Dept. of Jobs and Family Services in cooperation with the OhioMeansJob Center Summit County. The Akron Urban League also offers workforce development programs for employees and employers. All of these programs assist residents in choosing career paths and guiding them toward training.

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

Yes

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

Discussion

MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

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

The City has pockets of deteriorated housing. These areas are generally located in the inner ring of neighborhoods branching out from downtown Akron where rehabilitation programs are too limited in scope to make rehabilitation assistance feasible. These areas are characterized by a majority of deteriorated homes within the space of a City block.

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

Generally, the areas of deteriorated housing conditions are brought about by a lack of maintenance over a number of years, generally due to insufficient incomes to maintain the properties.

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

The housing market in these areas is depressed but has improved in the past five years. These areas are generally characterized by a mix of maintained properties, boarded up homes and properties with deteriorated housing conditions. As homeownership decreases and rental properties become more prevalent in neighborhoods, maintaining housing values becomes more of a challenge.

Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?

These areas generally contain a mix of homes that are in sound condition mixed with homes that are in need of maintenance, but conditions vary from block to block. Boarded up and vacant homes in these areas are a problem, attracting nuisance activities and restricting property values. But most of these areas still contain community assets, such as schools, community centers, neighborhood parks and viable retail districts in close proximity.

Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?

While the maintenance of the housing stock in certain neighborhoods of the City is a problem, all of these areas still have viable strategic opportunities that exist. The Great Streets Akron program is working to revitalize neighborhood business districts to increase the desirability of housing in surrounding neighborhoods. In surveys for the Great Streets Akron program, residents overwhelmingly stressed the desirability of viable, walkable neighborhood business districts.

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

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

Wifi is available in City of Akron Community Centers but access is still a primary need in all Akron neighborhoods. Broadband internet access in Akron and closing the digital divide has become necessary for the success of the City of Akron and its citizens. In late 2022, the City of Akron issued a Request for Information (RFI) for a "Partnership for Broadband Internet" regarding supplier's capabilities and interest for providing broadband internet throughout the City. This initiative included a City-wide broadband plan, as well as planning investments in broadband infrastructure, securing funding from state, federal, and private partners, and implementing targeted projects with quantifiable and durable benefits to City of Akron residents.
The City of Akron has expanded broadband services to provide service at all community services and will leverage this as part of our Digital Divide plan to better support technology education to our citizens.

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

More competition should help to control costs throughout the City.

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

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

Excessive heat, drought and flooding are the primary issues in Akron. Excessive spring and early summer rains can have severe impacts on the timely planting of crops. While Akron does not have an abundance of agriculture, the immediate surrounding area does. In Summer, increased heat and a lack of rain are a concern. Excessive heat in Summer raises serious problems for homes without air conditioning. The City is pursuing expanding the tree canopy throughout the City.

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

While local data has not been collected on this, it stands to reason that low-income populations are more severely impacted by excessive heat due to a lack of central air and/or air conditioning compared to higher earning households.

Strategic Plan

SP-05 Overview

Strategic Plan Overview

At least 70% of the Community Development funds are required to be used for activities that principally benefit low-income persons. All HOME funds and ESG funds will be used for activities that benefit low-income persons.

Akron will offer a variety of programs to assist property owners in keeping properties safe, warm and dry. Assistance is provided city-wide based on income with a concentration of spending in City-designated areas. Investment of funds in these neighborhoods will retain their viability in terms of appearance, housing values and infrastructure. Akron will afford property owners the opportunity to make an investment in each property to improve its outward appearance and make sure that its major systems - heating, electrical and plumbing - are in good working order. Neighborhood parks and public facilities will also be addressed, as well as necessary public improvements to infrastructure including streets, street trees and sidewalks.

The City realizes that in certain homes, deteriorated conditions make rehabilitation difficult. Acquisition, clearance and new construction will be pursued in conjunction with rehabilitation activities to benefit the entire surrounding area. Demolition is viewed as a last resort, however. Efforts will be made to pursue additional funding and partnerships with area agencies to rehabilitate homes rather than tear them down. Emergency assistance will be available City-wide for urgent needs such as leaking roofs based on income levels. Minor home repair will be offered to low-income seniors. Lead abatement will be combined with rehabilitation assistance in the most distressed households. The City has felt the effects of vacant foreclosed homes and works to selectively rehabilitate or clear vacant homes as appropriate cases arise, rebuilding neighborhoods with pockets of new housing combined with rehabilitation assistance for properties that do not need to be removed.

The City will continue to fund a number of programs that have proven their value such as supporting non-profit housing development, providing a Waiver Demolition program to assist property owners in removing deteriorated structures and Minor Home Repair to offer small-scale assistance to low-income homeowners or the elderly on a fixed income to correct an emergency problem. As mentioned above, demolition is viewed as a last resort and all efforts will be made to rehabilitate structures rather than tear them down.

The City also allocates funding to a variety of programs primarily benefiting low-income residents including community service programs, community gardens, the Akron Parks Challenge, blight removal, new construction and assisting neighborhood businesses to improve their exterior appearance in Great Street Akron program areas.

Each year the City of Akron issues a request for proposals to homeless service providers. Funding priorities are given to homeless shelters requesting rehabilitation assistance. Funds are also available to agencies for operating and essential services. Priority is given to agencies not receiving Continuum of Care Supportive Housing Program funds. The existing Continuum of Care continues to address needs of homeless and potentially homeless residents.

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

Geographic Area

Table 47 - Geographic Priority Areas

1	**Area Name:**	Housing Program
	Area Type:	Housing Program
	Other Target Area Description:	Housing Program
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	
	Other Revital Description:	
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	City-wide based on household income for emergency repair programs and lead abatement - targeted assistance to neighborhoods in qualified census tracts
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	Areas are chosen based on both income levels and existing conditions. This includes not only the age, value and condition of the housing, but also owner occupancy rates, household income and other demographics. These neighborhoods are the backbone of Akron, with affordable housing prices and housing that is generally in good condition. Neighborhood business districts are within a walkable distance.
	How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	The Great Streets Akron program established in 2018 had numerous public meetings with neighborhood residents in each of the targeted areas. Neighborhoods were selected with an eye on feasible accomplishments with limited resources.
	Identify the needs in this target area.	Emergency repairs are for low-income homeowners in urgent need. In targeted neighborhoods, income levels are generally sufficient to maintain properties in normal economic conditions, but the neighborhoods could veer into disrepair if conditions change. The goal is to offer assistance to maintain the quality of the housing and keep the neighborhood viable.

	What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	Target neighborhoods are generally stable with quality housing and maintained properties but some evidence of deterioration. By offering assistance to homeowners to maintain their property, overall property values should remain stable. Improvements to streets, street trees, sidewalks and neighborhood parks will improve the overall attractiveness in these areas and hopefully promote investment.
	Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	These areas are viable but on the edge. Lack of expendable income, especially in the case of economic downturns, is the reality in many Akron neighborhoods.

General Allocation Priorities

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

Historically, the City has chosen a targeted-neighborhood approach for housing rehabilitation. The City has found that a targeted approach creates more of an impact than spreading out assistance in a less centralized area. The basis for allocating investments geographically is based on income levels, with most of the assistance directed to low-income areas. Areas are chosen based on both income levels and existing conditions. This includes not only the age, value and condition of the housing stock, but also owner occupancy rates, household income and other demographics. These neighborhoods are the backbone of Akron, with affordable housing prices and housing that is generally in good condition. Akron will offer a variety of targeted assistance to assist property owners in keeping properties safe, warm and dry. Emergency assistance will be available City-wide for urgent needs such as leaking roofs based on income levels. Minor home repair will be offered to low-income seniors. Lead abatement will be combined with rehabilitation assistance in the most distressed households.

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

Priority Needs

Table 48 – Priority Needs Summary

1	**Priority Need Name**	Housing Assistance Owner Households
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Large Families Families with Children Elderly
	Geographic Areas Affected	Housing Program
	Associated Goals	Housing Rehabilitation
	Description	Provide assistance to low income homeowners who are disproportionately burdened by costs of housing maintenance
	Basis for Relative Priority	Housing assistance for housing repairs is an ongoing need to maintain the stability of neighborhoods and keep homes safe, warm and dry.
2	**Priority Need Name**	Rental Rehabilitation Assistance
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Large Families Families with Children Elderly
	Geographic Areas Affected	Housing Program
	Associated Goals	Rental Housing Rehabilitation
	Description	Undertaking rehabilitation for rental properties

	Basis for Relative Priority	Based on the number of rental units that are substandard and in need of improvement, rehabilitation of rental units is a priority activity in the maintenance of Akron's housing stock
3	**Priority Need Name**	Homeless Families and Individuals
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Large Families Families with Children Elderly Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth
	Geographic Areas Affected	Housing Program
	Associated Goals	Homeless Assistance
	Description	Address prevention, assessment, emergency, transitional and permanent housing programs for the homeless
	Basis for Relative Priority	Homeless assistance is an ongoing priority need
4	**Priority Need Name**	Public Services
	Priority Level	Low
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly

