



Public Review Draft
2022 Action Plan
A Component of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan
For the City of Pascagoula's
Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Program

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

1. Introduction

Pursuant to the requirements of 24 CFR Part 91, Pascagoula's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan serves as the City's CDBG planning document and application for CDBG Entitlement Program funds and strategic plan for carrying out its CDBG Entitlement Program. The City of Pascagoula developed its 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan as a comprehensive document that focuses on a coordinated approach for addressing and prioritizing its housing and community development needs, especially those that are CDBG eligible.

For each of the five years covered by the Consolidated Plan, the City of Pascagoula will develop and submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) an Annual Action Plan that identifies how its CDBG resources will be invested in projects and activities to address high priority community needs and achieve its 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan goals.

The City received a Program Year (PY) 2022 CDBG entitlement allocation of \$206,768.00 from HUD and anticipates carrying forward \$60,915.89 in previously allocated but unexpended funds to support PY2022 projects and activities. The City does not anticipate generating program income during PY2022. This One-Year Action Plan describes citizen participation in the plan development process, identifies the

specific projects and activities the City will fund with PY2022 CDBG resources, and which high priority community needs will be addressed, as detailed in its 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan.

The Consolidated Plan's goals and objectives were developed in consultation with residents, non-profit agencies and organizations, city leaders, local and regional housing and supportive services agencies and organizations, the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII, public and assisted housing residents, local businesses, special interest groups and other stakeholders. The City of Pascagoula's overall objective for its PY2020 through 2024 One-Year Action Plans is to invest its limited CDBG resources to address the goals identified in the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan to provide suitable living environments and basic services to residents while expanding local economic opportunities, especially for low- to moderate-income households.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

The City of Pascagoula's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan identifies four (4) goals and objectives that comprehensively address high priority unmet needs in the community. PY2022 CDBG resources are budgeted for projects and public services activities that will help achieve these goals.

Goal #1 Improve Access to Affordable Housing - prevent and address homelessness by improving access to affordable housing; encourage and support home ownership opportunities; implement actions identified in the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) to reduce or eliminate local barriers to fair housing; encourage rehabilitation of existing housing stock to increase the affordable housing inventory, including the supply of and access to housing for those with special needs; and expand opportunities for homeless persons and families to transition successfully into permanent housing.

Goal #2 Enhance Economic Development Opportunities - support local and regional economic programs and activities to increase availability of jobs that pay a living wage; support efforts to promote long-term community viability; and empower low- and moderate-income persons to achieve self-sufficiency through expanded job training and diverse employment opportunities.

Goal #3 Provide Residents with Suitable Living Environments - improve residents' quality of life, especially in low- to moderate-income areas, through projects that address infrastructure inefficiencies and gaps in service; improve/upgrade City facilities and resources to serve diverse community needs; enhance public safety; and provide CDBG-eligible ADA compliant improvements throughout the City.

Goal #4 Support Public Services that Address High Priority Needs - through CDBG-eligible public service activities, address the community's unmet high priority needs, including but not limited to emergency and transitional housing services; services for special needs populations; counseling for drug and alcohol addiction; assistance to those who have experienced domestic violence; housing and utility assistance to address and prevent homelessness; job skills training and workforce development; afterschool and summer youth programs that may include computer and English as a Second Language classes; and improved access to affordable transportation and healthcare services.

3. Evaluation of past performance

The City of Pascagoula formally assesses its performance implementing its CDBG Entitlement Program at least once annually. It reports past performance to HUD annually through its Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) and conducts a public hearing to inform the public of its progress in completing CDBG-funded activities and goals achieved.

Although the City's annual activity goals historically are achieved, as reported in the CAPER, unmet community needs are so great that continued CDBG funding of public service and public facility improvement activities is warranted. Public input provided during development of the 2022 Annual Action Plan (AAP), the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, and the 2020 and 2021 AAPs confirms the continued need to invest federal resources, especially CDBG funds, to support these activities in Pascagoula.

For example, the City of Pascagoula was successful in achieving PY2020 and PY2021 annual public service activity goals for assisting residents who experienced domestic violence. Based on this past success and the continuing community need, the City will invest PY2022 funds to continue supporting the services provided by the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence to Pascagoula residents through its Adrienne's House facility.

Evaluation of previous years' investment of CDBG resources to achieve the City's goal of improving City resources to serve diverse community needs has resulted in increased usage of IG Levy Park, by area residents. The park is located in a low- to moderate- income area that serves 7,850 residents of whom 4,650 or 61.08% qualify as low/mod income. Public access improvements and diversification of recreational amenities that included expansion of the popular skate park and construction of a basketball court have enticed more low- to moderate-income individuals and families to enjoy this City asset. Based on this success, the City is investing PY2022 CDBG resources to replace existing, dysfunctional park restroom facilities to provide residents with reliable, fully functional ADA-compliant restroom facilities to meet expanding needs.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

This response will be completed following the end of the 30-day comment period on July 25, 2022.

In compliance with HUD requirements, the City of Pascagoula reached out to encourage broad public input into development of the 2022 Action Plan. As required by its Citizen Participation Plan and HUD regulations, the City specifically reached out to consult with residents; social service agencies; public and private organizations; local businesses, industries, developers and chambers of commerce; City, County and State agency representatives; public housing residents and representatives; faith-based organizations; senior citizens and other special needs populations; the Mississippi State Department of Health and Jackson County Health Department; representatives of protected classes under the Fair

Housing Act; agencies responsible for managing flood prone areas, public land and water resources; agencies responsible for emergency services and hazard mitigation planning; broadband Internet service providers, those working to narrow the digital divide; and other interested parties to solicit a broad range of input into the plan. Templates AP-10 Consultation and AP-15 Citizen Participation provide more information about the City's citizen participation process and its consultation efforts.

Following initial outreach, the City invited and encouraged the public's participation in two public hearings held at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 25, 2022, and 5:30 p.m. Thursday, June 23, 2022. The City shared information about its designated written comment period, inviting residents and interested stakeholders to submit their comments between June 23 and July 25, 2022. The Public Review Draft of the 2022 Action Plan was posted on the City's website and social media page and hard copies were available in Pascagoula City Hall and the Pascagoula Public Library.

