



**City of Harrisonburg, Virginia**

**Community Development Block Grant Program**  
**Annual Action Plan for year FY 2009**

**ORIGINAL SUBMITTAL**

**Presented to**  
**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**  
**Richmond Office of Community Planning and Development**

**May 16, 2008**

## Application For Funds From U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Replaces SF424: [Application for Federal Assistance](#), when submitted electronically. However, until further notice, an original signed hardcopy of the SF424 must be provided to the local HUD CPD office. This module will most likely be absorbed by the E-Grants process by the end of FY05.

### A. Submission

Submission type is ([choose one of the three below](#)):

1.  **Strategic Plan with Annual Action Plan**

- a. [Period covered in years is](#): 3  4  5
- b. Timeframe covered (mm/dd/yr) is from
- c. Submission date (Note: no submissions accepted from:
- d. Type of Submission (Check one in each of the two columns below):
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Original                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Full Plan        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Update                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Abbreviated Plan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment: Minor                       |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Amendment: Substantial</a> |   |

2.  **Annual Action Plan only**

- a. Timeframe covered (mm/dd/yr) is from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009
- b. Year of Strategic Plan period for this submission: 1  2  3  4  5

3.  **[Annual Performance Report](#)**

- a. Timeframe covered (mm/dd/yr) is from to
- b. Year of Strategic Plan period for this submission: 1  2  3  4  5

4. Catalog of Federal Domestic

Assistance Numbers	Assistance Titles	Amounts of Application Requests
14-218	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	\$ 527,522
	<input type="checkbox"/> HOME Investment Partnership Act Grant (HOME)	\$
	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG)	\$
	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids (HOPWA)	\$

**B. Applicant**

- 1. Name: City of Harrisonburg
- 2. Identifier: B-08-MC-51-0029
- 3. Employer Identification Number (EIN): 546001343
- 4. DUNS number: 070423694

5. Applicant is (choose one):

- Local Government: City
- Local Government: County
- Consortia
- State
- District of Columbia

6. U.S. Senators (list both): John Warner Jim Webb

7. Names of Members of Congress for this jurisdiction  
**Robert Goodlatte**

Congressional Districts  
**6th**

**8. Applicant/Grantee Representative:**

Name: Kimberly Alexander  
Title: Assistant to the City Manager  
Telephone Number: 540-432-8923

9. Certification

“To the best of my knowledge and belief, all data in this application are true and correct, the document has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant, and the applicant will comply with the attached assurances if the assistance is awarded.”

Signed (enter PIN):

Date signed:

10. Contact Person for matters involving this application:

Name: Kristin McCombe

Title: Grants Compliance Officer

Telephone Number: 540-432-8926 Fax Number: 540-432-7778

E-mail Address: kristinm@ci.harrisonburg.va.us

**C. For HUD Use Only**

1. Is applicant delinquent on any Federal debt?  yes  no

2. Is application subject to review by State Executive Order 12372 process?

Yes.

This application was made available to the E.O. 12372 process for review on (date):

No. This program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

N/A. This program has not been selected by the State for review.

3. Date Plan submitted

4. Date Plan Review due ([45 days from HUD CPD receipt](#))

5. Date Plan Review completed

6. Plan approved  yes Date

or

no Date

Extension granted  yes  no Date

Quantity of days extended

Explanation

Date Grantee signed off

Date HUD signed off

Recommended actions

7. Reviewing offices (check those that will be reviewing):

- |                               |   |                                |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> FOD  | <input type="checkbox"/> CPD Relocation | <input type="checkbox"/> IG    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FHEO | <input type="checkbox"/> CPD FA         | <input type="checkbox"/> OGC   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SF   | <input type="checkbox"/> CPD CPS        | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MF   | <input type="checkbox"/> CPD EO         |                                |

8. Check any of the following that have been included in this submission:

SF 424 in original signed hardcopy format

**Certifications**

Electronic version                       Original signed hardcopy

**Maps**

Electronic version                       Original signed hardcopy

**Databases**

Electronic version                       Original signed hardcopy

[Public comments](#)

[Replies to public comments](#)

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\* Please note that the only Appendices appearing in this document are Appendix A – Maps, Appendix B – HUD Tables, and Appendix C – Public Comments. Further, these Appendices do not appear in their entirety, rather only the NEW portions of these Appendices are included. All other Appendices may be found in The City’s 2008-2012 Consolidated Plan (2008-2012 Strategic Plan and 2008 Action Plan), available in the City Manager’s Office or on the City website [www.ci.harrisonburg.va.us](http://www.ci.harrisonburg.va.us).

## Executive Summary

The following Executive Summary is only a listing of the proposed projects for this Action Plan, the proposed funding amounts for those projects, the objectives and outcomes for the proposed projects, and a brief evaluation of past performance (see CAPER for detailed evaluation). For more detail regarding the projects or the CDBG program in general, please read the Action Plan in its entirety or contact the Grants Compliance Officer at (540) 432-8926 for more information.

**Project #1: Harrisonburg Redevelopment & Housing Authority (HRHA) – Harrison Heights Renovation**

Proposed Funding: \$140,000 (*multi-year commitment*)

Objective(s): *Decent Housing – Rehabilitate public housing units*

Outcome(s): *40 public housing units will be rehabilitated*

**Project #2: Mercy House – Teen Mother’s House (roof repair)**

Proposed Funding: \$4,500

Objective(s): *Suitable Living Environment – Improve security measures at homeless shelters and transitional housing units for the protection of clients; support organizations that provide direct services to prevent homelessness.*

Outcome(s): *Three teen mothers and their infants will have a suitable living environment, due to the repair of one (1) roof.*

**Project #3: Sidewalks, Curb and Gutter – Vine St. & Old Furnace Rd.**

Proposed Funding: \$37,830

Objective(s): *Suitable Living Environment – Pay for street, sidewalk and traffic control improvements; water and sewer improvements; and storm water management and drainage improvements in designated LMI areas.*

Outcome(s): *1545 linear feet of curb, sidewalk and gutter will be improved, and 2 ADA ramps will be installed.*

**Project #4: Sidewalks – Virginia Ave.**

Proposed Funding: \$31,750

Objective(s): *Suitable Living Environment – Pay for street, sidewalk and traffic control improvements; water and sewer improvements; and storm water management and drainage improvements in designated LMI areas.*

Outcome(s): *2100 linear feet of curb, sidewalk and gutter will be improved, and 10 ADA ramps will be installed.*

**Project #5: Sidewalks – Devon Ln.**

Proposed Funding: \$32,520

Objective(s): *Suitable Living Environment – Pay for street, sidewalk and traffic control improvements; water and sewer improvements; and storm water management and drainage improvements in designated LMI areas.*

