



First Program Year Action Plan

The CPMP First Annual Action Plan includes the [SF 424](#) and Narrative Responses to Action Plan questions that CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, and ESG grantees must respond to each year in order to be compliant with the Consolidated Planning Regulations. The Executive Summary narratives are optional.

Narrative Responses

GENERAL

Executive Summary

The Executive Summary is required. Include the objectives and outcomes identified in the plan and an evaluation of past performance.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Executive Summary:

The Consolidated Plan represents years 2010 thru 2014 and outlines the uses of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for the next four years.

The Annual Action Plan process requires that the grantee outline an action plan, which addresses the priority needs and local objectives of the community over a one-year period. As we enter FY 2010 we have had an opportunity to reflect on what we have accomplished over the past years; we have helped numerous citizens with home improvement repairs, down payment assistance, emergency home repairs and other various programs.

The above mentioned programs were designed to help low- to moderate-income residents and have been very successful. Due to the popularity and effectiveness of current programs, there is no major shift in CDBG funding priorities for FY 2010. The City of Florissant's current strategy is to maintain and increase property values within the community, provide homeownership opportunities to lower income families, maintain a high owner-occupancy rate, and provide public services. Thus, the City of Florissant proposes to expend its FY 2010 CDBG funds for the Rehabilitation of Private Properties, Public Service Activities, and for General Administration activities.

General Questions

1. Describe the geographic areas of the jurisdiction (including areas of low income families and/or racial/minority concentration) in which assistance will be directed during the next year. Where appropriate, the jurisdiction should estimate the percentage of funds the jurisdiction plans to dedicate to target areas.

2. Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA) (91.215(a)(1)) during the next year and the rationale for assigning the priorities.
3. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs.
4. Identify the federal, state, and local resources expected to be made available to address the needs identified in the plan. Federal resources should include Section 8 funds made available to the jurisdiction, Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, and competitive McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act funds expected to be available to address priority needs and specific objectives identified in the strategic plan.

Program Year 1 Action Plan General Questions response:

The racial composition of the community is 85% white with the remaining 15% comprised of other racial and ethnic groups, based on 2000 census data. This represents a small shift in the racial composition of the city from 1990, when the white population was 96% and other racial/ethnic groups comprised 4% of the population.

Geographic Distribution

CDBG investments are made city-wide since low-to moderate-income people are not concentrated in only one geographic area of the city. Program funds will be distributed based on need and eligibility and will therefore be spent Citywide. There are no geographic allocations planned for the next five years. Programs do not discriminate based on ethnicity or race and are open to all eligible Florissant residents who apply.

The development of the city's land is now almost complete and the major issues facing it are a mature housing stock, an aging population, and a changing economic environment. Yet Florissant remains a viable, prosperous community that offers its residents a variety of services and activities. City of Florissant's goal is to serve the housing needs of all low to moderate income and elderly residents. This includes both the maintenance of existing owner occupied homes within the city as well as encouraging the development of attached single-family homes, which would address the needs of low-income and moderate income families. Therefore, continuing the Home Improvement Program is a priority in order to maintain the city's stock of affordable housing. These goals and objectives indicate the importance of both maintaining and improving existing residential areas while attracting new and varying types of housing. This is in an effort to provide housing for a variety of age groups and families, and to address the needs of all income levels thus meeting an underserved need. Throughout the year, the City publishes articles about different CDBG programs in the monthly newsletter going out to all residents, as well as press releases, publishing information on the City webpage and discussing projects at community meetings.

Managing the Process

1. Identify the lead agency, entity, and agencies responsible for administering programs covered by the consolidated plan.
2. Identify the significant aspects of the process by which the plan was developed, and the agencies, groups, organizations, and others who participated in the process.
3. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to enhance coordination between public and private housing, health, and social service agencies.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Managing the Process response:

The City of Florissant administers the CDBG programs covered by the consolidated plan. The Housing and Community Development Office administers the Community Development Block Grant funds and is the lead for the City in coordinating these activities. The Housing and Community Development Office consists of a CD Director and two (2) CD Specialists.

The Community Development Office continues to work with the Citizens Participation Committee (CPC) in preparing the Consolidate Pland and CDBG budget.