	Geographic Areas Affected	Housing Program
	Associated Goals	Public Services
	Description	Supportive / public services for low and moderate income individuals
	Basis for Relative Priority	Supportive / public services for low and moderate income individuals
5	**Priority Need Name**	Public Facilities and Public Improvements
	Priority Level	Low
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate
	Geographic Areas Affected	Housing Program
	Associated Goals	Public Facilities and Improvements
	Description	Expand public improvements and quality of public facilities in the City of Akron
	Basis for Relative Priority	The City's priority non-housing community development needs continue to include infrastructure improvements, transportation projects and improving public facilities.
6	**Priority Need Name**	New Housing Construction
	Priority Level	Low
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly
	Geographic Areas Affected	Housing Program
	Associated Goals	New Housing Construction

	Description	Facilitate new housing construction in the City of Akron through assembling lots and providing financial assistance
	Basis for Relative Priority	New housing construction is necessary in order to facilitate new investment, maintain the housing stock, support neighborhoods and maintain the City's population.
7	**Priority Need Name**	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly
	Geographic Areas Affected	Housing Program
	Associated Goals	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Description	The City undertakes programs that support economic revitalization within neighborhoods and addresses slum and blight conditions in lower-income neighborhoods.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Slum and blight removal is necessary to increase public safety, eliminate nuisance properties and improve living conditions
8	**Priority Need Name**	Provide Economic Development Opportunities
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children
	Geographic Areas Affected	Housing Program
	Associated Goals	Economic Development Opportunities

	Description	Expand economic opportunity through business assistance
	Basis for Relative Priority	Support economic development activities to expand economic opportunity, including support of entrepreneurs, neighborhood grocery stores, business assistance programs in City-designated Great Streets Akron Business Districts, recapture of brownfields and support of the City's Industrial Incubator.

Narrative (Optional)

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

Influence of Market Conditions

Affordable Housing Type	Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	
New Unit Production	New affordable housing units and affordable rents are an ongoing need.
Rehabilitation	Nearly 50% of the homes in Akron were constructed prior to 1950. Rehabilitation remains a priority need.
Acquisition, including preservation	While the amount of vacant structures has improved, acquisition for either demolition or rehabilitation and resale remains an ongoing need. Demolition is viewed as a last resort. Efforts will be made to pursue additional funding and partnerships with area agencies to rehabilitate homes rather than tear them down.

Table 49 – Influence of Market Conditions

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

Introduction

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan $	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: $	Program Income: $	Prior Year Resources: $	Total: $		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	5,830,829	400,000	0	6,230,829	24,000,000	Estimated CDBG allocation of approximately $6,000,000 a year
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	1,494,470	12,000	0	1,506,470	6,000,000	Estimated HOME allocation of approximately 1,500,000 a year

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan $	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: $	Program Income: $	Prior Year Resources: $	Total: $		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	514,137	0	0	514,137	2,000,000	Estimated ESG allocation of approximately $500,000 a year

Table 50 - Anticipated Resources

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

The City utilizes CDBG funding to leverage other Federal and State funding, including State of Ohio OPWC (Ohio Public Works Commission) funds and Federal funding thru the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant program. All subrecipients are required to match programs funded with CDBG funds.

Under the HOME program, a 12.5% matching requirement will apply for 2025 funds. The City will utilize local funds (income tax, etc.) from the street improvements program for HOME funded neighborhoods as match. Matching funds from a Primary Jurisdiction (Akron) must be: 1) a permanent contribution to affordable housing; 2) from a non-federal source; and 3) provided by a broad array of public and private donors such as local and state agencies, charitable organizations/foundations, and private sector organizations.

Emergency Solutions Grants Program and Continuum of Care providers receiving assistance will be required to provide matching funds. These funds will come from a variety of federal, state, local and private sources.

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

The City will work with local non-profits to facilitate the construction of new homes on City-owned lots. The City will continue to be focusing attention on redevelopment of City-owned lots in the Summit Lake neighborhood, the Middlebury neighborhood, the North Hill neighborhood, West Akron and Sherbondy Hill. The City will utilize City-owned properties to meet program goals as suitable projects are identified.

Discussion

SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure – 91.215(k)

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

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
United Way of Summit and Medina	Regional organization	Homelessness	Region
Battered Women's Shelter	Continuum of care	Homelessness	Region
Humility of Mary Housing, Inc.	Continuum of care	Homelessness	Region
Community Aids Network	Continuum of care	Homelessness	Region
ACCESS, Inc.	Continuum of care	Homelessness	Region
Family Promise of Summit County	Continuum of care		Region
Legacy III, Inc.	Continuum of care	Homelessness	Region
Shelter Care, Inc.	Continuum of care	Homelessness	Jurisdiction
Akron Community Service Center and Urban League	Non-profit organizations	public services	Jurisdiction
CANAPI	Non-profit organizations	Non-homeless special needs public services	Jurisdiction
FAIR HOUSING CONTACT SERVICE	Regional organization	public services	Region
INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AKRON, INC.	Non-profit organizations	public services	Jurisdiction
VANTAGE Aging, Inc.	Non-profit organizations	Non-homeless special needs	Region
VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	Non-profit organizations	Non-homeless special needs	Region
East Akron Neighborhood Development Corporation - EANDC	Other	Economic Development Planning neighborhood improvements public services	Jurisdiction

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
Nazareth Housing Development Corporation	Non-profit organizations	neighborhood improvements	Jurisdiction
The Well Community Development Corp.	Other	Economic Development Planning neighborhood improvements public services	Jurisdiction
Kenmore Neighborhood Alliance	Other	Economic Development Planning	

Table 51 - Institutional Delivery Structure

Assess of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

The City partners with non-profit community housing development organizations, community development corporations, homeless providers and others to assist the City with meeting the goals of the Consolidated Plan. These long-time partners assist the City with the development of affordable housing and providing a variety of community service programs to benefit Akron residents. The City has also developed relationships with private developers who partner with the City on many low-income housing developments.

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

Homelessness Prevention Services	Available in the Community	Targeted to Homeless	Targeted to People with HIV
Homelessness Prevention Services			
Counseling/Advocacy	X	X	X
Legal Assistance	X	X	X
Mortgage Assistance			
Rental Assistance	X	X	X
Utilities Assistance	X	X	X
Street Outreach Services			
Law Enforcement	X		
Mobile Clinics	X	X	X
Other Street Outreach Services	X	X	X
Supportive Services			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X	X	X
Child Care	X	X	X

Education	X	X	X
Employment and Employment Training	X	X	X
Healthcare	X	X	X
HIV/AIDS	X	X	X
Life Skills	X	X	X
Mental Health Counseling	X	X	X
Transportation	X	X	X
Other			
	X	X	X

Table 52 - Homeless Prevention Services Summary

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

Meeting the needs of our homeless population must include a comprehensive assessment to determine client need and, more importantly, obstacles. Identifying obstacles prioritizes issues to assist shelters and social workers in developing a housing plan, determining the most appropriate intervention and other services such as child care, transportation, and healthcare. A comprehensive approach to client needs will lead to a more stable housing outcome once clients exit the system.

The City will continue to work with and coordinate services with all Continuum of Care and Emergency Solutions Grant Program housing and service providers to direct service delivery to homeless clients.

In collaboration with the CoC, the City of Akron will continue to expand partnerships with local providers to prevent and end homelessness. Efforts within the CoC will focus on assessment tools to enhance prevention and diversion tools to close the front door. Rapid re-housing and homeless prevention data will be reviewed to determine best practices and coordination within the system to further enhance our delivery systems within the community.

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

The Continuum of Care and Emergency Solutions Grant program effectively target assistance to persons and families that are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Agencies cooperatively work together to try to avoid gaps in services where at risk populations might fall thru the cracks. This development of a structured communication network expedites making sure people are directed to agencies that can assist them.

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

The Continuum of Care meets regularly to address issues relating to institutional structure and service delivery to improve the effectiveness of identifying needs and providing assistance as quickly as possible to try to stabilize situations of homelessness or risk of homelessness. Communication between providers is paramount to maintaining a system that can effectively provide service.