A summary of the City's citizen participation process is provided in Template AP-15 and Template AP-10 includes a summary of its consultant process.

5. Summary of public comments

This response will be completed following the end of the 30-day comment period on July 25, 2022.

Citizen participation documentation regarding input provided during development of the 2022 Action Plan and documentation of the City's outreach efforts to invite and encourage public input into development of the Action Plan is included in the Citizen Participation Attachment to the final document.

No one attended the first public hearing. Public comments offered at the second hearing _____ (to be summarized following the June 23, 2022 hearing). The City presented information regarding the projects proposed to be funded with PY2022 CDBG resources. Minutes of the hearing will be included in the Citizen Participation Attachment. A copy of all written comments submitted also will be attached. _____ written comments were received at the June 23 hearing and _____ were received during the 30-day comment period.

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

All comments were accepted and considered by the City.

7. Summary

The City of Pascagoula invested a portion of its PY2022 CDBG resources to support services provided by three organizations to Pascagoula residents, addressing high priority needs identified in the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. Each projects and public service activity to be funded in PY2022 focuses on meeting one of the City's four CDBG Entitlement Program goals to:

- improve access to affordable housing;
- expand economic development opportunities;
- improve residents' living environments; and
- support high priority public services.

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	City of Pascagoula	Community Development Department

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

Working in coordination with the City Manager’s Office, the Pascagoula Community Development Department is responsible for administering the City’s CDBG Entitlement Program, which includes developing and implementing the 2022 Action Plan to address goals identified in the 5-Year Consolidated Plan. The City requested proposals for professional services and selected a consultant to assist the one-person DCD staff in developing Pascagoula’s 2022 Action Plan.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

This template will be completed following the end of the 30-day comment period, which ends on July 25, 2022.

City of Pascagoula encouraged participation in development of the 2022 Action Plan by the general public, nonprofit and for-profit organizations and other stakeholders as well as from the agencies and organizations it works with on an on-going basis to identify and address the community's high priority

unmet needs. The City consulted with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care to update current homeless needs in the City, including homelessness caused by institutions and systems of care that discharge persons into homelessness, and how best to address these needs in Pascagoula with its limited resources.

The City also consulted with the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority No. VIII about local public housing and housing assistance needs and supportive services needs of public housing residents. State and local health, mental health, corrections and child welfare agencies also were invited and encouraged to provide input into development of the 2022 Annual Plan, to attend the public hearings and submit written comments. In compliance with outreach requirements, the City reached out by mail to other local units of government and Jackson County completed and returned the City's questionnaire identifying shared transportation and flood issues.

As documented in the Citizen Participation Attachment, broadband Internet service providers with offices in Pascagoula and those known to be working to narrow the local digital divide were invited to consult with the City at a May 25 meeting in City Hall. No one attended the meeting, but the general manager of Sparklight (a broadband service provider) emailed he was out-of-town and would attempt to attend a public hearing. Broadband Internet services are available citywide through five to six service providers that offer a variety of speeds in a range of prices. The Jackson County-George County Library System and Pascagoula-Gautier School District are working to narrow the digital divide in Pascagoula through no-cost computer classes; the library offers several computer classes available to children and adults and also provides access to their Internet technology staff person to answer computer questions.

Agencies with a primary responsibility to manage flood prone areas, public land and water resources, hazard mitigation and emergency response planning were invited to consult with the City on May 26 at City Hall. No one attended the meeting. Representative agencies that assist protected classes under the Fair Housing Act and agencies that assist in efforts to enforce the Act were invited to consult with the City in a meeting also on May 26 at City Hall. No one attended the meeting.

As part of the 2022 Action Plan outreach effort to update information shared during development of its 5-Year Consolidated Plan, the City again reached out to public and private economic and philanthropic organizations; the Jackson County Community Action Agency; chambers of commerce; the Jackson County Economic Development Foundation; the Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain; the Jackson County Utility Authority; organizations representing special needs populations; public and private stakeholders and developers; and faith-based organizations. Regional agencies including the Gulf Regional Planning Commission; Mississippi Coast Habitat for Humanity; and South Mississippi Planning and Development District, in addition to the Open Doors Homeless Coalition, Mississippi Center for Justice and Mississippi Regional Housing Authority No. VIII. Several state agencies were invited to consult with the City and to provide updated information for inclusion in the 2022 AAP, including the Mississippi State Department of Health, the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, the Mississippi Secretary of State's Office, and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality.

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

The City of Pascagoula continues working to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies by doing the following:

- Supporting the efforts of the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority No. VIII and other organizations to meet the housing needs of the elderly and others with special needs with HUD program funding and other public/private resources.
- Supporting the efforts of local, regional and state public service agencies to address the full Continuum of Care.
- Encouraging and considering citizen input regarding the use of CDBG resources, in compliance with its Citizen Participation Plan.
- Supporting efforts to improve delivery methods and institute systematic improvements of the Salvation Army, Homes of Grace, Open Doors Homeless Coalition, Gulf Coast Center For NonViolence and Adrienne's House, Boys and Girls Clubs, MRHA8 Public Housing Resident Councils, Stevens Center, the United Way of Jackson and George Counties, New Beginnings, SMATF, and other nonprofit agencies to meet the housing and nonhousing needs of the homeless, the elderly, the physically and mentally disabled, persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families, and individuals with drug and alcohol addiction who reside in the City of Pascagoula.
- In compliance with the Pascagoula Citizen Participation Plan, all known nonprofit service agencies and organizations are invited on an annual basis to participate in the development process for CDBG Action Plans or the Five-Year Consolidated Plan as applicable.

The City continues to actively work to enhance coordination and collaboration among the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII (MRHA8), regional and local housing assistance providers, private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies through on-going communication and various meetings and activities.

Regular communication among the City, MRHA8, local and regional housing assistance organizations and social service agencies helps to:

- minimize duplication of efforts;
- maximize effective use of limited resources;
- improve efficient delivery of services and management of client data; and
- encourage consideration of collaborative community-wide solutions to better meet residents' housing and nonhousing needs.