Outcome(s): *2210 linear feet of curb, sidewalk and gutter will be improved, and 16 ADA ramps will be installed.*

**Project #6: Sidewalks – East Washington St.**

Proposed Funding: \$28,095

Objective(s): *Suitable Living Environment – Pay for street, sidewalk and traffic control improvements; water and sewer improvements; and storm water management and drainage improvements in designated LMI areas.*

Outcome(s): *2060 linear feet of curb, sidewalk and gutter will be improved, and 9 ADA ramps will be installed.*

**Project #7: Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation**

Proposed Funding: \$66,300

Objective(s): *Suitable Living Environment – Pay for street, sidewalk and traffic control improvements; water and sewer improvements; and storm water management and drainage improvements in designated LMI areas.*

Outcome(s): *705 linear feet of sewer will be improved.*

**Project #8: City (City Manager’s Office) – Administration**

Proposed Funding: \$105,504

Objective(s): *Suitable Living Environment – Successfully and effectively administer the CDBG Program*

Outcome(s): *CDBG Program will continue to be successfully and effectively administered*

**Project #9: The Association of Retarded Citizens (ARC) – Op Shop**

Proposed Funding: \$10,000

Objective(s): *Suitable Living Environment – Support agencies that will provide expanded day support programs; Continue to fund public services that target extremely low- and low-income households or individuals.*

Outcome(s): *220 presumed LMI individuals (adult disabled) will continue to receive expanded day support, allowing them to avoid institutionalization.*

**Project #10: Free Clinic – Dental Clinic**

Proposed Funding: \$10,000

Objective(s): *Suitable Living Environment – Continue to fund public service activities that target extremely low- and low-income households or individuals*

Outcome(s): 1000 Medicaid and uninsured Individuals will receive dental care at reduced cost.

**Project #11: Valley Program for Aging Services (VPAS) – Meals on Wheels**

Proposed Funding: \$8,000

Objective(s): *Suitable Living Environment – Provide funding for supportive services for the elderly and continue to fund public service activities that target extremely low- and low-income households and individuals*

Outcome(s): *15 LMI elderly will continue to receive home delivery of meals, disease prevention, health promotion, in-home assessments, and public information education and support*

**Project #12: Big Brothers Big Sisters**

Proposed Funding: \$13,454

Objective(s): *Suitable Living Environment –Continue to fund public service activities that target extremely low- and low-income households and individuals.*

Outcome(s): *785 LMI individuals will be served through the purchase of new IT equipment and upgrades.*

**Project #13: Center for Marriage and Family Counseling**

Proposed Funding: \$2,500

Objective(s): *Suitable Living Environment – Continue to fund public service activities that target extremely low- and low-income households or individuals*

Outcome(s): *584 LMI individuals will receive therapy.*

**Project #14: NewBridges Immigrant Assistance**

Proposed Funding: \$6,400

Objective(s): *Suitable Living Environment – Continue to fund public service activities that target extremely low- and low-income households or individuals*

Outcome(s): *341 LMI individuals will receive assistance with immigration concerns and needs.*

**Project #15: Harrisonburg and Rockingham Thermal Shelter (HARTS)**

Proposed Funding: \$11,000

Objective(s): *Suitable Living Environment – Provide additional job training, financial management training, and other supportive services, including emergency services, for those in transition; Continue to fund public service activities that target extremely low- and low-income households or individuals*

Outcome(s): *77 LMI individuals will receive emergency shelter and meals.*

**Project #16: Way to Go Transportation Services**

Proposed Funding: \$4,000

Objective(s): *Suitable Living Environment – Improve transportation service by providing supplemental funding to agencies that provide specialized transportation; Continue to fund public service activities that target extremely low- and low-income households and individuals*

Outcome(s): *15 LMI individuals will receive assistance with personal transportation.*

**Project #17: Salvation Army- Emergency Shelter**

Proposed Funding: \$13,774.30

Objective(s): *Suitable Living Environment – Provide additional job training, financial management training and other supportive services, including emergency services, for those in transition; support organizations that provide direct services to prevent homelessness; Continue to fund public service activities that target extremely low- and low-income households and individuals*

Outcome(s): *180 LMI individuals will receive emergency shelter and assistance.*

**Project #18: Streetscape Improvements**

Proposed Funding: \$15,329.62 (\$1,894.70 from 2009 action plan, \$13,434.92 in funds reprogrammed via amendments to previous plans)

Objective(s): *Suitable Living Environment – Pay for street, sidewalk and traffic control improvements, water and sewer improvements, and storm water management and drainage improvements in designated LMI areas; support projects that promote the revitalization of commercial districts including but not limited to the Downtown Historic District.*

Outcome(s): *Revitalization of Historic Downtown Harrisonburg*

This is the fifth year that the City of Harrisonburg has received CDBG entitlement funding. Each year becomes more difficult than the previous year to administer this program and to make Subrecipient awards, as each year the amount of CDBG funding available to the City decreases, yet the need for funding does not. The City of Harrisonburg's performance under the CDBG program, particularly considering that it is a fairly new entitlement community, has been very good. Policy was developed quickly and has remained consistent. The City spends CDBG funding in a timely manner and requires that Subrecipients do the same. The City has a very comprehensive Subrecipient contract and constantly monitors all Subrecipients to ensure appropriate CDBG administration and compliance with all regulations. Proposed objectives are either met or exceeded, with few exceptions. Exceptions are always accompanied by reasonable explanations. The City keeps exceptional program documentation and requires that Subrecipients do the same. There has only been one instance of unacceptable documentation and noncompliance from a Subrecipient in previous years, and after acceptable documentation was obtained for monies spent, CDBG funding for the program was terminated by the City. A more detailed evaluation of past performance can be found in the City's Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPERs) for previous years, available in the City Manager's Office or on the City's website [www.HarrisonburgVA.gov](http://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov).

#### IV. Annual Action Plan

Due annually no less than 45 days prior to the grantee's program year start date.

For Year 1 2 3 4 5 of Strategic Plan period.

##### A. Managing the Process: Citizen Participation

1. Does jurisdiction have a completed and approved Citizen Participation Plan on file?  Yes  No

2. Actions taken to provide for/encourage citizen participation in developing the Annual Action Plan. Check all that apply.