Duties consist of developing relationships with the various service organizations serving the community, enhancing communication with the public and educating residents on services available both from the city and from other entities. The CD staff attends meetings involving a wide spectrum of agencies and groups involved in issues such as housing, homelessness, foreclosure taskforce, community services, AIDS, persons with disabilities and environmental concerns. Responsibilities of the CDBG Director include planning and administering all aspects of the Program in compliance with applicable Federal requirements and procedures.

Additionally, the CD Office continues to work closely with the City Council, Mayor, city departments, and public service agencies to address local issues concerning fair housing, the creation of homeownership opportunities and other community issues. It will also continue to meet with representatives of other jurisdictions in St. Louis County to address housing needs and priorities in the county. This interaction will help the CD Office to fine tune the strategies oulined in the Consolidate Plan and to develop a keener focus on the resources needed to accomplish the goals set out in the Conslidated Plan. This methodolgy offers the residents of Florissant and interested organizations and service providers maximum opportunity to participate in the Consolidated Plan process.

Citizen Participation

1. Provide a summary of the citizen participation process.
2. Provide a summary of citizen comments or views on the plan.

3. Provide a summary of efforts made to broaden public participation in the development of the consolidated plan, including outreach to minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities.
4. Provide a written explanation of comments not accepted and the reasons why these comments were not accepted.

*Please note that Citizen Comments and Responses may be included as additional files within the CPMP Tool.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Citizen Participation response:

Citizen Participation

The City of Florissant has had an active Citizens Participation Committee (CPC) for many years. The CPC is made up of Florissant residents who are appointed from their respective wards by the City Council. The CPC meets to review CDBG activities and to propose an annual CDBG budget to the City Council. The Citizen Participation Committee was developed as part of the City of Florissant's effort to include as many citizens as possible in the Community Development planning process. The citizen's primary function is to provide a broad based source of community input to the Mayor and City Council to assist in the determination of CDBG funding priorities and subsequent monitoring of CDBG funded activities.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

Goal: As an entitlement Metropolitan City, our initial goal is to educate the community on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and to encourage citizen participation in the local consolidated planning process. Our long-term goal is to keep the public involved in our community and to provide opportunities to participate in the consolidated planning process on an annual basis. Per our citizen participation plan, our process includes holding a public hearing, making the plan available for a 30-day comment period and releasing a summary of the plan. Notices of the hearing was posted on the City's cable television channel, and the City website soliciting comments and participation in the process. Other announcements are posted across the city at library branches, community centers, and City Hall. The meeting was held in a handicap accessible building. The building has handicapped accessible entrance, handicapped accessible restrooms for both men and women on, and wide hallways and doorways to accommodate the handicapped residents of our community. A summary of the draft plan was posted on our cable TV channel. The summary described the contents of the plan and the entire Consolidated Plan could be received at the City's Government Center or by written request. The plan was available for public comment for 30 days.

Input Strategy:

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE (CPC)

The Citizens Participation Committee (CPC) serves as the official citizen advisory body for all phases of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application development, program implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes. The CPC is the major mechanism whereby the citizens of Florissant have an opportunity to express their needs as well as to be kept aware of the performance of the Community Development program.

CPC TASKS

- Evaluate and recommend priorities regarding community development needs.
- Evaluate existing CDBG programs.
- Evaluate and recommend programs for possible inclusion in future CDBG Consolidated Plan.
- Review the draft CDBG Consolidated Plan prior to its being made available for public comment.
- Recommend changes in the draft CDBG Consolidated Plan.
- Review the Citizen Participation Plan annually.
- Provide assistance and information to interested individuals and/or groups within Florissant.
- Conduct regular meetings on the second Thursday of each month, except June, July and August.
- Evaluate suggested uses of any CDBG funds earmarked for contingency activities. The CPC may recommend against such expenditures.
- Evaluate any amendments to approved CDBG projects, except those for urgent need activities.

The City of Florissant has always been proactive in its communications with residents and we have many mechanisms for public input already in place. We publish and mail a monthly newsletter directly to residents. We also produce our own cable television channel. Notices for these hearings will be posted at City Hall, the Government Center and at various community, public, and business bulletin boards throughout the City. Nonprofit organizations and other agencies will also be requested to provide input. The City plans to also utilize local media to assist in the educating of residents on the CDBG program and encouraging participation. The City Council will also be encouraged to discuss the CDBG program whenever they attend a Ward or neighborhood meeting within targeted areas.