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 Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care and the City maintain a good working relationship and the City actively participates in the multi-county, multi-agency effort to address the full continuum of care for the homeless on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

While Pascagoula is not a formula entitlement recipient under any of HUD's other CPD programs, its on-going partnership with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition allows it to keep abreast of the needs of the homeless, near-homeless and chronically homeless populations in the City.

The City maintains good working relationships with housing service providers, including the MRHA8, Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence and Adrienne's House, the Salvation Army and the Open Doors Homeless Coalition and it supports their efforts to address emergency, transitional and permanent housing needs with available local resources that benefit chronically homeless individuals and their families, families with children, veterans, unaccompanied youth and persons at risk of homelessness.

The City of Pascagoula continues to identify the need for emergency shelters, transitional housing units and permanent, affordable housing units as a high priority. As part of the effort to address this priority need, the City will:

- support applications for funding from local and regional homeless and housing services providers;
- work with local and regional partners to identify and secure other resources needed to fully address the needs of the homeless; and
- support other public agencies in their efforts to develop education and employment training programs for the homeless.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards 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 Pascagoula does not receive or administer ESG funds, but it does provide input about emergency shelter needs in the City and supports efforts of the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care to prevent and address homelessness and to support programs and activities assisted with ESG funds.

The City continues to work collaboratively with Open Doors and its member agencies to eliminate duplication of services and to provide services on a case-by-case basis, which especially benefits the homeless, chronically homeless, families with children, veterans and unaccompanied youth populations in Pascagoula.

Historically, the City budgets a portion of its annual CDBG public services funds to support housing services provided by the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care to address and prevent homelessness in Pascagoula. However, since Open Doors still has CARES Act funds available to provide rent and utility assistance to qualified residents, it did not apply to the City for PY2022 CDBG funding.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated – as IDIS allows, additional agencies will be identified in this table

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Open Doors Homeless Coalition
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Housing, Services-Children, Services-Elderly Persons, Services-Persons with Disabilities, Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS, Services-Victims of Domestic Violence, Services-homeless, Services-Health, Services-Education, Services-Employment, Service-Fair Housing, Services – Victims, Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy HOPWA Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City consulted with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition during April - July to develop the 2022 Action Plan. Primarily through emails, Open Doors updated the City about local homeless and near-homeless populations and shared input to improve assessment and case management. As a result, the City has an improved understanding of the on-going need for affordable housing assistance as well as utility deposit assistance.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Mississippi Regional Housing Authority, VIII
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA, Services – Housing, Services-Persons with Disabilities, Services-Health, Services-Education Services-Employment, Service-Fair Housing, Regional organization

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Input provided by MRHA8's Executive Director updated information about public and assisted housing in Pascagoula, which was incorporated into the 2022 Action Plan.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Gulf Coast Center For Nonviolence
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing, Services – Housing, Services-Children Services-Persons with Disabilities, Services-Victims of Domestic Violence, Services-homeless, Services-Health, Services-Education, Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing, Services – Victims, Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City consulted with the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence by letter and email during development of the 2022 Action Plan. The GCCN Executive Director completed a homeless questionnaire to update information. In response to the continuing need to assist those who have experienced domestic violence, the City has budgeted PY2022 public services funds to GCCN to support its Adrienne’s House facility in Pascagoula.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Mississippi Center for Justice
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Housing, Services-Children, Services-Elderly Persons, Services-Persons with Disabilities, Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS, Services-Victims of Domestic Violence, Services-homeless, Services-Education Service-Fair Housing, Services – Victims, Regional organization, Fair Housing Legal Services
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy Barriers to Fair Housing

<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The City consulted with the Mississippi Center for Justice during development of the 2022 Action Plan and invited input about fair housing in Pascagoula. The City invited the MCJ to participate in the consultation meeting scheduled with agency representatives of protected classes under the Fair Housing Act but they were not able to attend.</p>
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Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

The City is not aware of any agency types that it did not attempt to consult with.

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	Open Doors Homeless Coalition	The goals are consistent.
Region VIII Public Housing Plan	MS Regional Housing Authority VIII	The goals of the Regional Housing Authority are consistent with the City’s CDBG Strategic Plan, both identifying the goal to improve living conditions for Pascagoula residents, particularly its low- to moderate-income residents.
Plan for Opportunity & Interim 2020 Apartment Survey	Gulf Coast Regional Planning Commission	The Plan for Opportunity includes a regional sustainability component that was considered during development of the 2022 Action Plan; goals for improving community resilience overlap and identify the need for pedestrian and bicycle improvements to improve public safety and support the needs of non-driving public residents.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

Another plan considered during development of the 2022 Action Plan is the Pascagoula component of the Statewide Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

The City has an active working relationship with the Continuum of Care and other agencies working with housing, health, mental health, employment, education and youth services. This partnership serves as a framework through which agencies such as the South Mississippi Regional Center, LIFE, CARE, Gulf Coast Mental Health, the Mental Health Association of South Mississippi, Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence and the Salvation Army provide ongoing input to the City about activities that help address unmet needs of homeless, those at risk of becoming homeless and those with special needs in Pascagoula. The City again reached out to the re-organized South Mississippi AIDS Task Force, but as of late June 2022 had

not received input. During the 30-day comment period, the City will again reach out for input to those agencies that have not yet responded but that provide much-needed housing and nonhousing supportive services to its residents.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

This template will be completed following the end of the 30-day comment period on July 25, 2022.

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation

The Pascagoula Citizen Participation Plan guided the public input process and encouraged public participation to better identify, prioritize and address housing and nonhousing community development needs primarily of Pascagoula’s low- and moderate-income residents. Input provided during 2022 Action Plan public hearings supplemented considerable public input provided during development of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan.

The City emailed the housing and public services agencies that provide direct services to low, very low, and extremely low-income persons, the homeless and those with special needs to encourage their participation in development of the 2022 Action Plan and to encourage them to share information with their clients about the input opportunities.

The Citizen Participation Documentation Attachment to the final plan includes copies of HUD public notices, which were posted on the City’s website, in City Hall and in the Pascagoula Library; a copy of each written comment received; the invitation letters mailed and agenda material prepared for consultation meetings at City Hall; letters sent to other local units of government; and related outreach information.