Outreach (Indicate methods used):

- To minorities and non-English-speaking persons
- To persons with disabilities
- To low- and moderate-income persons living in slum and blighted areas
- To low- and moderate-income persons living in areas where CDBG funds are proposed to be used
- To residents of predominantly low- and moderate-income neighborhoods
- To residents of public housing

Citizen Advisory Committee

Neighborhood meetings

Focus groups

[Public hearings](#) Dates: January 22, 2008 and April 8, 2008

Other: (List below)

Public Notices in local newspaper

Press Releases

News Articles

Fliers posted on City Hall Announcement Board

Announcements on City website and at televised City Council meetings

3. Public Notices/Public Comment:

Was notice given at least two weeks prior?  Yes  No

30-day comment period: From April 8, 2008 to May 9, 2008

Was reasonable access provided to the public for plan review during the 30-day comment period?  Yes  No

## B. Managing the Process: Consultation with Public and Private Entities

1. Which organizations were consulted when preparing the Annual Action Plan? Check all that apply.

Agencies that provide:

Assisted housing

Indicate names: Harrisonburg Redevelopment & Housing Authority, Harrisonburg-Rockingham Community Services Board, Valley Associates for Independent Living

Health services

Indicate names: Harrisonburg-Rockingham Health Dept., Harrisonburg-Rockingham Free Clinic, Lead Safe Virginia Program, Office of Healthy Homes & Lead Hazard Control, Rockingham Memorial Hospital, Harrisonburg Rockingham Dental Clinic, Center for Marriage and Counseling

Social services

Indicate names: Harrisonburg-Rockingham Social Services

Homeless services

Indicate names: Mercy House, HARTS, Salvation Army

Services to persons with disabilities

Indicate names: Valley Associates for Independent Living, The ARC of Harrisonburg-Rockingham,

Adjacent units of general local government

Indicate names: Rockingham County

Other (identify): Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance, Way to Go Transportation Program, Harrisonburg Economic Development Department, Harrisonburg Public Works Department, Harrisonburg Parks and Recreation Department, Harrisonburg Department of Community Development, Valley Program for Aging Services, Harrisonburg Public Utilities Department, Gemeinschaft, Big Brothers Big Sisters, NewBridges Immigrant Assistance.

2. Lead agency or entity responsible for overseeing the development of the plan: City Manager's Office

3. Lead Based Paint: What organizations were consulted when preparing the portion of the plan dealing with lead-based paint hazards? (Check all that apply)

State or local health agencies

Indicate names: Harrisonburg-Rockingham Health Department, Lead Safe Virginia Program, Office of Healthy Homes & Lead Hazard Control

State or local child welfare agencies

Indicate names: Harrisonburg-Rockingham Social Services

Other

Indicate names: Harrisonburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority, 2000 Census

### C. Managing the Process: Certifications

For each year of the strategic planning period and for applicable programs, check the certifications on the Certification Checklist that are complete and correct. Until the feature of electronic signatures is available in this Consolidated Planning tool, please submit a hardcopy of each required certification to your local HUD Community Planning and Development Office. Be sure to use the appropriate version (Local or State certifications), and that it has been signed by your official Applicant/Grantee Representative (see the "Applicant Section" in Module I. "Application for Funds From U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development").

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

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

### D. Financial Sources/Uses

Approximately \$527,522 in Federal funds from the CDBG program will be available in FY 2009 to provide decent housing, establish and maintain a suitable living environment, and expand economic opportunities, especially for low- and moderate-income persons.

#### Funding Sources

Entitlement Grant (includes reallocated funds)		
CDBG	\$527,522	
ESG	\$0	
HOME	\$0	
HOPWA	\$0	
Total		\$527,522
Prior Years' Program Income NOT previously programmed or reported		
CDBG	\$0	
ESG	\$0	
HOME	\$0	
HOPWA	\$0	
Total		\$0

Reprogrammed Prior Years' Funds		
CDBG	\$13,434.92	
ESG	\$0	
HOME	\$0	
HOPWA	\$0	
Total		\$13,434.92
Total Estimated Program Income		\$0
Section 108 Loan Guarantee Fund		\$0
TOTAL FUNDING SOURCES		\$540,956.92
Other Funds		\$0
Submitted Proposed Projects Totals		\$540,956.92
Un-Submitted Proposed Projects Totals		\$0

The City will not receive program income from prior years (not previously programmed or reported). The City anticipates that the following Federal, State, local, and private resources will remain or become available over the 5-year planning period to address priority strategies. The City anticipates that the following Federal, State, local, and private resources will remain or become available over the 5-year planning period to address priority strategies.

**Federal Resources**

Funds from HUD and any other Federal sources are available to address the Consolidated Plan's priority needs, such as grants and other revenues that may be available to provide funding to the City or other organizations within the City.

**Section 108 Loan Guarantee (Section 108):** Through Section 108, HUD guarantees notes issued by units of general local government. Funds finance economic revitalization and development activities that include housing and rehabilitation of privately owned buildings for residential purposes; expansion of for-profit businesses; financing and rehabilitation of low-income and public housing; acquisition, construction, or rehabilitation of neighborhood and community facilities; site improvement on community-owned land leased to a developer for a commercial or industrial development project; site development; purchase of land or buildings for economic development; and infrastructure development that includes street reconstruction and/or sewer system repairs.

**Community Services Block Grant (CSBG):** This program can fund activities to implement anti-poverty activities such as housing counseling, emergency assistance, and other supportive services.

**Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) Grants:** BEDI grants target Economic Development Initiative funds to brownfields projects. BEDI grants are made to local governments for use in supporting brownfield redevelopment activities and projects financed in whole or in part with Section 108 Loan Guarantees.

**Economic Development Initiative (EDI):** The Economic Development Initiative provides grants to be used in tandem with Section 108 guaranteed loans for economic revitalization projects. These grants will enhance the viability of such projects (through interest rate subsidies and debt service/operating reserves) and increase the likelihood that the Section 108 loans can be repaid from project revenue.

**Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives:** Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives are available for buildings listed in the *National Register of Historic Places* or located in certain historic districts that are substantially rehabilitated for income-producing purposes according to standards set by the Secretary of the Interior.

**Home Repair Loan Program (Section 504):** The Home Repair Loan Program is available to low-income and elderly people who prefer to stay in their current homes, though they cannot afford repairs.

**Housing Preservation Grant Program:** This program also makes available funds to repair housing. Non-profits receive grants, and they in turn make funds available to homeowners that cannot afford to make needed repairs.

**Head Start/Early Head Start:** This program awards grants to local public and private nonprofit and for-profit agencies for comprehensive child development services for children and families. Intended primarily for low-income families, the program fosters the development of children and enables them to deal more effectively with both their present environment and later responsibilities in school and community life.

## Local Public Resources

Local funds may also be used to address the Consolidated Plan's priority needs

**City of Harrisonburg General Funds:** These funds support organizations that provide housing and/or supportive services to area residents including low-income families and persons. The City provides approximately \$1,456,111 annually to local outside agencies and organizations from general fund resources.

**Subrecipient Voluntary Match**

Although not required by the City in order for an agency or organization to receive CDBG funds, the City of Harrisonburg strongly encourages its subrecipient applicants to show a match (whether agency funds, private donations, or in-kind) against CDBG funds. By demonstrating matching funds, the applicant will receive additional evaluation points, thereby increasing the likelihood that its project will be funded.

