

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Sugar Land, Texas, is located in Fort Bend County to the southwest of the City of Houston. With a 2010 census population of 78,817 and a 2013 American Communities Survey population of 83,851, Sugar Land is a fast-growing suburban community that operates as a self-contained economic center and is an integral part of the Houston Metropolitan area. The City of Sugar Land's official population estimate as of January 1, 2015 is 86,972.

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is aimed at serving low to moderate income residents – those with incomes of 80 percent or less of the area's median household income. In addition to serving low to moderate income individuals throughout the City, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development places a priority on serving neighborhoods with a predominance of low-moderate income residents. According to the 2010 Census information by block group, 24,540 people or 31 percent of the population resided in current CDBG-designated neighborhoods, or Target Areas. Of these, 8,425 individuals were low to moderate income. Overall, 17.3 percent of the City's population is low to moderate income. Since the Target Areas generally represent older neighborhoods with little to no new development, the total population in them has not increased significantly.

The Program Year 2014-2018 Consolidated Plan is a strategic planning document that summarizes the City's proposed goals, performance outcome objectives, and implementation strategies for each of the identified community needs. Each year during the five-year period covered in the Consolidated Plan, the City of Sugar Land evaluates, and funds accordingly, projects selected to meet the goals and objectives identified in the Plan. The Program Year 2015 Annual Action Plan contains goals, performance outcome objectives, and implementation strategies for using Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

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

The Community Development Block Group program has a priority of inclusion in the planning and implementation process. Therefore, the City of Sugar Land regularly confers with residents, agencies that are CDBG subrecipients, other local service and housing providers, neighboring CDBG Entitlement Jurisdictions, and county, regional and state agencies. The City's Communications Department works directly with the Homeowner's Associations (HOAs) in Sugar Land to receive direct input from residents. Additionally, during the annual monitoring of public service and housing rehabilitation providers, the City requests input into the planning process and solicit names and contact information for residents who may have complaints or information that has previously been unvoiced.

The City of Sugar Land will continue to encourage citizen participation, with particular emphasis on participation by persons of very-low, low, and moderate income that are eligible for CDBG-funded services and residents of CDBG Target Areas in which funds can be expended. All CDBG-related documents, including the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, the Analysis of Impediment and Fair Housing Plan, the annual CAPERs (Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report), information gathered from public meetings/hearings, measurable achievements and subrecipient monitoring results are available to the public for review at any time. This availability is announced at all public meetings and hearings.

Listed in the table below is a summary of the community needs and priorities that have been identified for the upcoming year. The priorities detailed within the table vary by activity and are based on several factors:

- Level of available CDBG funding against program cost
- Location of need for area-based projects (within CDBG Target Area)
- Level of physical need described in the City's Capital Improvements Plan and/or Parks Master Plan for public facilities and infrastructure
- Number of households or people in need based on Census, State and local data from a variety of sources
- Level of need described in applications for subrecipient funding and numbers served by subrecipients in the past
- Availability and capacity of agencies to address the need if funded

Matrix Code	Activity	Program Year 2014-2018 Objectives	Priority (H, M, L)
Public Facilities and Improvements			
03F	Parks Improvements	Improvements to 2 parks	H
Public Services			
05A	Senior Services	200 seniors receive services	H
05H	Employment Training	400 low-mod income persons	M
05N	Abused & Neglected Children	250 abused & neglected children receive services	H
Housing			
14A	Single Family Rehab	40 homes are rehabilitated	M
Administration			
21A Administration	CDBG Program Administration	Annual administrative management of CDBG funds	H

The Annual Action Plan outlines the level of need, the obstacles to meeting the needs and the strategies for addressing the greatest number of needs in the City of Sugar Land.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

Despite the limited funding available, the City of Sugar Land has made an impact in the lives of low income persons living within the City. During the 2013 Program Year (PY), the last year in the 2009-2013 Consolidated Plan, the City was able to report in the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) the funding of services to assist abused and neglected children, elderly persons, disabled persons, and illiterate adults. Low income residents also received minor home rehabilitation to help the community retain affordable housing options. The total clients served during PY 2013 include:

- 79 abused and neglected children were provided with advocacy services
- 78 low income adults were provided with General Education Development (GED) and English as a Second Language (ESL) classes

- 41 elderly and disabled persons received hot, frozen and emergency meals
- 10 low income persons were assisted with minor rehabilitation
- 492 low income persons had increases access to park facilities

Year to date during the 2014 program year, the first year in the 2014 – 2018 Consolidated Plan, the City has documented the following total clients served:

- 28 abused and neglected children were provided with advocacy services
- 50 low income adults were provided with General Education Development (GED) and English as a Second Language (ESL) classes
- 34 elderly and disabled persons received hot, frozen and emergency meals
- 13 elderly and disabled persons received medical and/or dental care
- 4 low income persons were assisted with minor housing rehabilitation
- 492 low income persons have increased access to park facilities

In addition to services provided through the use of CDBG funding, the City of Sugar Land also funds service programs through the utilization of local dollars. The City of Sugar Land’s T.E. Harman Senior Center has a total enrollment exceeding 1,200 clients and serves as a location where seniors are able to socialize and sign up for activities and field trips, therefore helping to keep seniors active within the community.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The City of Sugar Land is committed to involving all residents in its programs. The City hosts numerous public hearings and public meetings to involve all interested residents. Through various Departments, the City of Sugar Land works directly with multiple groups involved in the community, including the Homeowner’s Associations (HOAs), non-profit agencies, civic associations and community groups. The City’s staff routinely asks for input into the planning process and solicits names and contact information for residents who may have complaints or information that have previously been unvoiced.

For the 2015 Annual Action Plan, the City of Sugar Land hosted multiple public hearings. The first public hearing was held to garner information from attendees and provide a pre-application workshop for prospective applicant agencies for funding. The public hearing was tied to the 30-day public comment period and gave residents and interested parties an opportunity to publicly voice their opinions of the plans or to have questions regarding the CDBG program and the proposed plans answered. The second public hearing allowed residents an opportunity to provide input as part of City Council’s review and approval of the Plan. The

public hearings were advertised at City Hall, on the City's website, and in the general-circulation newspaper. Copies of the advertisements have been included as attachments.

The public hearings discussed the CDBG program, the funding process, Fair Housing rights and issues, eligible activities and then opened the floor to comments, concerns, the ranking of issues and recommendations.

In addition, during the plan development, the Community Development Department made a workshop presentation to the City Council, which was open to the public. On June 22, 2015 the City of Sugar Land posted the Annual Action Plan for public comment with notice of the 30-day comment period posted in the general circulation newspaper, the City's website and SLtv. A summary of the City of Sugar Land's 2015 Annual Action Plan was advertised, and the entire Plan was available for review at City Hall and on the City's website. On August 4, 2015, the Community Development Department presented an Action Item to the City Council for the approval of the PY 2015 Annual Action Plan, during which time, the plan was approved.

The City of Sugar Land will continue to encourage citizen participation, with particular emphasis on participation by persons of very-low, low, and moderate income that are eligible for CDBG-funded services and residents of CDBG Target Areas in which funds can be utilized. A concerted effort will be made to encourage citizen participation through the nonprofit organizations also serving low income persons. The City works directly with these nonprofits to offer information and gather input from clients directly benefiting from the program.

All CDBG-related documents, including the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, the Analysis of Impediment and Fair Housing Plan, the annual CAPER (Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report), information gathered from public meetings/hearings, measurable achievements and subrecipient monitoring results are available to the public for review at any time. This availability is announced at all public meetings and hearings.

5. Summary of public comments

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

The City of Sugar Land solicited public comments through various outreach methods, including personal contact, newspaper publication, online notification and municipal television. The City of Sugar Land's Citizen Participation Plan outlines the criteria the jurisdiction will use for receiving public input, notification of awards and determining what changes constitute a substantial amendment to the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan. These substantial amendments are subject to the Citizen Participation process. Substantial amendments to the

Consolidated Plan will include downgrading or upgrading of priorities; the addition or removal of priorities; or changing of the citizen participation planning process. Substantial amendments to the Annual Action Plan will include any change in the activities that will necessitate a reallocation of at least 20 percent of an activity's funding allocation; commencement of an activity not previously outlined in the plan; or cancellation of an activity previously outlined in the plan.

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

No comments were received regarding the Program Year 2015 Annual Action Plan.

7. Summary

The Program Year 2015 Annual Action Plan represents the City of Sugar Land's plan to ensure an improved quality of life for its low and moderate income residents. The primary objective of the City of Sugar Land's CDBG program is the development of a viable urban community through the establishment of decent housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities primarily for low and moderate income persons. These objectives are achieved through a comprehensive approach to program implementation focused on infrastructure, public services, and housing rehabilitation projects throughout the community.

The City of Sugar Land's mission is to ensure that all areas of the City have comparable city services and infrastructure and that all residents have equal access to programs. The City aims to be a place where residents of all income levels and situations can enjoy all stages of their lives. The Plan identifies needs and establishes a strategic plan for meeting those needs. The Plan will serve as a guide for decision makers in creating strategies that address the provision of adequate streets, sidewalks, parks and green spaces, community facilities, and quality public services for persons living in low-income communities.