In compliance with its Citizen Participation Plan, the following are specific steps taken by the City to broaden community input into development of the 2022 Action Plan:

- Posting the “Notice of Availability of Information as it pertains to the City of Pascagoula’s 2022 Action Plan” on its Facebook page and website;
- Emailing invitations to housing and public service agencies, civic organizations, churches and neighborhood associations, businesses, and other interested stakeholders to encourage attendance at two public hearings and to share information about the 30-day written comment period;
- Posting Notices about the Public Hearings and 30-Day Comment Period on the City’s Facebook page and website to invite the public to attend and provide input into development of the 2022 Action Plan;

- On May 25, 2022, conducting a public hearing to provide citizens with an opportunity to comment orally and in writing about the housing and non-housing community development needs of the City and about the proposed uses of CDBG funds for the 2022 Program Year;
- On June 23, 2022, conducted a second public hearing to provide citizens with another opportunity to comment orally and in writing about the housing and non-housing community development needs of the City and about the proposed uses of CDBG funds for the 2022 Program Year;
- Posting Notices of the Availability of the Public Review Draft of the 2022 Action Plan for review and inviting submittal of written comment during a 30-day comment period; and
- Sending public service announcements to local broadcasters regarding the City's 2022 Action Plan development process and inviting residents to provide input at the public hearing.

Efforts to broaden input involved scheduling consultation meetings at City Hall. Meeting invitation letters were mailed with a fact sheet summarizing the 2022 Action Plan development process and encouraging participation in either or both of two public hearings and submittal of written comments during the designated June 24 – July 25 comment period. A list of those who were invited to consult in one of the meetings, along with a copy of the letter of invitation and enclosed fact sheet, are included in the Citizen Participation Attachment to the final plan.

The first consultation meeting invited Pascagoula's broadband Internet service providers and those known to be working to narrow the local digital divide to meet with the City. Representatives from agencies with a primary responsibility to manage flood prone areas, public land and water resources, hazard mitigation and emergency response planning were invited to consult with the City during a second meeting. Representatives of agencies that assist and work with protected classes under the Fair Housing Act and agencies that assist in efforts to enforce the Act were invited to consult with the City in a third meeting. No one attended any of the three meetings.

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
1	Public Hearings	Non-English Speaking - Spanish, Vietnamese; Persons with disabilities; Non-targeted/ broad community; Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	No one attended the May 25, 2022 public hearing. _____ attended the June 23, 2022 hearing.	The minutes of the public hearings are attached to this document.	No written comments were received. All oral comments were accepted and considered.
2	Posting of Notices in City Hall & at Pasca-goula Library	Minorities; Non-English Speaking - Vietnamese and Spanish; Non-targeted/ broad community; Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	Notices were posted as follows: 1) CDBG Program information availability & the 2022 Action Plan schedule for development; 2) to promote each public hearing & the 30-Day Comment Period; 3) to notify the public about Availability of the Public Review Draft for review and comment.	Not Applicable	All comments were accepted and considered by the City.
3	Internet Outreach	Minorities; Non-English Speaking - Spanish and Vietnamese; Persons with disabilities; Non-targeted/ broad community; Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	All notices identified above also were posted on the City's website and Facebook page. The Public Review Draft of the 2022 Action Plan also was available online for review.	Not Applicable	All comments received were accepted and considered by the City.

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons
4	Emails and Mailed Letters	Minorities; Persons with disabilities; Non-targeted/ broad community; Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	Emails and/or letters were sent to known housing & community dev agencies; businesses; nonprofit organizations & others to share info about the 2022 Action Plan dev. process; to encourage attendance & comments at public hearings; and to encourage draft review and input. Letters were mailed to invite focus groups to consult with the City.	Not Applicable	All comments received were accepted and considered by the City.

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

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

Anticipated CDBG resources identified in the table below assume that future annual funding levels will remain basically consistent for the 2020-2024 planning period. The City received a PY2022 CDBG entitlement allocation from HUD of \$206,768.00, which is a slight increase over the amount of its PY2021 allocation.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 3			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	206,768	0	60,915.69	267,683.69	400,000	The City anticipates CDBG allocations of approximately \$200,000 for each of the next two program years.

Table 1 - 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 CDBG Entitlement Program does not require leveraging of additional funds. However, to maximize resources available to address high priority, unmet community needs, the City will continue to pursue funding from other local, state and federal 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

CDBG funding has been invested to improve access to and diversify recreational amenities in City-owned I.G. Levy Park. This is the largest park in the City and it is improving the living environment of those in the low- to moderate-income area it serves. CDBG resources may continue to be invested in this park, which is experiencing increased visitation by individuals and families with children. Likewise, investment of CDBG resources in City-owned Central Fire Station is addressing the high priority need to improve public safety for the low- to moderate-income residents served.

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Support Public Services Other than Low/Mod Housing	2020	2024	Public Services Other than Housing	Provide services to meet community needs	CDBG: \$4,500	Public service activities other than low/mod housing Benefit: 50 Persons 100% Low/Mod

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
2	Support Public Services - Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Homeless	Address & Prevent Homelessness Provide services to meet community needs	CDBG: \$9,000	Public Services-Housing Activities Benefit: 55 households 100% Low/Mod
3	Improve Public Safety	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Improved Public Safety	CDBG: \$118,591.85	Public Facility Activities other than low/mod housing Benefit: 8,450 Persons, of which 4,450 or 52.66% are low/mod
4	Improve Public Facilities and Resources (IG Levy Park restrooms)	2022	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Improve Public Facilities and Resources	CDBG: \$121,591.84	Public Facility Activities other than low/mod housing Benefit: 7,850 Persons, of which 4,650 or 61.08% are low/mod
5	Administration & Planning	2022	2022	Administration	Not applicable	CDBG: \$14,000	Not applicable