Technical assistance will be provided by city staff to any persons, including groups representative of persons of low- and moderate- income, that requests such assistance in developing proposals for funding assistance.

Review of proposed activities: Through our public postings, our cable TV channel, website, and local media, notice of the availability of the draft consolidated plan will be published. Copies will be available at city facilities and possibly via the Internet from the city's web page. The summary will describe the contents of the plan and a list of the locations where copies of the entire proposed consolidated plan may be examined. The city will provide a reasonable number of free copies of the plan to citizens and groups that request it a copy in writing. The draft-consolidated plan will be made available to persons with disabilities, in a format that is readily accessible, upon request.

The city will provide at least 30 days for citizens, public agencies and other interested parties to examine the plan and submit comments. Written comments will also be accepted and comments can be mailed directly to the city.

The City of Florissant will consider any comments or views of citizens received in writing, or orally at public hearings, in preparing the final consolidated plan. A summary of these comments or views, and a summary of any comments or views not accepted and the reasons therefore, shall be attached to the final consolidated plan.

Complaints: Citizens that contact the city regarding a complaint will be directed to submit their complaint in writing. The City will provide a timely, substantive written response to every written citizen complaint received within 15 working days, where practicable. Any complaint should be submitted in writing to the following address:

City of Florissant
Housing and Community Development Office
1055 rue St. Francois
Florissant, MO 63031

Institutional Structure

1. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to develop institutional structure.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Institutional Structure response:

The City of Florissant's Department of Housing and Community Development administers the programs funded by the Community Development Block Grant. Private contractors do the actual work of rehabilitation. The City staff is able to adequately monitor these contractors to assure that services are provided as promised.

Monitoring

1. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to monitor its housing and community development projects and ensure long-term compliance with program requirements and comprehensive planning requirements.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Monitoring response:

As a recipient of Federal funds, the city recognizes its responsibility for carrying out eligible activities in compliance with applicable Federal requirements and procedures. All activities are reviewed by staff to ensure compliance with eligibility and to ensure that they meet the national objectives of benefiting low and moderate-income residents, alleviating urgent needs, or eliminating slums and blight. All projects are reviewed by city staff prior to approval. Staff monitors the implementation of every activity on a step by step basis to ensure that all requirements are adhered to. Staff will continually develop techniques and procedures to achieve program goals, complete activities in a timely manner, maintain adequate financial systems and maintain all necessary documentation. The finance staff of the city conducts additional monitoring to ensure that audit requirements are being met.

All programs being funded with FY10 dollars will be qualified and administered by City of Florissant staff. Currently, the city has one sub-recipient in the community Development Block Grant program and we continue to monitor the program to ensure the sub-recipient is meeting city guidelines. The City has undergone monitoring by HUD and was found to be in compliance with all HUD requirements and guidelines.

Lead-based Paint

1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to evaluate and reduce the number of housing units containing lead-based paint hazards in order to increase the inventory of lead-safe housing available to extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families, and how the plan for the reduction of lead-based hazards is related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Lead-based Paint response:

The City of Florissant continues to pursue an active role in eliminating the hazards of lead-based paint in its housing stock. Staff successfully completed HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control's Visual Assessment course pursuant to 24 CFR Part 35. All homeowners in the Home Improvement Loan Program with houses built before 1978, are given the "Protect Your Family from Lead In Your Home" Pamphlet and must sign a "Confirmation of Receipt" for documentation purposes. In addition the homes must undergo Lead Based Paint Testing on the areas or the home where a visual inspection is made for flaking and peeling paint does not pass. Bid packages containing work specifications will be bid out to pre-approved licensed lead abatement contractors. Dust and soil clearance tests will be performed after the work has been completed.

The City will continue to work with the St. Louis County Lead Surveillance Program to screen and evaluate children for lead absorption, and initiate treatment when needed. The Community Development Office will continue to be responsible for networking with appropriate City and County departments and other services providers in this area. In addition, the Community Development Office will maintain its close contact with the St. Louis County Office of Community Development's Home Improvement staff and the designated lead coordinator, in order to comply with the lead-based paint regulations that went into effect in September 2000.