**V. Consolidated Annual Performance Report (CAPER):**

This document is available in the City Manager's Office, located at 345 South Main Street, or on the City of Harrisonburg website [www.HarrisonburgVA.gov](http://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov).

**VI. Narratives****Year 2: General Needs and Issues**

Through discussions with various local agencies and organizations, public hearings, phone calls/comments from individual citizens, and survey distribution, it appears that affordable, decent housing is a priority need in the City. Related specifically to housing, the following are the most prevalent current needs:

- Rehabilitation of public housing units;
- Transitional housing;
- Demand for single floor rental units for the elderly;
- Demand for 1 and 2 bedroom rental units;
- Elimination of accessibility barriers for elderly and disabled;
- Rental rehabilitation projects to benefit the very lowest-income households, especially large families, and 2-4 person households;
- Additional rent assistance for extremely low-income families;
- Owner-occupied rehabilitation especially for low and extremely low-income households;
- Assistance to low- and moderate-income renters for home purchase; and
- Revitalization of older neighborhoods.

Discussions with various local agencies and organizations, public hearings, phone calls/comments from individual citizens, and survey distribution also indicate a variety of non-housing community development needs. Those of the highest priority are:

- Health Care Services;
- Dental Services;
- Child Care;
- Transportation Services;
- Sidewalks & Pedestrian Infrastructure (especially sidewalk improvements to business districts from elderly / disabled housing units);
- Homeless/Emergency Services
- Job Creation/Retention;
- Recreational Services (especially youth services);
- Parks & Playgrounds;
- Disabled Services; and
- Employment Services & Job Training.

**Year 2: Description of Actions To Be Taken**

In determining which projects to fund, the City made an effort to address as many of the above needs and issues as possible. The City received \$962,183 in funding requests for project year 2009. The City's \$540,956.92 in CDBG funds will be spent as outlined in the following paragraphs.

In the area of Housing and Property Improvements, the City selected one projects. The HRHA is requesting funding for debt servicing on a \$3.2-\$3.5 million bond for the renovation of 40 public housing units in the Harrison Heights Development. Requested funds will be used in conjunction with \$60,000 from the Authority's Capital Funds and \$60,000 from its Local Community Development Fund. The City intends to provide the HRHA with a moral obligation of \$140,000 in CDBG funding each year for the term of the bond, which will likely be 15 years, but could be up to 20 years. This is year four of the bond.

The City has chosen to support the Mercy House Teen Mother's Shelter as a Communities and Public Facilities project. The building is currently in need of a new roof over the porch area of the house. Mercy House will be given \$4,500 to complete this project.

The City will also be funding the construction and/or repair of several sidewalks and sewers around the City as a Public Facilities-Street Improvements project. Various locations will receive sidewalk work, including the revitalized Downtown area. Public Works will be receiving \$211,824.62 for these six projects.

The City will use \$105,504 in CDBG funds for Administration. This will be used for salaries, benefits, office supplies, postage, travel and training, and other administrative costs relating to the block grant program.

Nine Public Services projects have been selected to receive CDBG funding. The Harrisonburg-Rockingham Free Clinic Dental Clinic will receive \$10,000 to provide dental care to low-income, uninsured/Medicaid residents of Harrisonburg. The Arc (Association of Retarded Citizens) of Harrisonburg and Rockingham will use \$10,000 in CDBG funding to pay for marketing, storage and transportation. NewBridges Immigrant Resource Center will utilize its funding of \$6,400 for capital assets as they relate to their case management program. NewBridges serves to help the growing immigrant population with paying medical bills, seeking food assistance, collecting unpaid salaries from employers, dealing with Social Security and various other needs. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County will use their \$13,454 in CDBG funds to purchase some much-needed new IT equipment. Way-To-Go Transportation Services will use their \$4,000 to provide assistance to individuals in need of transportation through help with insurance, the purchase of a car, etc. The Salvation Army Emergency Shelter will use the \$13,774.30 to provide emergency shelter and care to individuals that are homeless. The Center for Marriage and Family Counseling will use their \$2,500 in funding to purchase office equipment that will aid them as they provide counseling services to LMI individuals. The Harrisonburg and Rockingham Thermal Clinic (HARTS) will use their \$11,000 in funding to provide emergency shelter to homeless individuals. Finally, the last Public Service project funded will be the Valley Program for Aging Services (VPAS), which will receive \$8,000 in funding this fiscal year. These funds will be used for their Meals on Wheels program, which provides a nutritious noon meal five days per week to frail older Harrisonburg residents.

For more detailed information on the proposed projects, please refer to the Table 3 worksheets that have been completed for each project.

### **A. General**

1. Harrisonburg is a city of 17.4 square miles and approximately 44,461 inhabitants. It is located in the geographic center of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. The City is equidistant from Washington, D.C. (124 miles), Richmond, Virginia (116 miles), and Roanoke, Virginia (111 miles). It is a part of the Central Shenandoah Planning District. The community was established in 1780 and became an incorporated city in 1849. The City has a rich history of civic pride, philanthropy, and development. Despite the positive changes experienced by the City, however, there remain areas of unmet need, and a collective desire to see our community improve and prosper to a greater extent.

Harrisonburg is an independent city, which means it is not part of any county. This legal separation of cities and counties is unique to the Commonwealth of Virginia. A city's boundaries can only expand via a court-approved annexation of property from the surrounding county. The last annexation involving Harrisonburg took place in 1983 and allowed the City to more than double in size and recapture some of the population that had shifted to suburban areas. The General Assembly has enacted a moratorium on annexation that is still in effect; therefore, for the 2008-2012 Consolidated Plan, the City considers its boundaries to be fixed.

Map 1, in the Appendix, indicates the areas of concentration of low and moderate income households.

2. The City has focused on addressing areas of needs versus allocation of funds by geographical area.

3. At this point, the primary obstacle identified in meeting underserved needs would be the financial limitations of the city and the various other agencies attempting to meet those needs.

## **B. Affordable Housing**

### **1. BASIS FOR ASSIGNING PRIORITY:**

Following the research and data gathering process, the City grouped LMI housing needs by category as follows:

#### **1. Households with incomes 0-30% of median**

##### **A. Small families who are renting and paying more than 50% of their income for rent.**

Reason for priority: Small households at this income level who are paying over 50% of their income for rent are not left with much to cover the additional essential expenses of food, clothing and transportation. Additionally, at this income level, even half of the monthly income is not large in terms of actual dollar amount, which is likely to mean that the property owner is not receiving sufficient cash flow to adequately maintain the rental property.