SP-45 Goals Summary – 91.215(a)(4)

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Housing Rehabilitation	2025	2025	Affordable Housing	Housing Program	Housing Assistance Owner Households	CDBG: $1,149,829	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 115 Household Housing Unit
2	Rental Housing Rehabilitation	2025	2025	Affordable Housing	Housing Program	Rental Rehabilitation Assistance	CDBG: $125,000 HOME: $400,000	Rental units rehabilitated: 111 Household Housing Unit
3	Homeless Assistance	2025	2025	Homeless	Housing Program	Homeless Families and Individuals	CDBG: $90,000 HOME: $200,000 ESG: $514,137	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 60 Households Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 1600 Persons Assisted
4	Public Services	2025	2025	Provide supportive services to benefit low / moderate income individuals	Housing Program	Public Services	CDBG: $880,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 9750 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 32000 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	Public Facilities and Improvements	2025	2025	Infrastructure and public facilities improvements	Housing Program	Public Facilities and Public Improvements	CDBG: $275,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 500 Persons Assisted Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 500 Households Assisted
6	New Housing Construction	2025	2025	Affordable Housing	Housing Program	New Housing Construction	HOME: $901,470	Rental units constructed: 43 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Added: 4 Household Housing Unit

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
7	Eliminate Slum and Blight	2025	2025	Non-Housing Community Development	Housing Program	Eliminate Slum and Blight	CDBG: $531,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 30 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 30 Households Assisted Buildings Demolished: 35 Buildings Other: 2 Other
8	Economic Development Opportunities	2025	2025	Non-Housing Community Development	Housing Program	Provide Economic Development Opportunities	CDBG: $725,000	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation: 15 Business Businesses assisted: 7 Businesses Assisted

Table 53 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	**Goal Name**	Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Grants and loans for housing rehabilitation to homeowners
2	**Goal Name**	Rental Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Increase supply of decent, safe, sanitary rental housing by providing property owners with assistance to maintain existing housing to code. In 2025, this includes assisting the redevelopment of the 101-unit Collinson Apartments complex as affordable housing.
3	**Goal Name**	Homeless Assistance
	Goal Description	Expand housing opportunities for homeless families and individuals
4	**Goal Name**	Public Services
	Goal Description	Provide supportive services to low / moderate income individuals
5	**Goal Name**	Public Facilities and Improvements
	Goal Description	Maintain and repair streets, parks and public facilities vital to the residents of Akron
6	**Goal Name**	New Housing Construction
	Goal Description	Increase supply of affordable housing options through assistance to housing development organizations for new housing construction
7	**Goal Name**	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Goal Description	Remove vacant, blighted properties that are infeasible to rehabilitate and which represent a threat to health and safety in order to preserve and protect property values and improve living conditions

8	**Goal Name**	Economic Development Opportunities
	Goal Description	Provide financial incentives to businesses to improve property conditions and strengthen their business

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

Approximately 60 extremely low-income, 226 low-income and 47 moderate income families will be provided assistance with affordable housing.

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

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

N/A

Activities to Increase Resident Involvements

AMHA invites residents to regularly scheduled meetings and encourages participation. Educational information regarding homeownership is distributed and available.

The Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority offers two self-sufficiency programs to prepare recipients of public housing benefits for careers, economic independence and homeownership. Both programs have waiting lists. In addition, AMHA offers other programs such as the HUD funded ROSS (Resident Opportunities for Self Sufficiency) Resident Service Delivery Model Grant, Home Ownership Grant and Family Stability/Prevention, Retention and Contingency Program through the Summit County Department of Jobs and Family Services.

The Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Home For Me Homeownership program assesses mortgage readiness of HCV program candidates. Qualified participants are prepared for the responsibilities of home ownership and are evaluated for issuance of a homeownership voucher to purchase a home. Supportive programs for public housing residents include budgeting, credit counseling, homeownership classes and educational information.

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

No

Plan to remove the 'troubled' designation

N/A

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

Barriers to Affordable Housing

The City of Akron has established Building and Zoning Codes that dictate how and where development is allowed to occur. While this is in no way intended to restrict affordable housing or residential investment, new construction is reviewed for compliance with the existing Zoning Code. An appeals process is in place to issue variances upon review and approval by Akron City Council. The City has started to implement Form-based Zoning Districts, which are less restrictive in terms of strictly regulating types of residential development.

Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing

As in the previous year, specific actions or reform steps to be taken over the coming year to remove or ameliorate these negative effects are as follows:

a) Provide adequate land for a variety of housing types through review by Zoning and Land Use and Development Guide Plan updates.

b) Work to eliminate obsolete and prescriptive building code requirements.

c) Continue educating the public on the need for affordable housing and promote a diversity of affordable housing programs.

d) Continue the practice of one-stop permitting.

e) Coordinate with local, state and federal agencies in implementing programs that support affordable housing (e.g. State of Ohio Low Income Housing Tax Credits, Summit County Land Reutilization program and federal programs such as Choice Neighborhoods, etc.).

SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.215(d)

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

The City continues to work in the Summit County Continuum of Care to identify the causes of homelessness and assist individuals to overcome the hardships that are causing episodes of homelessness. The goal of ending homelessness is ambitious and several approaches are necessary. The Summit County Continuum of Care will focus on the following key elements to reduce homelessness:

Establish/develop resources within our community to fund homeless prevention;

Strengthen homeless prevention programs within the community;

Expand outreach services to the homeless by creating teams to specifically target subpopulations;

Improving coordination and access to services;

Expand availability of affordable housing within the community;

Improve access to affordable housing for homeless persons;

Work with the needs of special sub-populations;

Evaluate role of faith-based organizations;

Improve job placement linkages.

Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City issues an annual RFP to all homeless prevention and rapid re-housing providers. emergency and transitional housing providers. The City's first priority is rapid re-housing and homeless prevention. At the same time, the City is still committed to assuring that the community's facilities for the homeless provide decent, safe and sanitary residence.

The City of Akron will use a portion of ESGP funds along with State and HOME funds to continue the Home Again Program. Home Again was initially funded through the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) funds for financial assistance and services to either prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless or help those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized. The City will continue to access these funds in 2025 to meet the housing needs of homeless persons currently residing in emergency shelter and transitional housing.

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 Continuum of Care has created discharge planning policies for youth, health institutions, mental health facilities and corrections institutions to reduce the risk of homelessness. The Rapid Re-housing program (Home Again) is available for all occupants of emergency or transitional shelters and to those on the verge of becoming homeless due to foreclosure or eviction. The intent of the Home Again Program is to provide temporary financial assistance, housing relocation, and stabilization services to individuals and families who are homeless, or who would be homeless *but for* this assistance. The program focuses on individuals and families that can remain stably housed after this assistance ends.

Help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families who are likely to become homeless after being discharged from a publicly funded institution or system of care, or who are receiving assistance from public and private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education or youth needs

The City of Akron and the Akron/Summit County/Barberton Continuum of Care have a system in place to address the immediate needs of families and individuals at risk of becoming homeless. As in the previous year, in 2025 agencies will continue to provide short-term (and in many cases one-time) rental / mortgage assistance, assistance in paying utility bills and food assistance. Legal services are available to those at risk of eviction or foreclosure. These resources are limited and are quickly depleted due to heavy demand, but the community has a strong network of organizations that work closely to maximize assistance available to clients. The Summit County Department of Jobs and Family Services Prevention, Retention and Contingency Program will continue to provide short-term benefits and services to low-income families.

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

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

Akron will continue to combine housing rehabilitation assistance with lead paint abatement activity. The greatest incidence of lead based paint is found in housing built prior to 1978. The greatest at risk population for lead based paint poisoning (or elevated blood lead levels) are children under the age of 6. Low-income homeowners with children six years old and under who are at risk for lead poisoning are eligible for Lead Grant assistance. The City of Akron utilizes both CDBG and HOME funds combined with Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Program assistance (awarded to the City of Akron in 2009, 2012, 2015, 2019 and 2024).

The City of Akron has incorporated the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Lead –Based paint Renovation, Repair, and painting program (RRP) requirements and the HUD Title X Lead Rule into their Housing Rehabilitation program. EPA's Lead Rule requirements apply to anyone who is paid to perform work that disturbs paint in housing and child-occupied facilities built before 1978. The RRP mandates pre-renovation educational requirements and requires the following:

- Firms must be certified
- Renovators must be trained
- Lead-safe work practices must be followed

The City of Akron maintains a list of active contractors working in Akron's housing rehabilitation program and/or other HUD funded programs such as the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant Program, and ensures that all current State lead licenses are maintained. The City of Akron holds an annual meeting to ensure that active contractors qualify for participation in the competitive bidding process and have all necessary up to date licenses. The City of Akron will continue to provide local training opportunities to contractors to ensure certifications and licenses are current. The City of Akron maintains XRF equipment for the Housing rehabilitation staff to perform the mandatory testing of Lead Based paint; also known as LIRA (Lead inspection/ Risk Assessment). The City of Akron conducts Lead clearances of property rehabilitated, to ensure the property meets clearance requirements. Currently our program staff includes 5 certified lead abatement risk assessors and lead abatement contractors. All contractors that work on City funded jobs are EPA certified ; their company's firms are registered with EPA. If undertaking lead abatement work, contractors and workers have the appropriate licenses. Akron has actively pursued grants to assist in the reduction of lead based paint in Akron homes built before 1978, and which are occupied by low income households who have children under the age of 6 living in the property or who visit on a frequent basis (as defined by HUD). Akron currently operates the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant Program. This program provides lead grant funds to assist the property in the reduction of lead hazards. In addition, federal Community Development Block Grant funds are also made available to assist in lead remediation.

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

Over 90% of the City’s homes were constructed before 1980. Approximately twenty percent of Akron residents in families have children under the age of 6. City officials have estimated that up to 40 percent of children in some inner-city neighborhoods are threatened and 1 in 10 Akron children are affected by lead base paint. The Summit County Health Department continues to promote screening and intervention to children less than six years old to identify elevated blood levels. Screening initiatives are performed by the Health Department, WIC Clinics, Children's Hospital Medical Center and other area health care providers.

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

For homes with small children, lead testing and abatement are now part of the City's rehabilitation process.