Table 2 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Support Public Services Other than Low/Mod Housing
	Goal Description	To meet high priority, unmet community needs on a citywide basis, the City is budgeting \$4,500 for a nonhousing public service activities provided by Singing River Health Transportation Services in a total amount of \$4,500 to benefit an estimated qualified 50 elderly persons.
2	Goal Name	Support Public Services - Housing
	Goal Description	To improve access to affordable housing and to address and prevent homelessness in Pascagoula, CDBG funds are being invested by the City to support: The Salvation Army's Utility Assistance Program, which pays (non-City) utility deposits and/or utilities on behalf of qualified low-income residents – total of \$4,500 to benefit an estimated 15 qualified households; and Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence's emergency shelter assistance and case management supportive services – total of \$4,500 to benefit an estimated 40 qualified households.
3	Goal Name	Improve Public Safety
	Goal Description	Improve public safety by providing bay doors at Central Fire Station to replace dysfunctional doors; this fire station serves a low- to moderate-income project service area.
4	Goal Name	Improve Public Facilities and Resources
	Goal Description	Improve an existing park that serves a primarily low- to moderate-income area. CDBG funds will be used to provide public restrooms; the existing ones are dysfunctional and are sinking.
5	Goal Name	Administration & Planning
	Goal Description	CDBG resources may be used to pay eligible administrative costs to administer and implement the City's CDBG Entitlement Program, which may include a portion of staff salaries, professional services fees, fair housing outreach activities, legal fees, environmental reviews, publication and printing costs, equipment and supplies.

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

Projects and activities to be funded with PY2022 CDBG resources were identified during development of the City of Pascagoula 2022 Action Plan. The City also considered input provided by residents on an on-going basis throughout 2021-2022 regarding high priority community needs, especially for low-income populations and in low- to moderate-income areas. The City is allocating the maximum allowed by HUD to support three nonprofit agencies that provide high priority, much-needed public services.

A Public Safety Improvement Project will replace the bay doors at Central Fire Station, which serves a primarily low- to moderate-income area. Door replacement is necessary to ensure optimal operation in emergencies and to protect fire trucks, appurtenances and other fire protection equipment from weather damage. Existing doors are approximately 20 years old and have served their useful life.

A PY2022 Public Resources Improvement Project will continue to enhance public enjoyment of I.G. Levy Park’s diverse recreational amenities that serve a 61.08% low/mod service area. Existing restroom facilities are dysfunctional and sinking. CDBG funds will be used to replace them with an ADA-compliant pre-fabricated double unit facility that has four-inch thick, steel re-enforced concrete walls and a five-inch thick, steel re-enforced concrete roof and floors.

These two projects will address the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan goal of providing suitable living environments for low- to moderate-income residents through improved public safety and public resources, respectively.

#	Project Name
1	Public Safety Improvements to Central Fire Station
2	Public Resources Improvement Project - I G Levy Park Restrooms Replacement
3	Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence Housing - Public Services
4	SRHS Transportation Non-Housing - Public Services
5	Salvation Army Housing - Public Services Non-City Utility Assistance Program
6	General Admin PY22

Table 3 - Project Information

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

The primary obstacle to addressing underserved needs is a lack of adequate resources because community needs are considerable. Allocation priorities were based on citizen input, community needs survey input, and City concerns about complying with HUD’s timeliness policies for project implementation.

Identification of CDBG projects to be funded with PY2022 CDBG resources took into consideration each project’s level of community priority; complexity in terms of availability of materials needed for implementation; limitations on local labor force availability; and concerns about compliance with HUD timeliness requirements. The COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine and changes in the national economy continue to impact availability of many products. Barring unforeseen and unavoidable delays, the planned PY2022 CDBG projects will address high priority needs to directly benefit a majority of low- to moderate-income residents in the project service areas and are “do-able” within HUD’s expenditure of funds timeframe.

AP-38 Project Summary

1	Project Name	Public Safety Improvements Project – Central Fire Station
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Improve Public Safety
	Needs Addressed	Improved Public Safety
	Funding	CDBG: \$118,591.85
	Description	This Public Safety Improvements Project involves acquiring and installing eight (8) bay doors for Central Fire Station. Replacing +20 year old doors that are no longer reliable and have served their useful life with fully operational doors is essential to providing fire protection and emergency response services to the majority low- to moderate-income project service area. This project will improve public safety and thus the living environments of primarily low- to moderate-income residents.
	Target Date	9/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The Public Safety Improvement Project will benefit an estimated 8,450 residents, of whom 4,450 or 52.66% qualify as low- to moderate-income. The project service area includes Census Tract 422 Block Groups 2,3 & 4; CT 425 BG 1,2 & 3; CT 426 BG 3; and CT 429 BG 2 & 3.
	Location Description	Central Fire Station
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be used to acquire and install eight (8) bay doors at Central Fire Station, which serves a 52.66% low- to moderate-income project service area.
2	Project Name	Public Resources Improvement Project- IG Levy Park Restrooms Replacement
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Improve Public Facilities and Resources
	Needs Addressed	Improve Public Facilities and Resources
	Funding	CDBG: \$121,591.84
	Description	Public Resources Improvement Project- involves replacing the dysfunctional restrooms with a pre-fabricated, ADA-compliant restroom double unit facility to better serve the growing number of residents who are enjoying improved access and the diversified recreational amenities funded in previous years with CDBG resources.
	Target Date	9/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The IG Levy Park Improvements Project will benefit an estimated 7,850 residents, of whom 4,650 or 61.08% qualify as low- to moderate-income. The project service area for the multi-acre park is Block Groups 1, 2 and 3 of Censes Tract 420; Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4 of Census Tract 421; and Block Group 2 of Census Tract 422.
	Location Description	IG Levy Park is located on Chicot Street.