##### **B. Small families who are renting and paying more than 30% of their income for rent**

Reason for Priority: Small households at this income level who are paying over 30% of their income for rent are not left with much to cover the additional essential expenses of food, clothing and transportation. Additionally, at this income level, even half of the monthly income is not large in terms of actual dollar amount, which is likely to mean that the property owner is not receiving sufficient cash flow to adequately maintain the rental property.

##### **C. Large renter families living in substandard housing**

Reason for Priority: By addressing this category of need, the City not only will assist low-income households to improve their living situation but by improving the condition of the housing stock, will improve neighborhood conditions and stabilize the tax base.

##### **D. Elderly renters paying more than 50% of their income for rent**

Reason for priority: The elderly have no further income-earning potential and therefore few alternatives when faced with disproportionate rents.

##### **E. Elderly renters paying more than 30% of their income for rent**

Reason for priority: The elderly have no further income-earning potential and therefore few alternatives when faced with disproportionate rents.

**F. Owners who are paying more than 50% of their income for housing related costs**

Reason for priority: Owners in this income category who are paying over 50% of their income for basic housing related costs do not have any funds available for routine maintenance needed on homes. This problem is especially serious for low-income households, as they are limited by income to purchase older homes, which require more maintenance. This results in unsafe living conditions for members of these households, and it has a negative impact on the appearance of neighborhoods.

**2. Households with incomes 31-50% of median**

**A. Elderly renters paying more than 50% of their income for rent**

Reason for priority: The elderly have no further income-earning-potential and therefore few alternatives when faced with disproportionate rents.

**B. Elderly renters paying more than 30% of their income for rent**

Reason for priority: The elderly have no further income-earning potential and therefore few alternatives when faced with disproportionate rents.

**C. Owners who are paying more than 50% of their income for housing related costs**

Reason for priority: Owners in this income category who are paying over 50% of their income for basic housing related costs do not have any funds available for routine maintenance needed on homes. This problem is especially serious for low-income households, as they are limited by income to purchase older homes, which require more maintenance. This results in unsafe living conditions for members of these households, and it has a negative impact on the appearance of neighborhoods.

**D. Owners who are living in substandard housing**

Reason for priority: By addressing this category of need, the City not only will assist low-income owner households to improve their living situation, but by improving the condition of the housing stock, the effect will be to improve the condition of neighborhoods and stabilize the tax base.

**3. Households with incomes 51-80% of median**

There does not appear to be a significant problem for owners or renters in this income category, thus the City has no plans to make housing related assistance a priority for these owners.

**2. HOW THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE HOUSING MARKET INFLUENCE USE OF FUNDS.**

The proportion of renters to owners has increased over the last decade in Harrisonburg and homeownership affordability is becoming more of an issue. Rental housing remains relatively affordable, although it is becoming more difficult for large family renters. However, some rental units, particularly public housing units are aging and in need of upgrades and improvements. The Harrisonburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority is taking a very proactive approach in establishing and supporting programs that seek to increase homeownership opportunities in Harrisonburg and that improve and expand the stock of decent affordable privately owned rental housing and public housing. In furtherance of these efforts, the Authority has targeted renovations to existing public housing units as its number one priority. The units in Harrisonburg were all built in the 1960's and have not received any significant renovations since that time. In light of this, the City proposes to allocate funds to the Authority that would allow it to undertake the architectural and engineering design for the renovations, and to assist in funding the renovations themselves. The City and the Authority will also continue to monitor trends in homeownership and privately-owned rental units, and support programs that assist LMI residents in meeting their housing needs.

**C. Homelessness**

1. *Describe the jurisdiction's strategy for helping low-income families avoid becoming homeless.*

Through data that has been gathered to date, there does not appear to be a problem of existing long-term homelessness, including low income families being threatened with homelessness. The City will continue to work with the Harrisonburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority to assist low income families in meeting their housing needs and will continue to monitor trends and update the data included in the various tables in Section 2 in order to be able to prioritize needs and prevent identified problems from resulting in homelessness.

2. *Describe how the jurisdiction will reach out to homeless persons and address their individual needs.*

As noted in Sections 3 / 4, there is not a significant homeless problem in Harrisonburg at this time. However, the City will continue to support agencies and organizations that provide the homeless with temporary and/or transitional housing.

2. *Address the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons.*

Information relative to emergency shelter and transitional needs is addressed in Table 1A.

4. *Describe how the jurisdiction will assist homeless persons to make the transition to permanent housing and independent living.*

The City will continue to work with and through the Harrisonburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority and the agencies identified in Section 3 / 4 to assist the homeless in transitioning to permanent housing and independent living.

5. *Describe the jurisdiction's Continuum of Care:* Harrisonburg's Continuum of Care CORE Housing Alliance and the Healthy Community Council work together with and through the Harrisonburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority to obtain affordable housing and to eliminate sub-standard housing in the local areas.
6. *Describe the nature and extent of homelessness by racial and ethnic groups, to the extent that information is available*

See Section 3 / 4, Tables III-A and III-B.

#### ***D. Other Special Needs (Non-homeless)***

Other non-community development needs identified in the data gathering process included services for the elderly, persons with AIDS/HIV, and the developmentally disabled, and services complimenting or supplementing local law enforcement efforts in crime prevention and focus on at-risk youth. These needs are discussed in more detail in Section III (B)(5) of this Plan and in Table 1B

#### ***E. Non-Housing Community Development Plan***

Public facilities, infrastructure improvements, economic development and planning and administration were noted as the primary needs in this category. These needs are discussed in greater detail in Section III (B)(6) of this Plan and in Table 2B. Public service needs and senior programs are also noted in this section, but are further elaborated upon in Section III (B)(5).

#### ***F. Barriers to Affordable Housing***

1. Using CDBG funds, the City completed an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. This document is on file in City offices, online and has been submitted to HUD. It is included by reference.

2. ***Lead-based paint hazards*** .

It should be stressed that not all units with lead based paint pose a lead paint hazard. Lead paint presents a health hazard primarily to children under the age of 7 and then mainly when lead paint is not in good condition and housekeeping skills and nutrition are poor. For these reasons, the mere presence of lead based paint in all of the estimated units does not constitute a significant problem in and of itself.

The only way to determine the lead based paint hazard is to test for the presence of lead in household dust, soil, paint, etc, and to evaluate the condition of the paint containing lead. There has been no comprehensive testing for lead hazards in residential properties in the City and therefore, it is not possible to determine the actual lead paint hazard. However, while there have been no incidents of lead poisoning, the Housing Authority has noted that the majority of its public housing units do contain encapsulated lead-based paint which is beginning to show signs of deterioration. This is one of the reasons the authority placed the renovations to existing public housing units as its number one priority.