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

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

Akron continues to fund public service programs to assist those emerging from poverty. These include consumer credit counseling, family development services and information and referral. The City also works with AMHA, CHDOs and CDCs to support their efforts to train and uplift people in poverty. Akron partners with area agencies on economic development programs for low income neighborhoods. Akron citizens have opportunities in meetings throughout the year to offer suggestions on ways to reduce poverty. Copies of correspondence, newspaper ads, recordings of meetings, etc. are on file with the Department of Planning and Urban Development.

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

The City's participation with the Summit County Continuum of Care and ongoing relationships with area non-profits and CHDO's assist the City in implementing poverty reducing goals, programs and policies that are put in place.

SP-80 Monitoring – 91.230

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

All applicants who receive CDBG/HOME/ESGP funds from the City are responsible for complying with the CDBG/HOME/HEARTH regulations and other federal requirements as they pertain to the monitoring of projects and the project records to be maintained. Federal funds will not be awarded unless there is evidence that the successful applicant has the capacity to administer the monitoring and recordkeeping requirements of the CDBG/HOME/ESGP program. The City will work to ensure that the successful applicant understands its annual and long-term monitoring and recordkeeping duties prior to execution of an agreement.

The City and CoC Steering Committee developed performance standards for HUD funded homeless programs, including the Emergency Solution Grant Program, to evaluate program effectiveness. Performance standards will be reviewed periodically as HUD provides further performance measure guidance to CoC's. City staff conducts annual monitoring visits for all CoC recipients. During the monitoring visits, City utilizes APR's, HMIS data, and the Point-in-time count as assessment tools. Performance elements include: HMIS completeness and timeliness, CoC meeting participation, % of homeless persons moving from TH to PSH, % of homeless persons staying in PSH, cash/non-cash benefits at program exit, bed utilization, and timely expenditure of funds. Program outcomes are assessed and scored to determine ranking. The City receives monthly HMIS data completeness reports for review.

The City of Akron conducts an annual monitoring review of sub recipients. The monitoring visit includes a review of agency application, case files, financial records, and procedural intake. Sub recipients are required to submit annual audits during the monitoring visits.

Monitoring requirements for all units are included in the CDBG/HOME/ESGP agreement executed between the City and the sub recipient agency.

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan $	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: $	Program Income: $	Prior Year Resources: $	Total: $		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	5,830,829.00	400,000.00	0.00	6,230,829.00	24,000,000.00	Estimated CDBG allocation of approximately $6,000,000 a year

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan $	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: $	Program Income: $	Prior Year Resources: $	Total: $		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	1,494,470.34	12,000.00	0.00	1,506,470.34	6,000,000.00	Estimated HOME allocation of approximately 1,500,000 a year
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	514,137.00	0.00	0.00	514,137.00	2,000,000.00	Estimated ESG allocation of approximately $500,000 a year

Table 54 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

matching requirements will be satisfied

The City utilizes CDBG funding to leverage other Federal and State funding, including State of Ohio OPWC (Ohio Public Works Commission) funds and Federal funding thru the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant program. All subrecipients are required to match programs funded with CDBG funds.

Under the HOME program, a 12.5% matching requirement will apply for 2025 funds. The City will utilize local funds (income tax, etc.) from the street improvements program for HOME funded neighborhoods as match. Matching funds from a Primary Jurisdiction (Akron) must be: 1) a permanent contribution to affordable housing; 2) from a non-federal source; and 3) provided by a broad array of public and private donors such as local and state agencies, charitable organizations/foundations, and private sector organizations.

Emergency Solutions Grants Program and Continuum of Care providers receiving assistance will be required to provide matching funds. These funds will come from a variety of federal, state, local and private sources.

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

The City will work with local non-profits to facilitate the construction of new homes on City-owned lots. The City will continue to be focusing attention on redevelopment of City-owned lots in the Summit Lake neighborhood, the Middlebury neighborhood, the North Hill neighborhood, West Akron and Sherbondy Hill. The City will utilize City-owned properties to meet program goals as suitable projects are identified.

Discussion

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Housing Rehabilitation	2020	2020	Affordable Housing	Housing Program	Housing Assistance Owner Households	CDBG: $1,149,829.00	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 115 Household Housing Unit
2	Rental Housing Rehabilitation	2020	2020	Affordable Housing	Housing Program	Rental Rehabilitation Assistance	CDBG: $125,000.00 HOME: $400,000.00	Rental units rehabilitated: 111 Household Housing Unit
3	Homeless Assistance	2020	2020	Homeless	Housing Program	Homeless Families and Individuals	CDBG: $90,000.00 HOME: $200,000.00 ESG: $514,137.00	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 60 Households Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 1600 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Public Services	2020	2020	Provide supportive services to benefit low / moderate income individuals	Housing Program	Public Services	CDBG: $880,000.00	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 9750 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 32000 Households Assisted
5	Public Facilities and Improvements	2025	2025	Infrastructure and public facilities improvements	Housing Program	Public Facilities and Public Improvements	CDBG: $275,000.00	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 500 Persons Assisted Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 500 Households Assisted
6	New Housing Construction	2025	2025	Affordable Housing	Housing Program	New Housing Construction	HOME: $901,470.34	Rental units constructed: 43 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Added: 4 Household Housing Unit

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
7	Eliminate Slum and Blight	2025	2025	Non-Housing Community Development	Housing Program	Eliminate Slum and Blight	CDBG: $531,000.00	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 30 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 30 Households Assisted Buildings Demolished: 35 Buildings Other: 2 Other
8	Economic Development Opportunities	2025	2025	Non-Housing Community Development	Housing Program	Provide Economic Development Opportunities	CDBG: $725,000.00	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation: 15 Business Businesses assisted: 7 Businesses Assisted

Table 55 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	**Goal Name**	Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Grants and loans for housing rehabilitation assistance to homeowners

2	**Goal Name**	Rental Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Increase supply of decent, safe sanitary rental housing by providing property owners with assistance to maintain existing housing to code. In 2025, this includes assisting the redevelopment of the 101-unit Collinson Apartments complex as affordable housing.
3	**Goal Name**	Homeless Assistance
	Goal Description	Expand housing opportunities for homeless families and individuals
4	**Goal Name**	Public Services
	Goal Description	Provide supportive services for low/moderate income individuals
5	**Goal Name**	Public Facilities and Improvements
	Goal Description	Maintain and repair streets, parks and public facilities vital to the residents of Akron
6	**Goal Name**	New Housing Construction
	Goal Description	Increase supply of affordable housing options through assistance to housing development organizations for new housing construction
7	**Goal Name**	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Goal Description	Remove vacant, blighted properties that are infeasible to rehabilitate and which represent a threat to health and safety in order to preserve and protect property values and improve living conditions
8	**Goal Name**	Economic Development Opportunities
	Goal Description	Provide financial incentives to businesses to improve property conditions and strengthen their business

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The following projects and activities will be carried out to meet program goals

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Housing Rehabilitation / Historic Preservation
2	Rental Rehabilitation Grants and Loans
3	Neighborhood Property Acquisition
4	Waiver Demolition and Neighborhood Clearance
5	Neighborhood Relocation
6	Program Implementation
7	Public Facilities and Neighborhood Public Improvements
8	Community Gardens
9	Homeless Facilities
10	Great Streets Akron Business Districts
11	General Administration
12	Urban Neighborhood Development Corporation
13	Various Home Repair Projects
14	Financial Empowerment Center
15	Development of Affordable Housing
16	Exterior Paint Project
17	Community Services Program
18	Disability Modifications
19	Access to Housing
20	Business Incentives
21	New Housing Construction
22	Section 108 Loan Projects
23	Homeless Rental Assistance
24	Homebuyer Assistance
25	Development of CDC's

Table 56 – Project Information

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

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	**Project Name**	Housing Rehabilitation / Historic Preservation
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Assistance Owner Households
	Funding	CDBG: $749,829.00
	Description	Provision of grants, loans and technical assistance for rehabilitation assistance to eligible households or in eligible areas. Support of historic preservation to generate housing opportunities and economic development.
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 55 households will benefit including low to moderate income families applying for lead abatement assistance, emergency roof repairs and property owners within target areas.
	Location Description	City-wide assistance qualified by income for lead abatement. Identified target areas.
	Planned Activities	Provision of grants, loans and technical assistance for rehabilitation assistance to eligible households or in eligible areas. Support of historic preservation to generate housing opportunities and economic development.
2	**Project Name**	Rental Rehabilitation Grants and Loans
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Rental Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Rental Rehabilitation Assistance
	Funding	CDBG: $125,000.00 HOME: $400,000.00
	Description	Provision of grants and low-interest loans for rehabilitation assistance to owners of rental properties located in eligible areas. In 2025, this includes assisting the redevelopment of the 101-unit Collinson Apartments complex as affordable housing.
	Target Date	12/31/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 111 families will benefit from the proposed activity. In 2025, this includes 10 scattered site units plus the 101-unit Collinson Apartments complex.
	Location Description	City-wide for rental owners who participate in the lead abatement program. Collinson Apartments is located at 1010 Rosemary Blvd.
	Planned Activities	Provision of grants and low-interest loans for rehabilitation assistance to owners of rental properties located in eligible areas. In 2025, this includes assisting the redevelopment of the 101-unit Collinson Apartments complex as affordable housing.
3	**Project Name**	Neighborhood Property Acquisition
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Needs Addressed	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Funding	CDBG: $26,000.00
	Description	Acquisition of blighted properties or vacant structures
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This program is targeted to vacant lots or blighted structures acquired in voluntary sales
	Location Description	Housing program areas
	Planned Activities	Acquisition of blighted properties or vacant structures
4	**Project Name**	Waiver Demolition and Neighborhood Clearance
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Needs Addressed	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Funding	CDBG: $425,000.00
	Description	Demolition of privately-owned blighted properties by owner request and demolition of City-acquired properties in selected areas
	Target Date	12/31/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 35 owners of blighted property will benefit. The City tears down properties based on the request of the property owner.
	Location Description	City-wide based on eligibility
	Planned Activities	Demolition of privately-owned blighted properties by owner request and demolition of City-acquired properties in selected areas
5	**Project Name**	Neighborhood Relocation
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Needs Addressed	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Funding	:
	Description	Relocation assistance for persons displaced due to the acquisition and demolition of blighted structures
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This activity will not receive funding in 2025.
	Location Description	Housing program areas / project specific
	Planned Activities	This activity will not receive funding in 2025.
6	**Project Name**	Program Implementation
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation Rental Housing Rehabilitation Homeless Assistance Public Services Public Facilities and Improvements New Housing Construction Eliminate Slum and Blight Economic Development Opportunities