HOUSING

Specific Housing Objectives

*Please also refer to the Housing Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Describe the priorities and specific objectives the jurisdiction hopes to achieve during the next year.
2. Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by this Action Plan.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Specific Objectives response:

Specific Housing Objectives

The City of Florissant's primary goal for the FY 2010 Community Development Block Grant cycle is to improve and preserve the housing stock within our community. The city will continue 2 specific programs related to these housing needs. One vehicle for accomplishing this goal is the Home Improvement Program.

The Home Improvement program is designed to help low-to moderate-income home owners with much needed home repairs that they otherwise would not be able to afford on their own. The repairs will improve their living environment and, in some cases, help the recipients stay in their homes. This program will provide no interest loans to qualifying households for the rehabilitation of owner-occupied single-family dwellings. The purpose of the loan will be to bring existing housing up to code and to address accessibility and safety issues. The household must qualify as low to moderate income. This program is available community-wide. The City's goal is to assist at least 30 homeowners per year.

The City of Florissant has taken suggestions from local residents into consideration and has made applications for the Home Improvement Program available earlier in the year for one (1) month starting in March. We will review this procedure for one more year and determine if any additional changes are necessary.

During this time, the City of Florissant will provide at least one informative seminar to educate the community about our program and assist them with the paperwork. The need to educate the potential applicants is important because the CDBG Director and specialists have found that quite often the applicants are unsure of what documentation they need to include with their application and where to find the documents.

The City will post for the seminar(s) around town on all of the public bulletin boards, at City Hall, and on the City's Cable Channel and website.

The Home Improvement Program is designed to preserve the existing housing stock within our community, but there is also a need to help the low- to moderate-income members of our community establish wealth. This can be done by assisting qualifying first-time homebuyers with down payment assistance.

The City of Florissant is a member of the St. Louis HOME Consortium and through this affiliation, we are able to offer first-time homebuyers within our community, or who are interested in relocating to our community, with down payment assistance. Not only does this program offer potential homebuyers with the resources to purchase their first home, but it also requires a series of home ownership classes. These homeownership courses provide the applicants with the knowledge base to make informed decisions throughout the purchase of their home

The community is concerned with the preservation and maintenance of existing structures. It is the City's goal to utilize the CDBG Funds to further housing objectives based on need. The primary resource for this housing program is the federal CDBG funds.

The second program the City will continue to fund is the Community Oriented Problem Solving (C.O.P.S.) program. Funds will be expended to provide materials for wheelchair ramps built by volunteer police officers and volunteer groups. Funds will also be used to purchase materials and supplies for homes being repaired by volunteer groups and volunteer police officers.

The repairs will improve their living environment and, in some cases, help the recipients stay in their homes. This program is designed to assist Florissant residents with disabilities or low income in need of handicapped ramps or assistance with the upkeep of their homes. The household must qualify as low to moderate income, disabled or indigent residents and is available community-wide. The City's goal is to assist approximately 20 homeowners per year.

Needs of Public Housing

1. Describe the manner in which the plan of the jurisdiction will help address the needs of public housing and activities it will undertake during the next year to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership.
2. If the public housing agency is designated as "troubled" by HUD or otherwise is performing poorly, the jurisdiction shall describe the manner in which it will provide financial or other assistance in improving its operations to remove such designation during the next year.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Public Housing Strategy response:

There is currently no Public Housing Authority or Public Housing Developments in the City limits of Florissant. However, the city is served by the Housing Authority of St. Louis County and they have been classified as a "High Performer". It was noted through previous studies that the North County area held the largest percentage of all Section 8 and public housing units in St. Louis County. North County communities are providing for the housing needs of low-income families in the St. Louis County area.

Barriers to Affordable Housing

1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to remove barriers to affordable housing.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Barriers to Affordable Housing response:

Barriers to Affordable Housing

The City of Florissant's regulations for development and construction specifically zoning and subdivision regulations, architectural requirements, building codes, permitting and licensing that the city imposes do not create a barrier to the construction of affordable housing. Perhaps the most substantial barriers to affordable housing in Florissant and St. Louis County are the demand for specific housing, land costs, and the attitudes of the community towards various economic groups.

The City is currently waiting for a final updated Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing from St. Louis University. Once the city receives the plan it will review the impediments identified and identify ways to address the impediments. This could include but is not limited to testing, trainings, updating the city webpage. To date, no complaints have been brought to the city's attention.