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	City of Sugar Land	Community Development Department

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The City of Sugar Land is the Lead Agency for the CDBG Program which operates under the Council-Manager form of government. City Council appoints the City Manager, who acts as the chief executive officer of the government, carries out policy, and administers city programs. All department heads are ultimately responsible to the City Manager. The Community Development Department manages the CDBG program and oversees development of the Consolidated and Annual Action Plans, subrecipient agencies responsible for carrying out the program, and reporting of results through IDIS and the CAPER.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

The Community Development Department serves as the contact for the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and public comments related to the Plans. Staff can be reached at (281) 275-2170, communitydevelopment@sugarlandtx.gov, or at 2700 Town Center Blvd. N, Sugar Land, Texas 77479.

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

1. Introduction

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

While the City of Sugar Land does not have any public or assisted housing within its city limits, efforts were made during the development of the PY2014-PY2018 Consolidated Plan to reach out to providers of affordable housing, health, mental health and public services to enhance planning and coordination throughout the City of Sugar Land and greater Fort Bend County. Providers of affordable housing, such as Fort Bend CORPS, Fort Bend Family Promise, and Fort Bend Habitat for Humanity, provided input to better understand the limitations when working to develop and provide quality affordable housing within the City of Sugar Land. The City recognizes that the cost of housing is a barrier to many families and through its partnership with housing providers has worked to conserve existing affordable housing within the community.

Providers of health, mental health and public services participated in surveys and public meetings during the development of the Consolidated Plan to coordinate services to youth, seniors, disabled persons, homeless, and other populations in need. Providers included AccessHealth, Child Advocates of Fort Bend, Fort Bend Seniors, Literacy Council of Fort Bend, Fort Bend County Women’s Center, and many more agencies serving the community. Additional consultation from individuals, Homeowners Associations, and City Departments were completed through the use of a survey distributed by email, posted on the city’s website and Facebook page, and distributed at community centers. The coordinated efforts and combined feedback received from meetings and survey’s assisted with the identification of community needs throughout the City.

In addition, the City annually conducts public outreach during the development of the annual action plan to receive input from the citizens of Sugar Land and the agencies that serve them. The City also consults on a regular basis with those housing and social service agencies that are subrecipients of CDBG funding.

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.

Though little documentation is available about the homeless population immediately within the City of Sugar Land, city staff works with Continuum of Care participants to coordinate efforts to

address the needs of homeless persons. Staff also consults with providers of health, mental health and service agencies, in addition to the Sugar Land Police Department and Fort Bend ISD Homeless Coordinator to better assess the community need.

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

The City of Sugar Land falls within the Houston/Harris/Ft. Bend County Continuum of Care structure, which is led by the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County and includes Houston as well as Harris and Fort Bend counties. As Sugar Land does not receive an allocation of ESG funding, there are limitations in the services available to the homeless population. Nevertheless, the City and its departments are attentive to the needs of individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

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

As part of the Citizen Participation Plan and the development of the 2014-2018 Consolidated Plan and PY2015 Annual Action Plan, organizations representing a variety of service providers were given an opportunity to provide input regarding their individual experiences serving clients within the City of Sugar Land. Agencies include:

- AccessHealth
 - Health Service Provider
 - Fort Bend County
- Blessed Be Hope for Three, Inc.
 - Health Service Provider
 - Fort Bend County
- Coalition for the Homeless Houston/Harris County
 - Homeless Service Provider
 - Agent for Continuum of Care
- Child Advocates of Fort Bend
 - Abused and Neglected Children
 - Fort Bend County
- City of Sugar Land Engineering Department
- City of Sugar Land Parks Department
- City of Sugar Land Police Department
- Fort Bend CORPS
 - Housing Rehabilitation Provider
 - Fort Bend County
- Fort Bend County
 - Local Government
- Fort Bend Family Promise
 - Homeless Service Provider
 - Fort Bend County
- Fort Bend Habitat for Humanity
 - Housing Provider
 - Fort Bend County
- Fort Bend Independent School District
 - Education Provider
 - Fort Bend County
- Fort Bend Regional Council on Substance Abuse
 - Substance Abuse Service Provider
 - Fort Bend County

- Fort Bend Seniors Meals on Wheels
 - Elderly Service Provider
 - Fort Bend County
- Fort Bend County Women's Center
 - Homeless Service Provider, Domestic Violence
 - Fort Bend County
- Houston-Galveston Area Council
 - Regional Council of Governments
 - 13 County Area
- Literacy Council of Fort Bend County, Inc.
 - GED, Literacy Education Provider
 - Fort Bend County
- Parks Youth Ranch
 - Homeless Service Provider, Youth
 - Fort Bend County
- Prevent Blindness Texas
 - Health Service Provider
 - Southeast Region

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

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

In an effort to consult a diverse group of service providers, the City of Sugar Land has reached out to agencies that provide services to the community’s youth, elderly, homeless, and disabled as well as agencies that provide assistance with housing and healthcare.