	Needs Addressed	Housing Assistance Owner Households Rental Rehabilitation Assistance Homeless Families and Individuals Public Services Public Facilities and Public Improvements New Housing Construction Eliminate Slum and Blight Provide Economic Development Opportunities
	Funding	CDBG: $2,210,000.00
	Description	Administration expenses related to rehabilitation and development activities. Additional costs are associated with meeting Lead-Based Paint (LBP) regulations; costs include training, technical assistance, assisting contractors toward meeting lead-safe rehabilitation standards and LBP assessment, rehab and clearance. Costs also include normal processing costs associated with credit reports, title reports, recording fees, duplication and equipment purchase.
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	Administration expenses related to rehabilitation and development activities. Additional costs are associated with meeting Lead-Based Paint (LBP) regulations; costs include training, technical assistance, assisting contractors toward meeting lead-safe rehabilitation standards and LBP assessment, rehab and clearance. Costs also include normal processing costs associated with credit reports, title reports, recording fees, duplication and equipment purchase.
7	**Project Name**	Public Facilities and Neighborhood Public Improvements
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Public Facilities and Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Public Facilities and Public Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: $275,000.00
	Description	Capital improvements to upgrade streets, sewers, curbs, sidewalks, parks, street trees and public facilities where necessary

	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 500 low/moderate income families and 500 non-low/moderate income families will benefit.
	Location Description	Various parks and streets city-wide and in Great Streets Akron program areas
	Planned Activities	Capital improvements to upgrade streets, sewers, curbs, sidewalks, parks, street trees and public facilities where necessary
8	**Project Name**	Community Gardens
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Needs Addressed	Eliminate Slum and Blight
	Funding	CDBG: $80,000.00
	Description	Supporting community garden initiatives in the City of Akron
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 60 families will benefit
	Location Description	The gardens are located on 7 city-owned lots located in low to moderate income neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	Supporting community garden initiatives in the City of Akron
9	**Project Name**	Homeless Facilities
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Homeless Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Families and Individuals
	Funding	CDBG: $90,000.00 ESG: $514,137.00
	Description	Assist individuals and families at risk of homelessness.
	Target Date	12/31/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 1600 persons will be assisted with emergency shelter
	Location Description	Emergency shelters city-wide
	Planned Activities	Assist individuals and families at risk of homelessness. Support existing homeless prevention and/or rapid re-housing programs that meet local needs. Resources targeted and prioritized to serve the population most in need of temporary assistance. in 2025, funds will also be used to assist in the expansion of the Access emergency shelter.
10	**Project Name**	Great Streets Akron Business Districts
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Economic Development Opportunities
	Needs Addressed	Provide Economic Development Opportunities
	Funding	CDBG: $400,000.00
	Description	Assist business/property owners with exterior improvements to their businesses for the overall benefit of the surrounding low/moderate income neighborhood
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 15 owners of business properties will be assisted with making exterior improvements
	Location Description	Great Streets Akron program areas in qualified neighborhoods
	Planned Activities	Assist business/property owners with exterior improvements to their businesses for the overall benefit of the surrounding low/moderate income neighborhood
11	**Project Name**	General Administration
	Target Area	Housing Program

	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation Rental Housing Rehabilitation Homeless Assistance Public Services Public Facilities and Improvements New Housing Construction Eliminate Slum and Blight Economic Development Opportunities
	Needs Addressed	Housing Assistance Owner Households Rental Rehabilitation Assistance Homeless Families and Individuals Public Services Public Facilities and Public Improvements New Housing Construction Eliminate Slum and Blight Provide Economic Development Opportunities
	Funding	CDBG: $245,000.00 HOME: $5,000.00
	Description	Planning and Administration activities in order to provide the most efficient service to the community. This includes program planning, design, policy development and implementation, organization of financial functions, trouble shooting, program evaluation and modification as needed to efficiently deliver the services and assistance programmed in the Consolidated Plan.
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	N/A
12	**Project Name**	Urban Neighborhood Development Corporation
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	New Housing Construction
	Needs Addressed	New Housing Construction
	Funding	:

	Description	Construction of new single-family homes by a community-based development organization
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This activity will not receive funding in 2025
	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	This activity will not receive funding in 2025
13	**Project Name**	Various Home Repair Projects
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Assistance Owner Households
	Funding	CDBG: $400,000.00
	Description	Minor home repair programs to address health and safety for elderly and disabled very-low income homeowners. Eligible repair items include roofing, plumbing, heating, electrical, porches, gutters and downspouts and safety items (handrails, guardrails, etc.).
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 60 low-income, senior homeowners will receive assistance
	Location Description	City-wide based on program eligibility
	Planned Activities	Minor home repair programs to address health and safety for elderly and disabled very-low income homeowners. Eligible repair items include roofing, plumbing, heating, electrical, porches, gutters and downspouts and safety items (handrails, guardrails, etc.).
14	**Project Name**	Financial Empowerment Center
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services

	Funding	CDBG: $200,000.00
	Description	Financial support to the United Way Financial Empowerment Center
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Financial planning for families
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Financial planning for families
15	**Project Name**	Development of Affordable Housing
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation New Housing Construction
	Needs Addressed	Housing Assistance Owner Households New Housing Construction
	Funding	HOME: $681,470.34
	Description	Development of affordable multi-family housing including possibly tiny homes. Participants include the East Akron Neighborhood Development Corporation (EANDC), Mustard Seed Development Center, Nazareth Housing Development Corporation, the Well Community Development Corporation, Kenmore Neighborhood Alliance, the Westside Neighborhood Development Corporation (WENDCO) as well as private developers.
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 43 families will benefit
	Location Description	Housing program areas

	Planned Activities	Non-profit development of affordable housing including possibly tiny homes. Participants include the East Akron Neighborhood Development Corporation (EANDC), Mustard Seed Development Center, Nazareth Housing Development Corporation, the Well Community Development Corporation, Kenmore Neighborhood Alliance, the Westside Neighborhood Development Corporation (WENDCO) as well as private developers.
16	**Project Name**	Exterior Paint Project
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Assistance Owner Households
	Funding	:
	Description	Non-profit organization performs exterior paint program utilizing volunteers
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This program will not receive funding in 2025
	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	This program will not receive funding in 2025
17	**Project Name**	Community Services Program
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $400,000.00
	Description	Various programs to benefit low and moderate income persons (infant mortality, financial empowerment, access to housing, information and referral and other needs)
	Target Date	12/31/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 30,000 families will benefit from a variety of programs
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Various programs to benefit low and moderate income persons (infant mortality, financial empowerment, access to housing, information and referral and other needs)
18	**Project Name**	Disability Modifications
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Housing Assistance Owner Households
	Funding	:
	Description	Provide housing modifications for people with a disability
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This program will not receive funding in 2025
	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	This program will not receive funding in 2025
19	**Project Name**	Access to Housing
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: $80,000.00
	Description	Dealing with issues such as access to housing disputes, tenant / landlord disputes, housing counseling, education and outreach
	Target Date	12/31/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 10,000 people should be assisted with issues such as access to housing, tenant / landlord disputes, housing counseling, education and outreach
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Dealing with issues such as access to housing disputes, tenant / landlord disputes, housing counseling, education and outreach
20	**Project Name**	Business Incentives
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Economic Development Opportunities
	Needs Addressed	Provide Economic Development Opportunities
	Funding	CDBG: $25,000.00
	Description	Business assistance based on job creation
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately two owners of business property will receive assistance
	Location Description	Target areas
	Planned Activities	Business assistance based on job creation
21	**Project Name**	New Housing Construction
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	New Housing Construction
	Needs Addressed	New Housing Construction
	Funding	HOME: $220,000.00
	Description	Development of affordable single-family homes for low-income families
	Target Date	12/31/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 4 families will purchase newly constructed homes
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Development of affordable single-family homes for low-income families
22	**Project Name**	Section 108 Loan Projects
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Economic Development Opportunities
	Needs Addressed	Provide Economic Development Opportunities
	Funding	:
	Description	Projects utilizing HUD Section 108 Loans and repayment of Section 108 Loans
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	Projects utilizing HUD Section 108 Loans and repayment of Section 108 Loans
23	**Project Name**	Homeless Rental Assistance
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Homeless Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Families and Individuals
	Funding	HOME: $200,000.00
	Description	Rental assistance to prevent families from becoming homeless
	Target Date	12/31/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 60 families will be assisted to prevent homelessness
	Location Description	City-wide based on eligibility
	Planned Activities	Rental assistance to prevent families from becoming homeless
24	**Project Name**	Homebuyer Assistance
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	New Housing Construction
	Needs Addressed	New Housing Construction
	Funding	:
	Description	Matching grants for downpayment assistance to homebuyers in eligible areas
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Matching downpayment assistance. This program will not receive funding in 2025.
	Location Description	City-wide based on income eligibility
	Planned Activities	Matching downpayment assistance
25	**Project Name**	Development of CDC's
	Target Area	Housing Program
	Goals Supported	Public Services Economic Development Opportunities
	Needs Addressed	Public Services Provide Economic Development Opportunities
	Funding	CDBG: $500,000.00
	Description	Assistance to Community Development Corporations to promote their development by supporting area residents and businesses
	Target Date	12/31/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Neighborhood residents and businesses where CDC's operate will benefit from CDC activities.
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Assistance to Community Development Corporations to promote their development by supporting area residents and businesses