HOME/ American Dream Down payment Initiative (ADDI)

1. Describe other forms of investment not described in § 92.205(b).
2. If the participating jurisdiction (PJ) will use HOME or ADDI funds for homebuyers, it must state the guidelines for resale or recapture, as required in § 92.254 of the HOME rule.
3. If the PJ will use HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds, it must state its refinancing guidelines required under § 92.206(b). The guidelines shall describe the conditions under which the PJ will refinance existing debt. At a minimum these guidelines must:
 - a. Demonstrate that rehabilitation is the primary eligible activity and ensure that this requirement is met by establishing a minimum level of rehabilitation per unit or a required ratio between rehabilitation and refinancing.
 - b. Require a review of management practices to demonstrate that disinvestments in the property has not occurred; that the long-term needs of the project can be met; and that the feasibility of serving the targeted population over an extended affordability period can be demonstrated.
 - c. State whether the new investment is being made to maintain current affordable units, create additional affordable units, or both.
 - d. Specify the required period of affordability, whether it is the minimum 15 years or longer.
 - e. Specify whether the investment of HOME funds may be jurisdiction-wide or limited to a specific geographic area, such as a neighborhood identified in a neighborhood revitalization strategy under 24 CFR 91.215(e)(2) or a Federally designated Empowerment Zone or Enterprise Community.
 - f. State that HOME funds cannot be used to refinance multifamily loans made or insured by any federal program, including CDBG.
4. If the PJ is going to receive American Dream Down payment Initiative (ADDI) funds, please complete the following narratives:
 - a. Describe the planned use of the ADDI funds.
 - b. Describe the PJ's plan for conducting targeted outreach to residents and tenants of public housing and manufactured housing and to other families assisted by public housing agencies, for the purposes of ensuring that the ADDI funds are used to provide down payment assistance for such residents, tenants, and families.
 - c. Describe the actions to be taken to ensure the suitability of families receiving ADDI funds to undertake and maintain homeownership, such as provision of housing counseling to homebuyers.

Program Year 1 Action Plan HOME/ADDI response:

The City of Florissant is a member of the St. Louis County HOME Consortium. The HOME Consortium provides the City of Florissant with additional funds to be used for the Down Payment Assistance program. The Down Payment Assistance program helps eligible first-time home buyers, who meet the income requirements stated by HUD, by providing an interest-free loan to be used toward a down payment on a home within Florissant City limits.

More information can be found on the St. Louis County Department of Planning website at <http://www.stlouisco.com/plan/Housing/FlorissantDPA.html> or in the St. Louis County Action Plan.

HOMELESS

Specific Homeless Prevention Elements

*Please also refer to the Homeless Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Sources of Funds—Identify the private and public resources that the jurisdiction expects to receive during the next year to address homeless needs and to prevent homelessness. These include the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act programs, other special federal, state and local and private funds targeted to homeless individuals and families with children, especially the chronically homeless, the HUD formula programs, and any publicly-owned land or property. Please describe, briefly, the jurisdiction's plan for the investment and use of funds directed toward homelessness.
2. Homelessness—In a narrative, describe how the action plan will address the specific objectives of the Strategic Plan and, ultimately, the priority needs identified. Please also identify potential obstacles to completing these action steps.
3. Chronic homelessness—The jurisdiction must describe the specific planned action steps it will take over the next year aimed at eliminating chronic homelessness by 2012. Again, please identify barriers to achieving this.
4. Homelessness Prevention—The jurisdiction must describe its planned action steps over the next year to address the individual and families with children at imminent risk of becoming homeless.
5. Discharge Coordination Policy—Explain planned activities to implement a cohesive, community-wide Discharge Coordination Policy, and how, in the coming year, the community will move toward such a policy.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Special Needs response:

The city does not expect to receive any funds in addition to the CDBG funds it currently receives. Various outreach programs and services exist in our community to identify homeless persons and assess individual needs. Each year the Continuum of Care does a Homeless Count in St. Louis County to identify homeless individuals in the area. There are also programs to help homeless persons transition to permanent and independent living. The city will continue to develop relationships with the various service agencies providing homeless and at risk services. The City of Florissant will continue to work with social service agencies in St. Louis County, which are providing aid to homeless persons and addressing their individual needs. Also, the city will attend meetings and participate in the St. Louis Continuum of Care.