Unlike the City of Houston and Harris County, the City of Sugar Land has substantially fewer agencies providing services. Many services are only offered in more metropolitan areas of the region. While this could serve as a limitation, increased efforts were made to consult with surrounding agencies during development of the 2014-2018 Consolidated Plan and 2015 Annual Action Plan.

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?
Our Great Region 2040	Houston Galveston Area Council	Coordinate infrastructure, housing, and transportation investments in greater Houston MSA.
Fort Bend County PY2015-2020 Consolidated Plan	Fort Bend County	Coordinate funding overlap and strategies to address homelessness in Fort Bend County.
Harris County Program Year 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan	Harris County	Coordinated strategies to address homelessness in greater Houston MSA.
Missouri City PY 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan	Missouri City	Coordinated funding overlap within Fort Bend County.
The Way Home	City of Houston, Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County and the Houston/Harris & Fort Bend Counties Continuum of Care	Coordinated strategies to address homelessness in greater Houston MSA.
State of Texas Plan for Fair Housing Choice	Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs	Consistent impediment action steps and proposed anti-NIMBY strategies.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

The City of Sugar Land understands the importance of ensuring the participation and input of citizens, businesses, nonprofits, and City Departments in the development of the Annual Action Plan. The Citizen Participation Plan details the process by which the City reached out to enable all citizens to participate in an advisory role in the planning and implementation of the Annual Action Plan.

During the preparation of the Program Year 2015 Annual Action Plan, the City of Sugar Land engaged in a series of public hearings to receive input from the citizens of Sugar Land and the agencies that serve them. These opportunities for public input allowed residents and nonprofit partners to voice concerns regarding the current state of issues such as streets and infrastructure, housing, public spaces, services and mobility. These are issues that affect all residents but can more severely impact the low income residents of Sugar Land.

The City also consults on a regular basis with those housing and social services agencies that are subrecipients of CDBG funding. These agencies include:

- Fort Bend CORPS that provides housing rehabilitation, energy efficiency improvements, property clean-ups and other housing-related services through CDBG, foundation and private funding as well as volunteer labor. The agency is able to provide a fairly accurate assessment of current housing condition and housing needs.
- Fort Bend County Senior Citizens that provides services and advocacy for the elderly of Fort Bend County, including Sugar Land and provides the City with information regarding the needs of seniors in the community.
- The City of Sugar Land's Senior Citizens Program in the Parks Department provides a number of services to ambulatory elderly within the City.
- Child Advocates of Fort Bend, along with the area's Child Protective Services office, that provide information regarding abused, neglected and endangered children.

- Literacy Council of Fort Bend County is able to provide information about the needs of immigrant populations in Sugar Land –primarily Hispanic, Vietnamese, Chinese and Cambodian as well as the literacy needs of the entire community – English as a Second Language and Adult Reading needs.

In addition to those agencies funded through the CDBG program, the City of Sugar Land consulted with other agencies with insights into local and regional conditions. These agencies include the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County to provide the most current information regarding the needs of the homeless in Sugar Land.

The City of Sugar Land continues to attempt to broaden public participation in the development of the Annual Action Plan. The combination of the various forms of outreach allowed for the inclusive nature in the preparation of the 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	Individual Emails	Community wide outreach	Summary of current services and specific community needs	No comments received	All responses accepted	
2	Public Hearing	Nonprofits serving Sugar Land residents, published in newspaper	March 18, 2015, attendance by nonprofits serving low income residents through housing, mental health, and literacy	No comments received	All responses accepted	
3	Public Meeting	Community wide outreach	June 2, 2015 City Council review and resident attendance	No comments received	All responses accepted	
4	Public Notice	Community wide outreach	June 22, 2015 Notice of the public hearing and public comment period for the PY 2015 Annual Action Plan was posted to website and newspaper for review	No comments received	All responses accepted	
5	Public Hearing	Community wide outreach	July 8, 2015 public hearing	No comments received	All responses 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)
6	Public Meeting	Council review and approval of PY2015 Annual Action Plan	August 4, 2015 City Council approval and resident attendance	No comments received	All responses accepted	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

As an entitlement city, the City of Sugar Land is a recipient of CDBG funding annually. Funding allocations are limited and must be coupled with local dollars to leverage greater resources and extend the assistance available for low income families.