It is important to note that Harrisonburg is not included on the Virginia Department of Health's listing of "high risk areas" for lead poisoning. The Department's "Prevalence of Elevated Blood Lead Levels and Proportion Tested by Locality of Residence " for children under 72 months, in 2004 listed only 6 children as having elevated blood lead levels, but none were above the 10 – 19 MCG/DL range.

### 3. **Anti-poverty Strategy**

The City does not provide any direct services to reduce the number of households with income below the poverty line. In considering the factors affecting poverty that may be impacted by the existing housing programs of the City, it appears that coordination of production and preservation of affordable housing with supportive programs and services targeted to special needs populations including victims of domestic violence, the physically and mentally handicapped and elderly would benefit this population. In addition, targeted projects such as street and sidewalk improvements, utility replacements and upgrades, and new or upgraded recreational facilities will contribute toward renewed vitality of and pride in affected neighborhoods.

### **F. Institutional Structure**

The following list includes all agencies that may have a role in addressing identified housing and community development needs in the populations covered in this strategy.

Harrisonburg City Manager's Office: The City office agency providing access to and administration of Federal funds available to cities for the various projects described. The Manager's Office is responsible for the development and implementation of this Consolidated Plan.

Harrisonburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority: A public housing authority providing rent assistance through HUD certificates and vouchers, management of subsidized housing for the elderly, access to funds for development of transitional housing. The City Council appoints the Board of Directors of this Authority, and the City Council must approve all borrowing of funds and issuing of bonds, etc. However, the City does not provide the Authority with any annual funding allocation, nor does the City provide oversight in regards to hiring, procurement, and contracting. The Authority does comply with all state and federal procurement and other procedures.

Harrisonburg-Rockingham Health Department: The public health agency charged with responding to reports of elevated blood lead level in children and conducting outreach, assessment and education services. Although the state appoints the Director of this agency, the City provides the Department with \$413,747 from general funds annually.

City of Harrisonburg Police Department: The Police department has several community-based crime prevention programs including include Community Watch, Auxiliary Police Officers, National Night Out, the Citizens Police Academy and the Weed and Seed Program. The HPD is a City Department and the Chief of Police is hired by the City Manager. The Police Department's budget is \$8,362,587, and funding comes from the City, state funds, and grants. The HPD follows City/VA procurement procedures.

The Salvation Army: The Salvation Army provides financial assistance for rent, utilities and prescriptions. The Salvation Army also has a food pantry, clothing vouchers (used clothing) and in extreme emergencies our agency provides bus tickets. The Salvation Army also provides emergency shelter 24 hours a day. The City provides this organization with \$20,000 from general funds annually.

First Step: A private non-profit organization providing emergency shelter for families and individuals who are victims of domestic abuse, counseling, a 24-hour crisis line and programmatic support for residents of transitional housing facilities. The City provides this agency with \$21,000 from general funds annually.

Harrisonburg-Rockingham Free Clinic: Free family practice health care is provided to the low income, uninsured of Harrisonburg. Patients are seen by volunteer doctors, nurses, dentists, and other health professionals. The City provides this agency with \$15,000 from general funds annually.

Harrisonburg-Rockingham County Department of Social Services: The Social Services structure provides financial aid, housing, transportation, and health assistance to Harrisonburg residents. The City Manager and the Rockingham County Administrator appoint the Director of this agency, and they are the direct supervisors of this person. This agency receives \$1,198,344 annually from the City.

Harrisonburg Boys & Girls Club: The Club provides youth development programs including homework help and tutoring, alcohol and drug abuse prevention, teen pregnancy prevention, conflict resolution, juvenile delinquency prevention, athletics, cultural enrichment, citizenship and leadership development, outdoor and environmental education, and parent training. Boys and Girls Club also offers Hispanic programming. The Club is participating in the renovation of its home site, the Lucy Simms School, which will result in vastly improved facilities for club programs. The building is owned by the City of Harrisonburg. The City provides \$51,000 from general funds annually to this organization.

Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation: Provides transportation for low-income, elderly, and disabled people, as well as the general population of Harrisonburg, along with public school transportation. This is a City Department, and the department head is hired by the City Manager. The budget for this department is \$6,754,939.

Harrisonburg Department of Public Works: Provides sanitation, street and sidewalk repair, maintenance, and construction, traffic planning and control, and storm-water management services in low and moderate income neighborhoods as well as the city in general. This is a City Department, and the department head is hired by the City Manager. The budget for this department is \$7,994,760.

Harrisonburg Department of Public Utilities: Provides water and sewer services, including repair, maintenance and replacement of existing lines, and construction of new lines in low and moderate income neighborhoods, as well as the city in general. This is a City Department, and the department head is hired by the City Manager. The budget for this department is \$18,212,183.

Valley Associates for Independent Living, Inc. (VAIL): VAIL provides vocational and residential placement and support, and educational services to adults who have a documented disability.

Mercy House, Inc.: Mercy House is a transitional housing shelter for homeless families with children. Assistance with clothing, food and counseling is also available.

ARC of Harrisonburg-Rockingham: The Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC) provides an array of services for persons with mental retardation and their families. services include the ARC Op Shop -- a work activity center for adults with mental retardation; respite care; parent - to - parent assistance, support and information (for parents of all types of special needs children).

Harrisonburg Children's Museum (HCM): HCM is a community-based museum offering a wide range of educational exhibits and programming options for children.

Gemeinschaft Home: Gemeinschaft is a 41 bed residential program that addresses the needs of non-violent ex-offenders and substance abusers coming out of therapeutic community programs inside the Virginia Department of Corrections. It is dedicated to providing an environment where the ex-offender can find support, acquire work and living skills, advance education goals and secure safe and affordable housing.

Roberta Webb Child Care: Roberta Webb child care provides quality, affordable, licensed child care in a safe and nurturing environment. The Webb Center serves children ages 2-5 in the Harrisonburg area. The program is geared toward parents that balance work and/or school with parenting (often with little support). The proposed 2009 budget from the city's general fund is \$12,000.

Training to Achieve Rewarding Careers (TARC), Inc.: TARC is a job training and educational program whose focus is in helping low-income residents overcome barriers to attaining, retaining and advancing in employment.

Harrisonburg Department of Parks & Recreation: Provides maintenance of existing parks, playgrounds, and other public facilities, and provides construction oversight of the development of new facilities. Also runs the City's recreational & after-school programs. This is a City Department, and the department head is hired by the City Manager. The proposed 2009 budget from the city's general fund is \$5,660,710.

The Community Foundation of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County: The Community Foundation helps other Harrisonburg community public service projects by managing their donated funds and working with grants that have been given to various charities.

Pleasant View, Inc.: Pleasant View provides support services necessary for people with disabilities to live in and enrich the community. Additionally, Pleasant View strives to assist each individual in achieving and choosing his or her own vocational, family, emotional and spiritual goals.