	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be used to purchase and install a pre-fabricated (double unit) restroom facility to serve visitors to I.G. Levy Park, located in a primarily residential area in which a majority of households are low- to moderate-income. Walls are 4-inch thick steel re-enforced concrete; ceiling and roof are 5-inch thick, steel re-enforced concrete.
3	Project Name	Public Services - Housing - Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence PY22
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Support Public Services - Housing
	Needs Addressed	Public services to meet high priority needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$4,500
	Description	CDBG funds will assist in funding emergency shelter and a portion of a resident advisor's salary for individuals and families that have experienced domestic violence.
	Target Date	9/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	GCCN estimates that 40 qualified households will benefit from this public services activity; presumed 100% low/mod benefit.
	Location Description	Not disclosed
	Planned Activities	Under a subrecipient agreement with GCCN, CDBG funds will support costs related to providing emergency shelter and a portion of a resident advisor's salary to qualified individuals and families that have experienced domestic violence (presumed to be low-income).
4	Project Name	Public Services - Non-Housing - SRHS Transportation PY22
	Target Area	citywide
	Goals Supported	Support Public Services Other than Low/Mod Housing
	Needs Addressed	Provide services to meet high priority needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$4,500
	Description	CDBG funds will support the Singing River Hospital System's public services activity providing transportation services to qualified elderly residents to and from appointments with healthcare providers located in Pascagoula.
	Target Date	9/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The SRHS estimates that 50 qualified elderly persons will benefit from this public services activity; 100% low/mod benefit.
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Under a subrecipient agreement with the City, the SRHS will provide transportation services to qualified elderly residents to and from appointments with healthcare providers located in Pascagoula.
5	Project Name	Public Services - Housing - Salvation Army Utility Assistance Program PY22
	Target Area	citywide
	Goals Supported	Support Public Services - Housing
	Needs Addressed	Provide public services - housing to meet high priority needs

	Funding	CDBG: \$4,500
	Description	CDBG funds will support the Salvation Army's Utility Assistance Program that pays (non-City) utility deposits and (non-City) utility bills on behalf of low-income residents to avoid service disconnection and to prevent homelessness.
	Target Date	9/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The Salvation Army estimates that this public services activity will benefit 15 qualified low-income households.
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Under a subrecipient agreement with the City, the Salvation Army will pay (non-City) utility deposits and (non-City) utility bills on behalf of qualified low-income residents.
6	Project Name	Administration PY22
	Target Area	Not applicable
	Goals Supported	Administration & Planning
	Needs Addressed	Not applicable
	Funding	CDBG: \$14,000
	Description	CDBG funds may pay costs associated with administering and implementing the City's CDBG Entitlement Program. This may include staff salaries, consultant fees, legal and environmental review services, supplies, publications, costs associated with implementing A.I. recommended actions to address barriers to fair housing, and costs associated with printing fair housing and lead-based paint educational material inserted in envelopes with City utility bills.
	Target Date	9/30/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Not applicable
	Location Description	City Hall 603 Watts Avenue, downtown Pascagoula
	Planned Activities	CDBG Administration funds may be used for costs to administer and implement the City's CDBG Entitlement Program, including staff salaries, consultant fees, legal and environmental review services, supplies, publications, costs associated with implementing A.I. recommended actions to address barriers to fair housing, and costs associated with printing fair housing and lead-based paint educational material included in envelopes with City utility bills.

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

Not applicable to the City of Pascagoula.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Not applicable	NA

Table 4 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

This is not applicable to the City of Pascagoula; the City does not allocate its CDBG resources geographically.

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The City of Pascagoula does not receive HOME funds and has not budgeted its limited PY2022 CDBG resources to support housing for the homeless, nonhomeless or those with special needs, nor to pay for new housing construction, rehabilitation or acquisition. Through two public services – housing activities in PY2022, the City is providing \$4,500 in CDBG funds to support the Salvation Army’s Utility Assistance Program through which it pays (non-City) utility deposits and (non-City) utilities on behalf of an estimated 15 qualified low-income households to prevent disconnection and homelessness; and \$4,500 in CDBG funds to support emergency shelter assistance, and a portion of case management costs, provided by the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence to an estimated 40 individuals and families that have experienced domestic violence.

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

Table 6 - 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	0
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	0

Table 7 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The City of Pascagoula received two CARES Act allocations for a combined total of \$268,812 to help prevent, prepare for and address COVID-19. These funds were budgeted in Pascagoula’s 2019 Action Plan as public services –housing activities to support eligible services provided by five agencies in Pascagoula to prevent and address homelessness in Pascagoula and to help the City prepare for, prevent and address the spread of the coronavirus. Both New Beginnings (services to those who experienced domestic violence) and Open Doors Homeless Coalition (rent and (non-City) utility assistance paid on behalf of qualified residents negatively impacted by the coronavirus) have fully expended the CARES Act resources awarded to them by the City.

The Salvation Army, United Way of Jackson County-George County and the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence will continue to provide public services to qualified Pascagoula residents as identified in their subrecipient agreements until all CARES Act funds are expended or until the expenditure deadline.

The CARES Act allocations are being used by the City’s subrecipients in compliance with CDBG-CV requirements and applicable CDBG Entitlement Program regulations, policies and procedures.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

This template will be completed with updated information provided by the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII.

The City of Pascagoula will continue to support the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority No. VIII (MRHA8) Resident Councils at each of the three RAD developments located in Pascagoula during Program Year 2022. The City also will continue to provide RAD residents with Section 3 technical assistance and continue to work to expand and diversify employment opportunities.

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

MRHA8 is continuing to explore opportunities to fund rehabilitation of units at the Larsen Lane complex. MRHA8 also is strengthening partnerships with the City of Pascagoula and the area's many housing and non-housing supportive services agencies to improve the quality of life for RAD residents' through affordable programs and activities.

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

All three MRHA8 complexes located in Pascagoula have active Resident Councils in which residents participate to become more involved with management.

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

The Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII is not designated as troubled.

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

The Open Doors Continuum of Care is a multi-county agency that coordinates full continuum of care services to meet the housing and other needs of the homeless and near homeless. The City will continue to participate as an active member of Open Doors and will continue to support its efforts to secure HUD funding and funds from other sources necessary to address and prevent homelessness in Pascagoula.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

The City's one-year goal for reducing and ending homelessness in Pascagoula is to prevent and address homelessness by working as an active partner with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition, the Salvation Army, the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence and other agencies that provide emergency shelter, transitional and permanent housing assistance to Pascagoula residents.

As part of the effort to achieve its one-year goal of reducing and ending homelessness during PY2022, the City may consider investing previously allocated but unexpended CARES Act funds, which may become available, to an experienced non-profit agency to further expand availability of emergency shelter services for those who have been negatively impacted by the coronavirus and are at-risk of becoming homeless.

Other working partners in the comprehensive effort to prevent and address homelessness in Pascagoula include:

- the Homes of Grace;
- the Mental Health Association of South Mississippi; and

- the South Mississippi AIDS Task Force.