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 provides assistance City-wide with a concentration of spending in City-designated areas. Historically, the City has chosen a targeted-neighborhood approach for housing rehabilitation. The basis for allocating investments geographically is based on income levels, with most of the assistance directed to low-income areas. Areas are chosen based on both income levels and existing conditions. This includes not only the age, value and condition of the housing stock, but also owner occupancy rates, household income and other demographics. In the past few years, housing rehabilitation programs have been broadened to offer assistance city-wide based on income qualification.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Housing Program	100

Table 57 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The City has found that a targeted approach creates more of an impact than spreading out assistance in a less centralized area. Akron will offer a variety of targeted assistance to assist property owners in keeping properties safe, warm and dry. Emergency assistance will be available City-wide for urgent needs such as leaking roofs based on income levels. Minor home repair will be offered to low-income seniors. Lead abatement will be combined with rehabilitation assistance in the most distressed households. While the City has felt the effects of vacant foreclosed homes and is working to selectively rehabilitate or clear vacant homes as appropriate cases arise, emphasis is also placed on rebuilding neighborhoods with pockets of new housing combined with rehabilitation assistance.

Discussion

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The provision of affordable housing in Akron through rehabilitation also can be addressed through local non-profit development corporations in the City of Akron. Assistance is targeted to different income groups including extremely low-income households (30% of median income or below), very low-income households (50% of median income or below) and low-income households (80% of median and below). The City supports non-profit housing organizations through CDBG and HOME funds.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	60
Non-Homeless	273
Special-Needs	0
Total	333

Table 58 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	60
The Production of New Units	47
Rehab of Existing Units	226
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	333

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

Discussion

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA) provides affordable housing options to approximately 10,000 households throughout Summit County. AMHA's public housing program consists of over 4,300 apartments and single-family homes that receive federal rental subsidies for low income families as well as disabled and elderly individuals. AMHA also owns and/or manages over 500 apartments that are federally subsidized and/or financed with low-income housing tax credits or tax-exempt bonds. In addition, AMHA administers rental subsidy to over 5,400 households through the Housing Choice Voucher Program. The City of Akron works closely with the AMHA in an ongoing effort to improve public housing in the City of Akron.

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

The Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority utilizes approximately $40 million for Housing Choice Voucher assistance each year. This activity is funded through HUD directly and not through the City of Akron. In addition, approximately $4 million is provided through other types of HUD housing assistance payments or rent subsidy. AMHA has utilized over $30 million over the past 3 years in HUD and other funds to rehabilitate their housing units.

In 2025, AMHA is considering the following actions:

AMHA may pursue repositioning the AMHA Public Housing portfolio through a variety of HUD repositioning tools to address the significant Public Housing Capital Fund backlog.

AMHA will apply for additional Housing Choice Vouchers through various Notice of Funding Opportunity Grants (NOFO) like Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing, Family Unification Program and Mainstream as they become available.

AMHA was selected to participate in the second cohort of the Moving to Work (MTW) Program Expansion with HUD which will calculate different ways of calibrating participants rent portions. The study will compare AMHA's current method of rent calculation to a new method which will group households by their income into tiers and all households within each tier will pay the same amount of rent for that prospective tier. Tiered rent households will pay approximately 28% of their gross income towards rent and utilities and will be eligible for hardships if their rent decreases. The study is being conducted by HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research and MDRC. It will evaluate the new rent calculation method's impact on households economic self-sufficiency and the costs and administrative burden to the housing authority.

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

participate in homeownership

Resident Councils are formed in some of the elderly/disabled buildings and in one of the family developments. Service Coordinators encourage the participation in resident councils and leadership opportunities. A limited amount of Tenant Participation Funds (HUD dollars) may be used to allow resident council leaders to attend various leadership trainings and provide programming for the residents of their building. Other uses of funds can be used to market and form resident councils at buildings where there is not a council present. Property Managers typically attend their respective resident council meetings. The AMHA Community Action Network (joint resident council) is involved in the AMHA Annual and 5 Year Plan process, in the revisions of the Admission and Occupancy Plan and the HCVP Administrative Plan revisions and in reviewing and approving the 5 Year Capital Plan.

Although homeownership participation is not a focus of AMHA as it had been in previous years, public housing residents are encouraged to apply for and enroll in the Family Self Sufficiency Program (HUD program) to establish goals, accrue an escrow balance, attend and complete financial management and homeownership classes and eventually obtain homeownership. Through that program however, there are only a certain number of slots available; therefore, AMHA as part of its strategic plan is exploring extending self-sufficiency elements to all residents living in AMHA housing.

In 2021, AMHA was awarded the Jobs Plus grant that focuses on public housing residents living at Summit Lake Apartments, Lakeshore, Dorothy Jackson, Roulhac Circle and Lakeshore Duplexes. Through this, program residents establish goals, participate in the Jobs Plus Earned Income Disregard (JPEID), have the opportunity to be employed by the program, and attend and complete programs that support their education, employment and financial goals. As public housing residents' employment income increases, residents are not charged additional rent based upon that increase for the length of the grant (four years) thus encouraging savings and budgeting for future rent increases or homeownership opportunities. As residents become stably employed and begin earning a living wage, Success Life Coaches support their goals, which could include homeownership.

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

N/A

Discussion

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

Introduction

The City of Akron is receiving a 2025 Emergency Solutions Grant entitlement of $514,137.

The City of Akron issued a request for proposals to homeless service providers for distribution of 2025 funding. Funding priorities are given to rapid re-housing programs and emergency shelters.

Funds are also available to agencies for rehabilitation, operating and essential services.

The City of Akron is the lead entity for the Continuum of Care planning process. The CoC receives approximately $6.5 million annually through the SuperNOFA Continuum of Care process. These funds are primarily used for permanent supportive housing for the disabled and rapid rehousing.

The Akron / Summit County Continuum of Care has incorporated an eligibility module into the Homeless Management Information System (H.M.I.S.). This new module allows service providers to access additional community services during the client intake process and assist the client on how to access services. Community organizations have already developed resource manuals to assist individuals and families in locating appropriate services. Street Cards, or “quick guides” that explain available services to people on the street, are available at local agencies and libraries.

The City of Akron and the Continuum of Care have adapted the Housing First model. Select organizations have applied for and received funding for several permanent supportive housing programs for chronically homeless single men and women following the traditional "housing first" model. Future housing projects will adopt the housing first model as determined by program capacity. The City of Akron and the Continuum of Care have effectively ended veteran homelessness by achieving the federal benchmarks for Ending Veteran Homelessness. The Continuum of Care will continue to collaborate to make sure every veteran is housed.

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

As in the previous year,

the City will continue to work in the Summit County Continuum of Care to identify the causes of homelessness and assist individuals to overcome the hardships that are causing episodes of homelessness. In 2025, the City of Akron and Continuum of Care will continue to operate a Housing Mitigation Fund that is responsible for housing outreach working collaboratively with area landlords and housing case management staff to identify housing opportunities for clients, both families and

singles. The Housing Mitigation Fund will provide to pay for damages to rental units incurred by CoC tenants. Additionally, the City will pay a signing bonus to landlords renting to CoC clients (homeless families and individuals). The CoC will work with a housing locator who will be required to actively seek out, obtain and maintain relationships with private and non-profit landlords to increase housing availability within the CoC system. The goal of ending homelessness is ambitious and several approaches are necessary. The Summit County Continuum of Care will continue to focus on the following key elements to reduce homelessness:

Establish/develop resources within our community to fund homeless prevention;

Strengthen homeless prevention programs within the community;

Expand outreach services to the homeless by creating teams to specifically target subpopulations;

Improving coordination and access to services;

Expand availability of affordable housing within the community;

Improve access to affordable housing for homeless persons;

Work with the needs of special sub-populations;

Evaluate role of faith-based organizations;

Improve job placement linkages.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City issues an annual RFP to all homeless prevention and rapid re-housing providers. emergency and transitional housing providers. The City's first priority is rapid re-housing and homeless prevention. At the same time, the City is still committed to assuring that the community's facilities for the homeless provide decent, safe and sanitary residence.