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	Federal	Public Services, Public Improvements, Housing, Admin and Planning	\$282,395	N/A	N/A	\$282,395	\$847,185	Funds will be used according to the noted priorities to include public services, public facilities and infrastructure, housing rehabilitation, and administration.

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

CDBG funding does not specifically set match requirements; however, the City of Sugar Land works to leverage substantial dollars to extend the services available to low and moderate income persons. Public service agencies and subrecipients funded with CDBG dollars are also asked to contribute other resources towards the funded activities.

Due to the small amount of funding received each year, none of the prioritized activities are solely funded with federal dollars. Through their independent fundraising, which includes state, foundation and private dollars, subrecipients anticipate a contribution of approximately \$909,197 towards services for local Sugar Land residents during the 2015 program year. The City of Sugar Land also contributes local dollars towards program administration, public facilities and infrastructure improvements, including staff time and expertise, totaling over \$25,000 for the 2015 program year.

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

At this time, the proposed improvements to Lonnie Green Park will be completed on publicly owned land for the benefit of the community. The park improvements will be designed to increase amenities and accessibility.

Discussion

The City of Sugar Land is committed to combining resources and leveraging public and private funds to ensure the sustainability of low and moderate income neighborhoods and residents throughout the City.

Annual Goals and Objectives

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

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Construction of Lonnie Green Park Improvements	2015	2016	Public Facilities and Improvements	Mayfield Park/The Hill	Park Improvements	\$204,431	Park improvements, including \$88,395 from PY2014, to increase accessibility
2	Meals on Wheels	2015	2016	Public Services	City wide	Senior Services	\$19,965	17 elderly and disabled persons assisted with meals
3	Literacy Tutoring	2015	2016	Public Services	City wide	Employment Training	\$11,875	91 low-moderate income persons assisted with GED, ESL and literacy education
4	Child Advocates, Children's Advocacy Center	2015	2016	Public Services	City wide	Abused and Neglected Children	\$10,519	76 abused and neglected children assisted with advocacy and counseling services
5	Home Rehabilitation Program	2015	2016	Housing	City wide	Single Family Rehab	\$70,000	7 low-moderate income families assisted with minor housing repair
6	CDBG Program Administration	2015	2016	Administration	N/A	Administration	\$54,000	Annual administrative management of CDBG funds

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

During Program Year 2015, the City of Sugar Land will focus efforts on public services, housing rehabilitation and public improvements. Public services include services to seniors, abused and neglected children, and persons with limited English proficiency. One public improvement and one housing project are also included.

Sort Order	Goal Name and Goal Description
1	Construction of Lonnie Green Park Improvements
	Lonnie Green Park Improvements will include updated equipment and increased accessibility.
2	Meals on Wheels
	Fort Bend Seniors Meals on Wheels Program will provide home-delivered meals to low and moderate income senior citizens and/or disabled persons within the City.
3	Literacy Tutoring
	The Literacy Council of Fort Bend County will utilize CDBG funding to carry out literacy programs for Sugar Land clients and also provide GED prep courses for those clients interested in completing the program.
4	Child Advocates, Children’s Advocacy Center
	Child Advocates of Fort Bend will utilize CDBG funding to provide counseling & advocacy services for abused and neglected children and their families.
5	Home Rehabilitation Program
	The Fort Bend CORPS will utilize CDBG funding to conduct minor housing rehabilitation to homes owned and occupied by low to moderate income families.
6	CDBG Program Administration
	The City of Sugar Land will utilize CDBG funding to provide administrative services to deliver the CDBG program successfully and in full compliance with all HUD and federal regulations.

Table 7 – Goal Descriptions

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

Each year, the City of Sugar Land assists approximately 10 families with minor housing rehabilitation to help ensure sustained housing affordability. Over half of the families assisted are low income while 20% are extremely low-income and 30% are moderate-income families.

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

During Program Year 2015, the City of Sugar Land will focus efforts on public services, housing rehabilitation and public improvements. Overall, a total of seven projects will be funded with the anticipated allocation of \$282,395.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Construction of Lonnie Green Park Improvements
2	Meals on Wheels
3	Literacy Tutoring
4	Children’s Advocacy Center
5	Home Rehabilitation Program
6	CDBG Program Administration

Table 8 – Project Information

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

Allocation priorities have been determined to reflect several factors, including level of need, level of available funding, and capacity of local agencies.

Funding priorities are foremost reflective of the community’s need. Both through input from residents and meetings with service providers, the City was able to better assess need.

With continued decreases in the level of Federal CDBG funding, the City of Sugar Land has to make strategic decisions regarding the funding of projects. With limited funds coupled with a 15% cap on the funding of public services, only a limited number of projects can receive funding each year.