These partners provide a range of services, including providing access to emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent housing.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City's one-year goal to address emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons in Pascagoula is to continue working as an active partner in support of the agencies, such as the Open Doors Homeless Coalition, Salvation Army and Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence, that provide emergency shelter and transitional housing to Pascagoula's homeless populations.

In PY2022, the City budgeted \$13,500 of its limited CDBG resources to support three public service activities, which includes \$4,500 to support the Salvation Army's Utility Assistance Program that pays (non-City) utility deposits and (non-City) utilities on behalf of low-income residents to prevent and address homelessness; and \$4,500 to support the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence's emergency shelter assistance and supportive services for those who have experienced domestic violence in Pascagoula. The City also budgeted \$4,500.00 to support the Singing River Health System's public services activity that provides transportation services for qualified elderly residents to and from healthcare appointments.

The City will continue to provide letters of support for grant applications submitted by the above agencies to fund operating and capital costs; the City also will continue working with these agencies to identify opportunities to expand local emergency shelter and transitional housing resources.

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 City's several subrecipient agencies that are administering CARES Act funded housing assistance services are working to assist all homeless populations in Pascagoula, 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 overall goal to address and prevent increased homelessness in all categories and among all populations in the City of Pascagoula, in compliance with CDBG-CV requirements and CDBG Entitlement Program regulations and policies, includes helping the City's homeless transition to permanent housing and independent living.

The City will continue to work with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition as the regional Continuum of Care, state agencies and the regional and local housing and supportive services agencies that form the institutional structure of the homeless continuum of care.

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's one-year goal to help 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 in Pascagoula is to continue working as an active partner with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition and its member agencies in spite of the significant, on-going City staff shortage.

The City also will continue to work with state agencies, the Mental Health Association of South Mississippi, the Mississippi Center for Justice, Homes of Grace, Anchored Hearts Community Resources, New Beginnings Domestic Violence Program and other supportive services providers to meet Pascagoula residents' basic housing needs and to prevent homelessness.

Actions the City will take to achieve this goal include:

- providing grant support letters for applications submitted by housing and supportive services agencies; and
- continuing to support other agencies in efforts to develop education and employment training programs for the homeless.

Discussion

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

Introduction:

The most significant barriers to affordable housing in the City of Pascagoula continue to be:

- the requirement for residents to pay high utility deposits in spite of a household's income/inability to pay;
- housing cost overburden;
- inadequate affordable housing inventory to accommodate special needs populations; and

- lack of funding for an affordable housing rehabilitation program to assist owners and landlords in maintaining, weatherizing and otherwise improving residential property for owner-occupied and rental units.

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

On an on-going basis, the City of Pascagoula reviews and updates its policies, land use regulations including its zoning ordinance, building codes, and related municipal tools to better serve the needs and address the priorities of its residents, to the extent allowed by law.

City fees periodically are updated to cover the actual cost of providing requested records and certain services; fees are reviewed for reasonableness and adjusted as necessary by the City Manager, Mayor and City Council.

The City of Pascagoula's Analysis of Impediments (A.I.), updated in 2019, does not identify any public policies of the City that serve as barriers to affordable housing. The City's zoning regulations allow a variety of single family, duplex, multifamily and mixed-use housing to be built on a variety of lot sizes throughout the City.

Local zoning, building, and development regulations have been updated to comply with Americans with Disabilities Act, the Fair Housing Act and other federal regulations that protect the rights of renters as well as homeowners. The City is committed to removing or ameliorating the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing in Pascagoula.

Discussion:

The City of Pascagoula may use funds budgeted for Program Year 2022 CDBG administration to support implementation of recommended actions identified in its 2019 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (A.I.) to remove or minimize the impact of barriers to fair housing. During development of each CDBG planning document, the City will continue to seek input from the Mississippi Center for Justice, MRHA8, Open Doors Homeless Coalition, and other local stakeholders dedicated to improving residents' quality of life, to ensure use of limited CDBG resources maximizes benefits to protected classes.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

In spite of on-going efforts of the City of Pascagoula, Open Doors Homeless Coalition and its member agencies that provide a wide array of supportive services, the number of Pascagoula residents with high priority needs is continuing to increase. During PY2022, the City plans to support Open Doors Homeless

Coalition as it coordinates local activities and guides effective investment of limited resources to address and prevent homelessness.

In what appears to be the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, there seems to be an improved awareness among supportive service agencies, housing organizations, business, civic and faith-based groups, and others that there is considerable local need for assistance. Changes in the national economy will exacerbate those needs even as resources to address them dwindle.

During PY2022, the City will support efforts to address increasing local needs by organizing and sharing needs information so agencies may better coordinate resources, identify potential donors and recruit volunteers to meet those needs. The City also will continue collaborating with local and regional organizations to identify additional resources and the City also will explore opportunities to secure private foundation support and additional federal and state funding assistance.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

To address obstacles to meeting underserved needs, the City plans to do the following during PR2022:

- support Open Doors Homeless Coalition in coordinating local efforts and guiding effective investment of limited resources to address and prevent homelessness;
- organize and share information with the public to further improve awareness of local priority needs, especially basic needs of the City's most vulnerable populations;
- collaborate with local and regional organizations to identify additional available resources; and
- explore opportunities for public and private funding assistance to meet high priority housing and non-housing needs.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

In concert with its other efforts, the City will do the following during Program Year 2022:

- continue to encourage and support efforts of Mississippi Regional Housing Authority No. VIII and other housing agencies to access funding from public and private sources to maintain, improve and expand Pascagoula's existing affordable housing inventory;
- continue to support public service agencies and organizations that provide weatherization and LIHEAP assistance to Pascagoula residents;
- continue to support the Mississippi HOME Corporation and Mississippi Development Authority in their mission to assist residents through down payment assistance and homebuyer education programs;
- work with potential housing developers to build or rehabilitate existing structures to expand availability of affordable workforce housing in Pascagoula; and
- continue to work with local and regional agencies, such as Renaissance, to identify and educate residents about available residential loan, grant and tax credit resources to address affordable housing needs.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City of Pascagoula will continue to work collaboratively with the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) during PY2022 to achieve the Mississippi Lead Poisoning Prevention and Healthy Homes Program (MLPPHHP) goal of reducing the number of children exposed to lead and environmental hazards by increasing public awareness of the hazards and facilitating prevention activities.