The City of Akron will continue to use a portion of ESGP funds along with State and HOME funds to continue the Home Again Program. Home Again was initially funded through the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) funds for financial assistance and services to either prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless or help those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized. The City will continue to access these funds in 2025 to meet the housing needs of homeless persons currently residing in emergency shelter and transitional housing.

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 Continuum of Care has created discharge planning policies for youth, health institutions, mental health facilities and corrections institutions to reduce the risk of homelessness. The Rapid Re-housing program (Home Again) is available for all occupants of emergency or transitional shelters and to those on the verge of becoming homeless due to foreclosure or eviction. The intent of the Home Again Program is to provide temporary financial assistance, housing relocation, and stabilization services to individuals and families who are homeless, or who would be homeless *but for* this assistance. The program focuses on individuals and families that can remain stably housed after this assistance ends.

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

The City of Akron and the Akron/Summit County/Barberton Continuum of Care have a system in place to address the immediate needs of families and individuals at risk of becoming homeless. As in the previous year, in 2025 agencies will continue to provide short-term (and in many cases one-time) rental / mortgage assistance, assistance in paying utility bills and food assistance. Legal services are available to those at risk of eviction or foreclosure. These resources are limited and are quickly depleted due to heavy demand, but the community has a strong network of organizations that work closely to maximize assistance available to clients. The Summit County Department of Jobs and Family Services Prevention, Retention and Contingency Program will continue to provide short-term benefits and services to low-income families.

Discussion

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

Introduction:

The provision of affordable housing is one of the City's three main priorities for the CDBG program. In its five year strategy, the City of Akron was required to assess the effects of public policies impacting upon the availability of affordable housing and set forth a plan to remove or ameliorate their negative effects.

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 is reviewing it's Zoning Code for revisions. Some areas of the City are being re-zoned to Form Based Zoning areas, which are less restrictive than traditional zoning. As in the previous year, specific actions or reform steps to be taken over the coming year to remove or ameliorate negative effects are as follows:

a) Provide adequate land for a variety of housing types through review by Zoning and Land Use and Development Guide Plan updates.

b) Work to eliminate obsolete and prescriptive building code requirements.

c) Continue educating the public on the need for affordable housing and promote a diversity of affordable housing programs.

d) Continue the practice of one-stop permitting.

e) Coordinate with local, state and federal agencies in implementing programs that support affordable housing (e.g. State of Ohio Low Income Housing Tax Credits, Summit County Land Reutilization program and federal programs such as Choice Neighborhoods, etc.).

Discussion:

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The following actions will be undertaken in 2025:

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

A major obstacle is funding. As in previous years, the City again is combining CD funding with Lead Hazard Reduction Program funding to provide more assistance to low-income families with children under the age of six at high risk of lead poisoning. The program is city-wide and participants must meet income requirements. The City also initiated an emergency roofing assistance program based on identified needs in the community. The City Minor Home Repair Program is also offered city-wide.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The provision of affordable housing is one of the City's three main priorities for the CDBG program. In its five year strategy, the City of Akron was required to assess the effects of public policies impacting upon the availability of affordable housing, and set forth a plan to remove or ameliorate their negative effects. The specific actions or reform steps to be taken as part of that plan over the coming year to remove or ameliorate these negative effects are as follows:

a) Provide adequate land for a variety of housing types through review by Zoning and Land Use and Development Guide Plan updates.

b) Work to eliminate obsolete and prescriptive building code requirements.

c) Continue educating the public on the need for affordable housing and promote a diversity of affordable housing programs.

d) Continue the practice of one-stop permitting.

e) Coordinate with local, state and federal agencies in implementing programs that support affordable housing (e.g. State of Ohio Low Income Housing Tax Credits, Summit County Land Reutilization program, etc.).

Additionally, the City is constantly working with area developers to facilitate the development of projects adding more affordable units within the City of Akron.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

Akron will continue to combine housing rehabilitation assistance with lead paint abatement activity. The greatest incidence of lead based paint is found in housing built prior to 1978. The greatest at risk

population for lead based paint poisoning (or elevated blood lead levels) are children under the age of 6. Low-income homeowners with children six years old and under who are at risk for lead poisoning are eligible for Lead Grant assistance. The City of Akron utilizes both CDBG and HOME funds combined with Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Program assistance (awarded to the City of Akron in 2009, 2012, 2015, 2019 and again in 2024). Over 90% of the City's homes were constructed before 1980. Approximately twenty percent of Akron residents in families have children under the age of 6. City officials have estimated that up to 40 percent of children in some inner-city neighborhoods are threatened and 1 in 10 Akron children are affected by lead base paint. The Summit County Health Department continues to promote screening and intervention to children less than six years old to identify elevated blood levels. Screening initiatives are performed by the Health Department, WIC Clinics, Children's Hospital Medical Center and other area health care providers.

The City of Akron has incorporated the Environmental protection Agency's (EPA) Lead –Based paint Renovation, Repair, and painting program (RRP) requirements and the HUD Title X Lead Rule into their Housing Rehabilitation program. EPA's 2010 Lead Rule requirements apply to anyone who is paid to perform work that disturbs paint in housing and child-occupied facilities built before 1978. The RRP mandates pre-renovation educational requirements and requires the following:

- Firms must be certified
- Renovators must be trained
- Lead-safe work practices must be followed

The City of Akron maintains a list of active contractors working in Akron's housing rehabilitation program and/or other HUD funded programs such as the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant Program, and ensures that all current State lead licenses are maintained. The City of Akron holds an annual meeting to ensure that active contractors qualify for participation in the competitive bidding process and have all necessary up to date licenses. The City of Akron will continue to provide local training opportunities to contractors to ensure certifications and licenses are current. The City of Akron maintains XRF equipment for the Housing rehabilitation staff to perform the mandatory testing of Lead Based paint; also known as LIRA (Lead inspection/ Risk Assessment). The City of Akron conducts Lead clearances of property rehabilitated, to ensure the property meets clearance requirements. Currently our program staff includes 5 certified lead abatement risk assessors and lead abatement contractors. All contractors that work on City funded jobs are EPA certified ; their company's firms are registered with EPA. If undertaking lead abatement work, contractors and workers have the appropriate licenses. Akron has actively pursued grants to assist in the reduction of lead based paint in Akron homes built before 1978, and which are occupied by low income households who have children under the age of 6 living in the property or who visit on a frequent basis (as defined by HUD). Akron currently operates the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant Program. This program provides lead grant funds to assist the property in the reduction of lead hazards. In addition, federal Community Development Block Grant

funds are also made available to assist in lead remediation.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City of Akron will continue to implement an antipoverty strategy over the coming year in the following programs. These programs contribute to the removal of households from poverty status through provision of supportive services and transitional housing with support services.

Community Services Program

The City of Akron will use CDBG funds over the next year to offer service programs to residents in the fields of mortality, access to housing, financial empowerment centers, information and referral and other needs. Organizations citywide have submitted proposals in order to improve the quality of life of the citizens of Akron.

Affordable Housing

Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA) - The City is supportive of the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authorities Family Self-Sufficiency Program, which provides supportive services to participating families to reach their goal of economic independence and self-sufficiency.

Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO's)

The City contributes CDBG funds for operating expenses to non-profit Community Housing Development Corporations. The East Akron Neighborhood Development Corporation is active in planning and constructing low income housing tax credit projects and offers home maintenance and budgeting training for its participants. The Well is an active participant in improving housing in the Middlebury neighborhood. Nazareth Dev. Corp. and WENDCO also provide housing improvements.

Crime Prevention

Areas of poverty are often associated with high crime. The City is making a comprehensive effort utilizing federal, state and local funds to undertake community policing. The City encourages and supports neighborhood block watches within our Housing Program.

Rapid Re-housing

The City of Akron supports the provision of housing for the homeless with CDBG/ESG funds. The City encourages the continuation of existing emergency shelters while also supporting TBRA programs. The goal is to integrate homeless individuals back into the community. The intent of emergency housing is to serve as a stepping-stone to afford permanent housing. Organizations applying for funds must commit

to participate in the Continuum of Care process.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

In the five-year strategy, the City describes the institutional structure, including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions through which it will carry out the affordable and supportive housing strategy. The City also assesses existing strengths and gaps in that delivery system and sets forth a plan for improvement. The following steps will continue to be implemented over the coming year to eliminate identified gaps and strengthen, coordinate, and integrate the institutions and delivery systems:

a) Pursue other funding sources for affordable housing as they become available.

b) Develop an approach to coordinate social services with housing treatment areas.

c) Hold quarterly meetings with AMHA to help ensure coordination on programs and monitor progress.

d) Pursue developing and expanding programs with lenders who serve the Akron area.

e) Continue work with non-profit housing developers.

f) Serve on committees/boards involved in housing and social service delivery.

g) Hold public meetings to inform citizens of housing programs.

h) Conduct meetings with non-profit developers.