The availability of local agencies with the capacity to provide services and expend federal funds is one obstacle to addressing underserved needs. A limited number of agencies provide housing and services to homeless populations, services to youth, transportation services, and health services to Sugar Land residents.

Projects

AP-38 Projects Summary

Project Summary Information

Project Name	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome
Lonnie Green Park Improvements	Mayfield Park/The Hill	Park Improvements	\$204,431	Park improvements, including \$88,395 from PY2014, to increase accessibility
Fort Bend Seniors, Meals on Wheels	City wide	Senior Services	\$19,965	17 elderly and disabled persons assisted with meals
Literacy Council of Fort Bend County, Inc., Literacy Tutoring	City wide	Employment Training	\$11,875	91 low-moderate income persons assisted with GED, ESL and literacy education
Child Advocates, Children's Advocacy Center	City wide	Abused and Neglected Children	\$10,519	76 abused and neglected children assisted with advocacy and counseling services
Fort Bend CORPS, Home Rehabilitation Program	City wide	Single Family Rehab	\$70,000	7 low-moderate income families assisted with minor housing repair
CDBG Program Administration	N/A	Administration	\$54,000	Annual administrative management of CDBG funds

Table 9 – Project Summary

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 vast majority of projects proposed during Program Year 2015 will serve residents throughout the City of Sugar Land.

Public services and housing rehabilitation are intended to serve individuals and families in need regardless of their geographic location. While each client is asked to provide their address, the process is intended to verify residence rather than to target services in any particular geographic area.

The construction of Lonnie Green Park Improvements will be the only project that focuses on a specific geographic location. Park improvements are proposed for Lonnie Green Park located within the Mayfield Park/The Hill Target Area within Census Tract/Block Group 672200-2.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Mayfield Park/The Hill	41%

Table 10 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The City of Sugar Land has an exception to the 51 percent rule for low-moderate income and uses the HUD established qualifying criteria allowing areas with 25.39 percent or greater low-moderate income.

While neighborhoods that meet this criterion are eligible for use of federal funds, Mayfield Park/The Hill has one of the highest levels of low and moderate income persons within the City of Sugar Land. The Mayfield Park/The Hill Target Area is made up of 37.16% low and moderate income persons who are primarily concentrated within a few blocks. This level of poverty serves as strong rationale for prioritizing this area.

Discussion

Poverty and the services needed to address poverty in Sugar Land are disbursed throughout the City. With the exception of one project, that will target Mayfield Park/The Hill and one of the highest concentrations of poverty, the remaining five projects will serve low income individuals and families throughout the City.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

While the City of Sugar Land is not a recipient of Federal HOME funding, the City allocates approximately 25% of its annual CDBG allocation each year toward housing activities. Due to the smaller allocation of approximately \$70,000 towards housing each year, the City is mostly able to focus efforts on the rehabilitation of existing units.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	3
Special-Needs	4
Total	7

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	7
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	7

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

Discussion

The funding of housing rehabilitation each year is intended to assist low and moderate income families remain in their homes. Over half of families assisted are elderly and disabled and often are in need of modifications to their homes to allow for greater accessibility. Elderly and disabled persons are also usually on a fixed income and have limited resources to invest into the repair of their home. These vulnerable populations are in greatest need for housing assistance.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The City of Sugar Land does not have any public housing located within its city limits and does not have a public housing authority that serves its residents.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

Discussion

The City of Sugar Land does not have any public housing located within its city limits and does not have a public housing authority that serves its residents.

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

Introduction

The City of Sugar Land will focus much of its efforts during Program Year 2015 on special needs populations by funding assistance to elderly, disabled adults, and abused and neglected children. Services will assist the special needs population with food, counseling, and housing repairs.

In the past, the City has provided funding to a homeless service provider for assistance to homeless victims of domestic violence. Unfortunately, the difficulties in complying with federal funding requirements have led to a lack of interested homeless providers. The lack of qualified and interested service providers restricts the amount of services available to the community.

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

Through the funding of minor housing rehabilitation, the City is working to enable low income persons, particularly elderly and disabled persons, to remain in their homes and avoid homelessness. Repairs such as new roofing, plumbing, and accessibility improvements, if not made, can result in life safety concerns that can make a home uninhabitable.

Though the City of Sugar Land will not have an opportunity to fund the current needs of homeless persons, local service providers are working to address the needs of homeless persons.