2020 data provided to the City by the MSDH in June 2022 indicates that collaborative public education and outreach efforts are working. Of the 91 children, ages 6 or younger, living in the City zip code areas that were tested in 2020, none were identified with elevated blood lead levels higher than thresholds considered to be of concern from a public health standpoint.

To sustain this level of success, the City will continue to:

- require testing and abatement of lead-based paint in all housing repair and rehabilitation programs it may implement;
- continue to require that residential rehabilitation projects for units built before 1979 conduct EPA-compliant lead-based paint testing and contain or remove lead-based paint in accordance with EPA regulations;
- support Mississippi Regional Housing Authority No. VIII's home inspection program of all RAD units built before 1979 in Pascagoula and the agency's lead-based paint hazard educational program for resident families with children aged 6 years and younger;
- encourage MRHA8 to continue inspecting housing units participating in the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program and require owners to conduct appropriate abatement in instances where paint is chipping or peeling.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

According to the most current available U.S. Census ACS 5-year estimate data, 24.7% of Pascagoula residents live in poverty, which is higher than the State of Mississippi rate of 18.7% rate and the 11.4% rate for the nation.¹

In spite of the City's investment of its CARES Act allocations in housing and non-housing public services to meet increased needs of residents during the COVID-19 pandemic, the amount of unmet needs for too many residents remains high. Accordingly, the City of Pascagoula is budgeting \$13,500 of its

¹ The Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is in poverty. If a family's total income is less than the family's threshold, then that family and every individual in it is considered in poverty. The official poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but they are updated for inflation using Consumer Price Index (CPI-U). The official poverty definition uses money income before taxes and does not include capital gains or noncash benefits (such as public housing, Medicaid, and food stamps).

PY2022 its limited PY2022 CDBG allocation to support efforts to “put a roof over the heads” of some of its most vulnerable residents.

Based on their past success investing public resources efficiently to provide greatest benefit to the residents they serve, the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence, the Salvation Army and the Singing River Health System were selected by the City to receive funding support of \$4,500 each for Program Year 2022 activities.

Individuals and those with children who have experienced domestic violence will be provided not only emergency shelter and related supportive services from the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence, but also life skills development guidance that eventually will enable them to pursue employment and ultimately become self-sufficient. CDBG funds also will support the Salvation Army’s Utility Assistance Program to help address and prevent increased homelessness. The agency will pay (non-City) utilities and deposits on behalf of low-income residents to support access to affordable housing or to assist in paying utility bills to prevent service from being disconnected, causing homelessness.

Low-income elderly residents, who also are among the City’s most vulnerable, will benefit from improved healthcare through the Singing River Health System’s public service activity that provides transportation services to qualified residents to and from healthcare appointments in Pascagoula.

While so much more needs to be accomplished to break the cycle of poverty and eliminate homelessness, the City of Pascagoula will continue to lead by example and will continue to support the efforts of its many agencies, organizations and individual volunteers to address high priority community needs.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City of Pascagoula will continue to work with the Open Doors Homeless Coalition, the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority No. VIII and other agencies and organizations that make up the institutional structure to identify and fill gaps to develop a full continuum of care that, ultimately, will provide a suitable living environment for all residents.

Because community needs are greater than resources available to address them, collaboration is necessary to increase short- and long-term effectiveness and to improve efficient use of federal, state and local funds by minimizing duplication of benefits.

The City of Pascagoula recognizes that the Open Doors Homeless Coalition Continuum of Care provides an organizational framework conducive to this collaboration, which will help maintain focus on addressing high priority needs.

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

As in past years, the City plans to continue supporting on-going efforts of the Open Doors Homeless Coalition to enhance coordination among its member agencies and organizations, which include public and private housing and social service agencies. Focus will remain on improving interagency communication; maximizing effective use of limited resources; promoting “best practices;” and identifying community-wide solutions to end homelessness, improve access to affordable housing and address other non-housing high priority community needs.

The City also plans to continue implementing recommended actions in its Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice to minimize and eliminate barriers to fair housing; it will continue to maintain its fair housing webpage for the benefit of residents as well as those in the housing industry to:

- improve awareness of protected classes;
- improve recognition of potential signs of housing discrimination; and
- share information about how to file fair housing complaints.

The City also plans to continue complying with its Citizen Participation Plan and encouraging all known public service agencies to participate in developing Pascagoula’s CDBG plans and identifying projects to address high priority community needs.

Discussion:

The City anticipates that high priority community needs identified in its 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan will continue to be high priorities during the remaining program years covered by this plan.

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

HUD allocated \$206,768.00 in CDBG Entitlement Program funds to the City of Pascagoula for Program Year 2022. The City anticipates carrying forward \$60,915.69 in previously allocated but unexpended resources to support PY2022 projects and activities. The City will not generate program income during PY2022.

PY 2022 proposed projects and activities:

Public Safety Improvements Project – Central Fire Station purchase and installation of bay doors to ensure reliable emergency response; benefits a primarily residential low- to moderate-income project service area - \$118,591.85;

Public Facilities and Resources Improvement - IG Levy Park restroom facilities replacement in the City’s largest park, which serves a primarily residential area in which 61.08% of residents qualify as low- to moderate-income persons - \$121,591.84;

Public Services – Non-Housing - Singing River Health System - provide transportation services to low-income elderly residents to and from healthcare appointments in Pascagoula - \$4,500.00;

Public Services – Housing

- 1) Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence – emergency shelter and supportive services to those who have experienced domestic violence - \$4,500.00; and
- 2) The Salvation Army – support for its Utility Assistant Program that pays (non-City) utility deposits and (non-City) utilities on behalf of low-income residents to prevent and address homelessness - \$4,500.00

Administration – costs associated with CDBG Entitlement Program administration and project Implementation - \$14,000.00

**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	0
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:	0

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	100.00%

For purposes of determining the minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds used to benefit low- to moderate-income residents, the City of Pascagoula will use the three-year consecutive period of PY2020, PY2021 and PY2022.

The Final 2022 Action Plan will include the following attachments:

Citizen Participation Documentation

Maps

HUD Forms and Certifications