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

Coordination and communication is ongoing between public and non-profit housing providers and private and public health and social service agencies. The City will continue to schedule regular meetings with the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority, the Homebuilders Association, neighborhood organizations, neighborhood residents, business associations and health and social service providers.

The City works closely with the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority and various partners. In turn, the City also works with neighborhood residents, businesses, social service agencies, etc. when preparing Renewal and Redevelopment Plans. Where new housing is involved, the City works with both the Homebuilders Association and private builders as necessary.

The Continuum of Care is an extensive network of health and social service agencies, shelter providers and City and County officials working together to combat homelessness. The Continuum of Care

adopted a set of committees and sub-committees structure. These committees will meet regularly to network and identify solutions to specific identified needs and assist in the preparation of the annual Continuum of Care application.

Discussion:

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

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	400,000
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	**400,000**

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
<TYPE=[text] REPORT_GUID=[A698417B4C924AE0218B42865313DACF] DELETE_TABLE_IF_EMPTY=[YES]>	
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.	70.01%

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:

N/A

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:

   The City of Akron operates HOME funded Purchase, Rehab, Resale program. The City may provide a developer's subsidy to participating non-profit CHDOs (Provider) to effectively reduce the homebuyer's monthly housing costs. The non-profit Provider secures from the homebuyer a mortgage in the lesser amount of the original purchase price of the property or a fixed amount. Depending on the period of affordability, the mortgage is reduced by a fixed percent (%) for each year of occupancy of the property by the homebuyer. The percentage (%) the mortgage is prorated is directly related to the affordability period. The mortgagee is the Provider. In the event of mortgage default by the homebuyer, within the effective duration of the mortgage, funds recovered are regarded as program income. This option also allows the seller to sell to any willing buyer at any price; participating jurisdictions can decide what proportion of net proceeds from sale, if any, will go to the homebuyer and what proceeds will go to the participating jurisdiction. Once the HOME funds are repaid, the property is no longer subject to any HOME restrictions.

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:

   The City of Akron funds CHDO Housing development (purchase, rehab, resale) and new construction or rehabilitation of rental properties (lease/purchase) in conjunction with Low Income Housing Tax Credits with HOME funds.

   All units receiving HOME Program subsidies are required to comply with a designated affordability period as required in §92.254(a)(4). The affordability period of any project is contingent upon the amount of per unit subsidy received and may be five, ten, or fifteen years long.

   Recapture Provision for Owner Rehabilitation

   The City of Akron currently operates a HOME funded owner rehabilitation program. The City provides grants and deferred loans to each eligible homeowner to assist with the rehabilitation. The deferred loan assistance amount must be repaid immediately upon the occurrence of any transfer of any interest, right or title in the property, or refinance of said property, or upon any default of the mortgage of the same date on the real property first written above, by which a note is secured. This option allows the seller to sell to any willing buyer at any price; participating jurisdictions can decide what proportion of net proceeds from sale, if any, will go to the homebuyer and what proceeds will go to the participating jurisdiction. Once the HOME funds are repaid, the property is no longer

subject to any HOME restrictions.

Recapture Provision for non-profit CHDO/ Homebuyer Purchase, Rehab, Resale

The City of Akron operates HOME funded Purchase, Rehab, Resale program. The City may provide a developer's subsidy to participating non-profit CHDOs (Provider) to effectively reduce the homebuyer's monthly housing costs. The non-profit Provider secures from the homebuyer a mortgage in the lesser amount of the original purchase price of the property or a fixed amount. Depending on the period of affordability, the mortgage is reduced by a fixed percent (%) for each year of occupancy of the property by the homebuyer. The percentage (%) the mortgage is prorated is directly related to the affordability period. The mortgagee is the Provider. In the event of mortgage default by the homebuyer, within the effective duration of the mortgage, funds recovered are regarded as program income. This option also allows the seller to sell to any willing buyer at any price; participating jurisdictions can decide what proportion of net proceeds from sale, if any, will go to the homebuyer and what proceeds will go to the participating jurisdiction. Once the HOME funds are repaid, the property is no longer subject to any HOME restrictions.

Resale Provisions for Rental

The City uses HOME dollars to develop new and rehabilitate existing rental properties through nonprofit developers usually in conjunction with Low Income Housing Tax Credits.

Under a resale option, by contrast, an owner is obligated to resell the home to another income-eligible homebuyer. The sale must be at a price affordable to the purchaser, although the owner is also allowed to realize a fair return on the sale.

Our non-profit partner agencies are required to place deed restrictions as required under the HOME Program and delineated in 24 CFR Part 92 regarding the maintenance of affordability to convey fee title to any subsequent buyer within the prescribed period of affordability. The deed restrictions name the Director of the Department of Planning and Urban Development, City of Akron, Ohio or his/her agent, as the responsible party in determining conformance with the deed.

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:

   If the City uses HOME funds to refinance existing debt for a project involving multi-family housing, the City will follow models and FHA guidelines for refinancing as supplied to the City by HUD. The City will not develop standards of its' own for refinancing.

5. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of the preference for persons with special needs or disabilities. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(i) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).

N/A

6. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of how the preference for a specific category of individuals with disabilities (e.g. persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness) will narrow the gap in benefits and the preference is needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(ii) and 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).

   N/A

7. If applicable, a description of any preference or limitation for rental housing projects. (See 24 CFR 92.253(d)(3) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)). Note: Preferences cannot be administered in a manner that limits the opportunities of persons on any basis prohibited by the laws listed under 24 CFR 5.105(a).

   N/A

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

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)

   See Akron / Barberton / Summit County Continuum of Care Regional Homeless Services Coordination Plan (attached)

2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.

   All homeless related calls are now received at a centralized phone bank (United Way - previously Info Line but they merged) and then a referral procedure is used to forward the client and documentation directly to the homeless agency.

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).

   The City solicits proposals from all interested parties and allows approximately 60 days to return proposals. The City follows several policies in its review of ESGP proposals - the City will provide assistance to a wide variety of shelters. Priority is given to homeless prevention and rapid re-housing programs. A second consideration wil be given to emergency and transitional shelters. An emphasis is also placed on rehabilitation of structures and the purchase of furniture and equipment along with the support of existing shelters which continue to meet documented need over the funding of new shelters. Consideration is also given to agencies achieving established local performance measures. Nonprofit organizations receiving assistance will be required to provide

matching funds. These funds will come from a variety of federal, state, local and private sources.

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.

   Akron continues to meet homeless participation requirements. The Akron/Barberton/Summit County Continuum of Care continues to engage homeless/formerly homeless individuals to participate in the point-in-time count to serve on agency boards and other critical CoC events/processes so we may address the changing needs of our homeless individuals/families. One homeless/formerly homeless individual works with each team on the unsheltered count of homeless persons.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

   The City of Akron and the Continuum of Care recognize the need to develop performance standards for the administration of the ESGP program and all Continuum of Care projects (SHP and S+C). Listed below are basic performance standards identified by the City of Akron and the Continuum of Care that are consistent with previous years. The City of Akron and CoC will continue to their collaboration to further developing these standards.

   For Emergency Shelters the following are required; households served, new households served, 90% of clients will meet with a case manager within 48 hours of their intake, 90% of clients will meet with case manager weekly to discuss housing goals, life skills goals, job readiness goals and referrals, 70% of the clients entering emergency shelters and who have successfully completed the program will attain safe housing following their stay, 50% of clients will maintain or increase total income (all adults) and 50% of clients will maintain or increase earned income (all adults aged 16 to 61).

   For Transitional Housing the following are required; households served, new households served, increase the percentage of homeless persons moving from transitional housing to permanent housing to at least 78%, increase the percentage of homeless persons employed at exit to at least 51%, 90% of clients will meet with the case manager within 48 hours of intake, 90% of clients will complete a comprehensive service plan within two weeks of their intake, 50% of clients will maintain or increase total income (all adults) and 50% of clients will maintain or increase earned income (all adults aged 18-61).

   For Rapid Re-Housing the following are required; households served, new households served, 75% of households will maintain housing for at least 6 months, 90% of clients will meet with case manager within two weeks of referral from central intake, 90% of clients will meet with case manager twice a month, 50% of clients will maintain or increase total income (all adults), 50% of clients will maintain or increase earned income (all adults aged 18-61).

For Homeless Prevention the following are required; households served, new households served, at least 75% will maintain or obtain housing for at least 6 months and <5% of those who obtain housing will return to shelter.

For Permanent Supportive Housing the following are required, households served, new households served, increase the percentage of homeless persons staying in permanent housing for at least 6 months to at least 78% and increase the percentage of homeless persons employed at exit to at least 20%.

For Central Intake the following are required; at least 30% of those contacting the central point of access will be directed to other community resources, at least 80% of those referred to and qualify for homeless prevention and rapid re-housing will be housed, and 100% of clients will be assessed for housing options.

H.M.I.S. Performance Standards apply to all agencies receiving the following: Emergency Solutions Grant Program, Supportive Housing Program (Continuum of Care) and Shelter Plus Care (Continuum of Care) unless exempt by Federal or State law. Live data is entered into H.M.I.S. as part of the normal intake process within a 2-day period of time and all HUD-required data elements will not exceed five percent (5%) null responses.