Valley Program for Aging Services: Provides "Meals on Wheels" and other services for the elderly in the Harrisonburg area. The proposed 2009 budget from the city's general fund is \$30,000.

NewBridges Immigration Resource Center: NewBridges works to assist the large number of immigrants in Harrisonburg to figure out how to pay medical bills, seek food assistance, obtain unpaid salaries from employers, deal with Social Security and meet other similar needs. The proposed 2009 budget from the city's general fund is \$7,500.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County: Big Brothers/Big Sisters strives to make a positive, measurable difference in the lives of children by promoting self-esteem, expanding awareness of life's opportunities, and providing education, guidance, and support through professionally supported one-to-one mentoring relationships.

Valley AIDS Network: Provides housing assistance and other types of assistance to persons with HIV and AIDS.

The City feels that between the continued efforts of those listed above there is sufficient existing basis for addressing any gaps that may be discovered in the existing institutional structure without the City itself creating a new entity to address this issue.

In terms of carrying out activities to address identified housing and community development needs, the City will continue to work directly with the agencies providing these services and related services to better coordinate efforts.

**H. Coordination**

The City anticipates continuing its coordination of human service funding with other social service agencies and charitable organizations to better target the limited amount of human service dollars available in the community. The City will also continue to coordinate its housing efforts with the Harrisonburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority.

Economic development activities will continue to be primarily coordinated with the City’s economic and community development departments. Redevelopment efforts will be coordinated with local organizations and citizens groups on an ad hoc basis based on the area and impact of proposed redevelopments.

Community facilities improvements and new construction will be coordinated with the City’s Parks and Recreation, Public Works and Public Utilities Departments, respectively.

**I. Public housing resident initiatives**

Appendix D includes the Harrisonburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority’s 5-Year PHA Plan which outlines resident participation in the planning process and other initiatives of the Authority.

**J. Low income housing tax credit coordination** N/A

**K. HOME:** N/A

**L. ESG:** N/A

**M. HOPWA:**

N/A

**N. Monitoring**

Each project supported by the Community Development Block Grant will be monitored carefully by the City to ensure appropriate use of CDBG funds. As a part of their application for funding, all subrecipients are asked to submit an action plan with measurable objectives to be achieved by the following specified dates: September 30, December 31, March 31, and June 30. Quarterly progress reports corresponding with these deadlines (due 14 days after each deadline) will be required for each project receiving grant funds. Quarterly Reports will include, at minimum:

- A description of all project activities that have taken place to date, including all outreach activities and public participation events;
- Photographs of progress to date, if applicable;
- A description of how objectives specified for achievement by that date have been met, OR a description of obstacles that have prevented those objectives from being met, how those obstacles are being addressed, and a new anticipated date of completion for those objectives;
- A description and dollar amount of CDBG funds spent to date, and how much of those funds have already been reimbursed;
- A description and dollar amount equivalent of matching funds (including in-kind) expended to date;
- A description of any anticipated problems or obstacles, and a plan for how those future obstacles will be addressed;
- A description of the **number** and **qualifying LMI characteristics of persons or households** assisted with CDBG funds to date, such as LMI by household income, homeless, severely disabled, abused children, migrant farm workers, battered spouses, illiterate adults, elderly, or persons living with AIDS; and
- Other supportive information or documentation, as applicable.

The final quarterly report will serve as the final project report, and will include, in addition to items outlined above, a thorough assessment of the project, including successes and weaknesses; a comparison of projected accomplishments and objectives to actual accomplishments and goals achieved, including reasons for any discrepancies between the two; notation of any CDBG funds or matching funds that were not expended and reasons why; total **number** and **qualifying LMI characteristics of persons or households** assisted with CDBG funds or other resources leveraged by using CDBG funds, including any matching funds or donations that would not have been received without CDBG assistance; and identification of future related projects that may be eligible for CDBG assistance. This final report will be due 14 days after June 30 or date of final reimbursement, whichever is later.

In addition to these quarterly reports, each recipient will submit periodic requests for reimbursement. Each reimbursement request must be accompanied by a City request form, documentation of payment for eligible expenses (i.e., invoices, receipts, copies of

checks, time sheets, etc.), documentation of matching funds expenditure or donations (i.e., volunteer time logs, time sheets, mock invoices for donated items, etc.), and other supporting documentation.

Each organization receiving funding will be required to maintain records of all project expenses, activities, correspondence, and other information as requested by the City or by HUD, for a period of no less than five years from the date of the final project report. All files and records will be made available during normal business hours and other reasonable times for review by the City or by HUD.

Additionally, Harrisonburg's Grant's Compliance Officer will make site visits as needed to inspect the progress of each project and review subrecipient records. For all projects requiring building construction or renovation, the City building inspector will make required site visits to ensure that construction/renovation meets City building codes and zoning regulations. Additionally, for construction/renovation projects, including façade improvements, City Staff will complete a site inspection prior to reimbursements to ensure that materials for which a reimbursement is requested are in place on the building. **Reimbursements for construction/building materials and façade improvements will only be made once the materials are in place.** A Site Visit Evaluation Worksheet will be completed after each visit by City staff, and all worksheets will be maintained in City CDBG files.

As a part of the subrecipient application process, organizations were required to outline a plan for project/program evaluation. Each plan is different and is tailored specifically to the organization's project. During site inspections and quarterly report and records reviews, the City staff will confirm that each subrecipient is following their outlined evaluation plan OR the agency will be required to submit an amended evaluation plan to the City, which satisfies City requirements.

The City will also perform any other monitoring activities as prescribed by HUD or as the City deems necessary to ensure full compliance with all CDBG and other federal, state, and local regulations.

### ***Q. Summary of Annual Objectives***

As identified in the Table 3(c) Project Listing Sheets, the annual objectives that the City expects to achieve through this Action Plan are as follows (some projects are listed in more than one category):

Objective # 1 – Provide additional job training, financial management training, and other supportive services, including emergency services, for those in transition (257 units)

- Objective #2 - Improve security measures at homeless shelters and transitional housing for the protection of clients (1 unit)
- Objective #3 - Support organizations that provide direct services to prevent homelessness (258 units)
  
- Objective # 6 – Provide funding for supportive services for the elderly, e.g., meals, home maintenance, etc. (15 units)
- Objective #7 - Improve transportation services by providing supplemental funding to agencies that provide specialized transportation (15 units)
  
- Objective # 10 – Support agencies that will provide expanded day support programs (220 units)
  
- Objective # 12 – Rehabilitate public housing units (40 units)
  
- Objective # 24 – Pay for street, sidewalk, and traffic control improvements; water and sewer improvements; and storm water management and drainage improvements in designated LMI areas (8,620 units – linear feet)
  
- Objective # 30 – Continue to fund public service activities that target extremely low- and low-income households or individuals (3,217 units)

**APPENDIX A**  
**MAPS**

City of Harrisonburg  
FY 2009 Action Plan

**APPENDIX B  
HUD TABLES**

City of Harrisonburg  
FY 2009 Action Plan

**APPENDIX C**  
**Public Hearing & Comment Period**

City of Harrisonburg  
FY 2009 Action Plan

## **PUBLIC HEARING #1**

The City held a Public Hearing on the 2009 CDBG Program and funding priorities on January 22, 2008. This Public Hearing was advertised in the *Daily News Record*, on the City website, on the bulletin board in the lobby of the municipal building, and the meeting notification was emailed to approximately 55 individuals and agencies that are on the City's CDBG mailing list. This Public Hearing was held during a regular City Council Meeting, so it was televised and there were many citizens present.