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

In addition to assistance provided by local churches, three homeless service providers serve Fort Bend County. The agencies focus their efforts on three specific target populations, including homeless families, victims of domestic violence, and homeless youth ages 7-17. As part of the development of the Program Year 2014-2018 Consolidated Plan and the Program Year 2015 Annual Action Plan, Sugar Land has reached out to each of the agencies, including Fort Bend Family Promise, the Fort Bend County Women's Center, and Parks Youth Ranch to better understand their need for funding.

The City of Sugar Land will also continue developing its relationship with the Coalition for the Homeless Houston/Harris County, the Sugar Land Police Department, and Fort Bend ISD to reach out to homeless persons to better understand their individual needs. Sugar Land also intends to participate in the efforts to make coordinated intake and rental assistance available.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Though the City of Sugar Land will not have an opportunity to fund the current needs of homeless persons, local service providers are working to address the needs of homeless persons. Each of the three service providers working in Fort Bend County target a specific population, including homeless youth, victims of domestic violence, and homeless families. All three organizations provide emergency shelter, but only Fort Bend Family Promise and the Fort Bend County Women's Center offer assistance with transitional and permanent 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

According to the Coalition for the Homeless Houston/Harris County's zip code data, which can overlap in other regions, residents from the Sugar Land area utilized homeless services from service providers. Additionally, Fort Bend ISD reports that 134 Sugar Land children received homelessness services in 2014-2015.

To ensure services to families in need of housing, the City of Sugar Land is working with the Coalition for the Homeless Houston/Harris County to participate in the coordinated intake and referral process as well as offer rental assistance. Persons facing homelessness would be referred to the system from Sugar Land to receive rental assistance and therefore help stabilize their lives. The coordinated intake and referral system has been initiated in other parts of the region and is anticipated to begin in Sugar Land in the near future.

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

To ensure services to families in need of housing, the City of Sugar Land is working with the Coalition for the Homeless Houston/Harris County to participate in the coordinated intake and referral process. Persons facing homelessness would be referred to the system from Sugar Land to receive rental assistance and therefore help stabilize their lives. The coordinated intake and referral system has been initiated in other parts of the region and is anticipated to begin in Sugar Land in the near future.

Parks Youth Ranch has recognized the need to provide housing to homeless youth aging out of the foster care system and other youth facilities. The agency is currently working to address this model and will likely be addressing the need at their current location, which is outside of the City of Sugar Land.

Persons being discharged from publicly funded institutions such as the criminal justice system are eligible for reentry services from the facility at which they are being discharged. Program assistance focuses on key factors that include housing, employment, health care, transportation, and financial resources. These efforts are coordinated with local service providers to ensure a complete approach to reentry.

Discussion

It is extremely difficult for the City of Sugar Land to serve the City’s homeless population without the assistance of local service providers. Unfortunately, the difficulties in complying with federal funding requirements have led to a lack of interested homeless providers. The lack of qualified and interested service providers restricts the amount of services available to the community. Despite this concern, the City will continue its efforts to collaborate with service providers both in Fort Bend County but also in Harris County.

One year goals for the number of households to be provided housing through the use of HOPWA for:	
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family	0
Tenant-based rental assistance	0
Units provided in housing facilities (transitional or permanent) that are being developed, leased, or operated	0
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0
Total	0

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

Introduction

The City of Sugar Land does not receive HOME funding and is unable to counter the high cost of developing affordable housing. Additionally, because Sugar Land is an entitlement community, Fort Bend County cannot invest HOME dollars within Sugar Land. For-profit and non-profit developers therefore have little incentive to build affordable housing within the city limits.

The community's perception of affordable housing also serves as a barrier towards the development of affordable housing. While low income housing tax credit (LIHTC) projects have not been proposed in Sugar Land, projects proposed in the immediately surrounding jurisdictions have received some scrutiny. Similar thinking exists within Sugar Land as it relates to affordable housing.

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

The City of Sugar Land has worked during the last few years to better inform the community regarding diverse housing options and their benefits. The City of Sugar Land is currently updating its Land Use Plan, which documents the land use policies that guide development within the City. This update is a multi-phase project that includes numerous opportunities for public input. During the Land Use Forum Speaker and Community Discussion Series, approximately 200 community members attended and participated in the six-part speaker series held from January to April 2014. Topics included Housing Choices for a Successful City, which focused on housing choice and the benefits of multifamily housing. This process will continue during the upcoming program year and will include the finalization of the vision, goals and policies associated with the Land Use Plan and development within the City.

In addition, the City will continue to provide information about housing choice and fair housing by distributing brochures to the local libraries and subrecipient agencies receiving CDBG funds. This distribution will provide multiple avenues for Sugar Land residents to receive the information.

To ameliorate the barriers to affordable housing during the 2015 program year, the City of Sugar Land continues to commit approximately 25% of the City's annual CDBG allocation to fund minor housing rehabilitation. Low income individuals and their families receive assistance for the repair of their home to help retain affordable housing options currently available.

Discussion:

Despite the challenges in developing new affordable housing, the City is working to preserve all of its current stock of affordable housing. Restrictions resulting from limited funds are much more difficult to contend with.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The largest obstacle to meeting the needs of underserved populations is the limited available funding. Each year the amount of available funding is reduced, therefore requiring the City to reduce the allocation to service agencies that provide assistance to low income residents.

The next most concerning obstacle is the lack of qualified and interested service providers. Unfortunately, the difficulties in complying with federal funding requirements have led to a lack of interested homeless providers. The lack of qualified and interested service providers restricts the amount of services available to the community.

In order to address these obstacles, the City of Sugar Land collaborates internally with its departments and funds strong community organizations focused on assisting underserved populations. In working with the Police Department, Parks Department, and Engineering Department, the Community Development Department is able to better assess and meet the needs of underserved communities. By continuing to fund well-established community organizations such as Child Advocates of Fort Bend, Fort Bend CORPS, Fort Bend Seniors and Literacy Council of Fort Bend County during the 2015 program year, the City is able to assist vulnerable populations. Through these collaborative efforts, populations at risk, including abused children, the elderly and disabled persons, receive much needed services.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City of Sugar Land has worked during the last few years to better inform the community regarding diverse housing options and their benefits. The City of Sugar Land is currently updating its Land Use Plan, which documents the land use policies that guide development within the City. This update is a multi-phase project that includes numerous opportunities for public input. During the Land Use Forum Speaker and Community Discussion Series, approximately 200 community members attended and participated in the six-part speaker series held from January to April 2014. Topics included Housing Choices for a Successful City, which focused on housing choice and the benefits of multifamily housing. This process will continue during the upcoming program year and will include the finalization of the vision, goals and policies associated with the Land Use Plan and development within the City.

To foster and maintain affordable housing during the 2015 program year, the City of Sugar Land continues to commit approximately 25% of the City's annual CDBG allocation to fund minor housing rehabilitation. Low income individuals and their families receive assistance for the

repair of their home to help retain affordable housing options currently available.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

As part of all funds expended on minor housing rehabilitation, testing for lead based paint is required for all homes built prior to 1978. These measures help identify lead hazards and establish a base for improvements in homes where lead is found to be present. Where necessary, lead is encapsulated to ensure no further risk to occupants of the homes.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City of Sugar Land works to ensure that all programs and policies established to support and funded by the CDBG program have a goal of assisting low and moderate income families to prevent the cycle of poverty. Programs and services are intended to provide families with continued opportunities.

One of the City's goals is to provide GED, ESL and literacy training to low to moderate income persons who are unable to enter the job market due to their inability to effectively communicate. The program will offer the community an opportunity for improved employment options and greater access to community resources. Through this goal, over 91 persons are anticipated to receive assistance during Program Year 2015.

With a goal to assist at least 76 abused and neglected children during Program Year 2015, the City of Sugar Land intends to fund advocacy and counseling services. These services give children an opportunity to heal and move beyond the trauma of their abuse to become more successful adults.

Minor home repair will provide low income families an opportunity to remain in safe and permanent housing. Housing provides families and particularly children an opportunity to stabilize their lives. Minor housing rehabilitation and accessibility modifications help elderly and disabled persons to remain in their homes.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

During the next year, the City of Sugar Land will continue working to improve its process of referring Fair Housing concerns and complaints to the proper authorities. A system has been developed whereby City residents are better informed and know exactly who to call when experiencing discrimination in the rental or purchase of a home.

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

Through its collaborative efforts with the Coalition for the Homeless Houston/Harris County, the City of Sugar Land is working to coordinate efforts between private housing and other service agencies. Local agencies such as the Sugar Land Police Department, Fort Bend ISD, and homeless service providers would identify the needs of homeless persons and work through the Coalition’s referral system to receive rental assistance and therefore help stabilize their lives.

Discussion:

In managing the constraints posed by limited funding and lack of interest by service providers, the City of Sugar Land is in a position where it has to better leverage its relationships with partner agencies.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

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

The City of Sugar Land does not plan to receive any program income.

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

The City of Sugar Land does not have any Section 108 loans.

3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements

The City of Sugar Land does not have any urban renewal settlements.

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.

The City of sugar Land does not have any grant funds returned to the line this year.

5. The amount of income from float-funded activities
Total Program Income

The City of Sugar Land does not have any float funded activities.

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities

The City of Sugar Land does not plan to undertake any urgent need activities.

Discussion

The City of Sugar Land does not fund any activities that create program income.