### **PUBLIC HEARING January 22, 2008**

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Kim Alexander, Director of Special Projects & Grants Management; Kristin McCombe, Grants Compliance Officer; Kurt Hodgen, City Manager; Bonnie Ryan, City Clerk; & Miriam Dickler, Public Information Officer. City Council was also present.

#### ORGANIZATIONS IN ATTENDANCE:

The following organizations/individuals were in attendance and spoke at this Public Hearing:

#### **Harrisonburg Redevelopment & Housing Authority (HRHA)**

Mike Wong, Executive Director, offered thanks to the City Council for previous CDBG support for the HRHA's Harrison Heights Project. He also expressed a desire for additional CDBG funding to go towards a new project the HRHA is undertaking – environmental work, abatement, and site work to provide for the disposition of the Franklin Heights public housing units.

#### **Citizen**

Bucky Berry of West Washington Street spoke in favor of more funding for homeless services and facilities.

#### **Valley Associates for Independent Living (VAIL)**

Bruce Dellinger thanked City Council for past support and spoke in favor of continued funding for one-time housing modifications to keep disabled adults in their homes. He stated that the one time cost of a typical modification that would allow this type of independent living was approximately \$2,200, compared to \$3,000 or more per month for a residential care facility.

#### **Valley Program for Aging Services (VPAS)**

Cathy Galvin asked the City Council to consider funding for elderly services as a high priority. She stated these services would help to keep elderly individuals out of nursing homes. She also submitted written comments in favor of the programs offered by this organization. These comments are on file in the City's CDBG files.

#### **Big Brothers Big Sisters**

Rajan Shore, outgoing Executive Director, and Mary Rodihan, acting Executive Director, talked about the services provided by this organization and its mission. They requested funding for technological tools for their programs, including network infrastructure.

**New Bridges Immigrant Resources**

Though not technically as a part of the Public Hearing, Sam Nichols, Executive Director, as well as several Board members and clients of this organization spoke in favor of support for their services.

**PUBLIC HEARING #2**

The City held a Public Hearing on the 2009 CDBG Program and Action Plan and funding priorities on April 8, 2008. This Public Hearing was advertised in the *Daily News Record*, on the City website, on the bulletin board in the lobby of the municipal building, and the meeting notification was emailed to approximately 55 individuals and agencies that are on the City's CDBG mailing list. This Public Hearing was held during a regular City Council Meeting, so it was televised and there were many citizens present.

**PUBLIC HEARING  
April 8, 2008**

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Kim Alexander, Assistant to the City Manager; Kristin McCombe, Grants Compliance Officer; Kurt Hodgen, City Manager; Bonnie Ryan, City Clerk; & Miriam Dickler, Public Information Officer. City Council was also present.

ORGANIZATIONS IN ATTENDANCE:

The following organizations/individuals were in attendance and spoke at this Public Hearing:

**New Bridges Immigrant Resources**

Sam Nichols, Executive Director, spoke in favor of support for their services and reviewed events and activities of the group.

**Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC)**

Mary Ellen Chewning representing The ARC said that the funds will be used to purchase a tent for craft shows, a folding hand cart, shelves for a storage unit, and memory software for a computer. She thanked City Council for their continuing support.

**Free Clinic Dental Clinic**

Rich Sider, Director of the Free Clinic thanked Council for being included in the CDBG requested funding. These funds will be used for a new dental program.

**Way to Go**

Betty Newell representing Way to Go Transportation Services said these funds would help to provide transportation for low income workers traveling to and from work.

**Mercy House**

Twila Lee thanked Council for its consideration of Mercy House.

**Big Brothers Big Sisters**

Mary Rodihan and Harry Reif talked about the services provided by this organization and its mission. They requested funding for technological tools for their programs, including network infrastructure.

**Center for Marriage and Family Counseling**

David Penrod, a member of the Board of Directors, noted that the counseling center, in existence for 35 years, provides counseling services for the working poor on a sliding scale basis based upon a client's ability to pay. They also provide supervised visitation for parents with children.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS SUMMARY & CITY RESPONSE**

There was a 30-day Public Comment Period for these Amendments, which ran from April 8, 2008 to May 9, 2008.

During this comment period, the City received phone calls from two members of the Board of Directors of Generations Crossing. Due to a change in executive leadership in their organization, they were unaware of the CDBG application process. They asked if it was too late to be considered for funding. Ms. Alexander informed them that the application deadline had passed. Further, she informed them that an email was sent directly to their Executive Director, Ms. J. Suter (who was still employed with them at the time), informing her of the application process and deadline. Further, this information was published in the newspaper. Ms. Alexander informed them that despite this, they could certainly appeal to City Council for funding consideration.

On April 28, 2008, the City received a call from Mr. Bucky Berry who also wished to comment. Mr. Berry stated that he would like to see more CDBG funding spent in run down neighborhoods, particularly those in the north end of the City. Specifically, Mr. Berry thinks funding should be used for sidewalks on West Washington Street. Mr. Berry also stated that he is in support of funding for the Salvation Army, but he questioned why they did not receive the full \$75,000 that they requested. Ms. Alexander explained that in the Public Service Category, only \$79,128.30 was available for funding due to HUD regulations, and there were \$175,354 in requests for 10 different projects. Ms. Alexander further explained that the City tried to spread the money out amongst those groups as much as possible.

At the April 22, 2008 Regular Council Meeting, during the Public Hearing on the City's FY 2008-2009 Budget, Mr. Rich Sider, Executive Director of the Free Clinic thanked Council for recommending funding from CDBG for the new Dental Clinic Program. He also asked Council to consider increasing this funding.

Comments received after the 30-day Public Comment Period (ending May 9, 2008) will not be included in this Appendix. However, all comments, regardless of when they are received, will be maintained in the City's CDBG files, along with the City's responses to those comments.

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