Although the entitlement amount that the City of Florissant receives on an annual basis would not adequately cover the cost of emergency, transitional, or permanent housing while sustaining other important programs within our community, we did receive a request from The Emergency Assistance Ministry (TEAM) for 2010 funding

assistance to help keep residents in their homes. This program will provide funds to Florissant residents who are on the verge of homelessness. The funds will provide assistance with food, temporary shelter or emergency utilities and rent/mortgage assistance. The addition of these services to our program is extremely important in keeping our residents in their homes.

Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG)

(States only) Describe the process for awarding grants to State recipients, and a description of how the allocation will be made available to units of local government.

Program Year 1 Action Plan ESG response:

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Development

*Please also refer to the Community Development Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Identify the jurisdiction's priority non-housing community development needs eligible for assistance by CDBG eligibility category specified in the Community Development Needs Table (formerly Table 2B), public facilities, public improvements, public services and economic development.
2. Identify specific long-term and short-term community development objectives (including economic development activities that create jobs), developed in accordance with the statutory goals described in section 24 CFR 91.1 and the primary objective of the CDBG program to provide decent housing and a suitable living environment and expand economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.

*Note: Each specific objective developed to address a priority need, must be identified by number and contain proposed accomplishments, the time period (i.e., one, two, three, or more years), and annual program year numeric goals the jurisdiction hopes to achieve in quantitative terms, or in other measurable terms as identified and defined by the jurisdiction.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Community Development response:

The City of Florissant is justifiably proud of the high rate of owner-occupancy of its single-family housing units. To keep low to moderate income owner occupied housing units affordable and livable, the City of Florissant will continue to provide a home improvement program to income eligible homeowners. The program is offered as a five-year forgivable loan with a \$5,000 maximum. This program allows residents to perform rehabilitation and repair of code violations on their homes, promoting decent housing and a suitable living environment. The city's goal includes helping 30 homeowners through this program.

The city is also planning on continuing the C.O.P.S. program which will be available to elderly, disabled and indigent residents who are low-income and in need of handicap accessibility to their homes specifically through the installation of wheel chair ramps. The program has been set up to assist 20 families. The City of Florissant also plans on assisting residents with disabilities through the public

services program. The City will continue to provide a variety of needed services to Florissant residents with disabilities by continuing to fund Jamestown New Horizons, an agency which provides horseback riding lessons to persons with disabilities. By allocating CDBG funds to Jamestown New Horizons the City is able to address the recreation needs of Florissant residents with disabilities that would otherwise go unmet.

Although the City had not devoted many CDBG funds to any public facilities improvements in the past, we will be enhancing our community in 2010 by providing funding to upgrade the restrooms in the Schoolhouse of the St. Ferdinand Shrine. The original church was built in 1789 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Shrine Campus has become a huge tourist attraction for the City and is exploding with new events that draw visitors from all areas, including other States and even other countries. Last year alone the Shrine had over 15,000 visitors which in turn, brings business to our local restaurants and shops making Florissant a destination for tourists. Due to the increase in visitors there has become a real need to have ADA, handicap accessible restrooms on the first floor of the Schoolhouse. The upgrade/construction of these facilities will not only remove an architectural barrier that currently exists but help provide accessibility to all people.

Antipoverty Strategy

1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to reduce the number of poverty level families.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Antipoverty Strategy response:

The City of Florissant does not yet have any specific programs or policies with regard to reducing the number of poverty level families. Although preserving affordable housing through the Home Improvement Program and the C.O.P.S. Program does not reduce the number of persons at poverty level it does provide a way for low income persons to have livable housing without investing their own resources into needed repairs and rehabilitation. There are however, numerous social service agencies in St. Louis County that continue to make an effort to address poverty in all parts of the County, including the City of Florissant. The City will continue to become familiar with these programs and continue to assist and support these efforts to reduce poverty within the City.

NON-HOMELESS SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING

Non-homeless Special Needs (91.220 (c) and (e))

*Please also refer to the Non-homeless Special Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Describe the priorities and specific objectives the jurisdiction hopes to achieve for the period covered by the Action Plan.
2. Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by this Action Plan.

Program Year 1 Action Plan Specific Objectives response:

Over the next few years, the City will work to develop relationships with the various service organizations serving our community. We will work to enhance communication with the public and educate our residents on services available both from the city and from other entities. As we develop the specific details of our Home Improvement and Home Ownership programs, we will actively seek input from others to coordinate efforts and address community needs. The City will continue to support those public service agencies in the county who deal specifically with housing needs in the community. No additional funds have been identified at this time for specific special needs.

Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS

*Please also refer to the HOPWA Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Provide a Brief description of the organization, the area of service, the name of the program contacts, and a broad overview of the range/ type of housing activities to be done during the next year.
2. Report on the actions taken during the year that addressed the special needs of persons who are not homeless but require supportive housing, and assistance for persons who are homeless.
3. Evaluate the progress in meeting its specific objective of providing affordable housing, including a comparison of actual outputs and outcomes to proposed goals and progress made on the other planned actions indicated in the strategic and action plans. The evaluation can address any related program adjustments or future plans.
4. Report on annual HOPWA output goals for the number of households assisted during the year in: (1) short-term rent, mortgage and utility payments to avoid homelessness; (2) rental assistance programs; and (3) in housing facilities, such as community residences and SRO dwellings, where funds are used to develop and/or operate these facilities. Include any assessment of client outcomes for achieving housing stability, reduced risks of homelessness and improved access to care.
5. Report on the use of committed leveraging from other public and private resources that helped to address needs identified in the plan.
6. Provide an analysis of the extent to which HOPWA funds were distributed among different categories of housing needs consistent with the geographic distribution plans identified in its approved Consolidated Plan.
7. Describe any barriers (including non-regulatory) encountered, actions in response to barriers, and recommendations for program improvement.
8. Please describe the expected trends facing the community in meeting the needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS and provide additional information regarding the administration of services to people with HIV/AIDS.

9. Please note any evaluations, studies or other assessments that will be conducted on the local HOPWA program during the next year.

Program Year 1 Action Plan HOPWA response:

Not applicable.

Specific HOPWA Objectives

Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by the Action Plan.

Program Year 1 Specific HOPWA Objectives response:

Not applicable.

Other Narrative

Include any Action Plan information that was not covered by a narrative in any other section.

City of Florissant
Citizens Participation Committee
September 24, 2009 at 6:30 PM
Florissant Government Center
1055 Rue St. Francois

Minutes

Citizen participation committee was held on September 24, 2009 at 6:30pm for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program 5 year Consolidated 2010 – 2014 and 2010 Annual Action Plan at the Florissant City Hall, 1055 rue St. Francois in the government building.

Attendees were:

Mary Pat Outlaw, Matthew Kohler, Pat Reed, John Otte, Teri Reiter, Jackie Pagano, Pam Lee, Dennis Cook, Francine Andrews, Bill Bray

Those staff members present were:

Carol O'Mara – Director
Toni Kammermeyer – CD Specialist
Donna Hixson – CD Specialist

Carol O'Mara gave a brief presentation on Florissant's history with the U.S. Department of Housing and Development and the Community Development Block Grant Entitlement.

The City of Florissant became an entitlement community when population estimates were at 50,000. As of June 2008, population estimates at 54,536 with the number of households at 25,102.

Public notices are posted for all public hearings. These notices are posted on

community boards throughout Florissant, on the City's Web site & Cable Channel and press releases are sent to the local media.

Citizen Participation is a vital resource for the planning and implementation of all CDBG programs. Citizen comments and suggestions are used to design programs to better meet the needs of our community. The Citizens Participation Committee (CPC) serves as the official citizen advisory body for all phases of the CDBG application process. However, all CDBG programs must meet the National Objectives. The regulations state that 70% of funds MUST benefit low-to-moderate (LMI) income individuals which is defined as less than 80% of the median income.

In the upcoming year, the City of Florissant will host at least one Fair Housing seminar to help educate our community on the protection offered to them through the Fair Housing laws.

The City of Florissant intends to use the 2010 CDBG funds to implement five (5) programs; the Home Improvement Program, C.O.P.S. Program, Jamestown New Horizons, TEAM and St. Ferdinand Shrine

In the past, the Home Improvement Program applications have been made available once a year in March. The applications were then accepted for only one month in March. This limited application period acted as a barrier to all of the citizens that could benefit from this program. After review by the CPC it was decided to change the Home Improvement Program to allow for applications to be extended through April allowing an additional 4 weeks. We will kick off the program in March by providing educational seminars to inform our community about this resource available to them and offer assistance with completing the applications and making the applications available until the end of April or until all have been expended.

C.O.P.S. program is available to elderly, disabled and indigent residents who are low-income and in need of handicap accessibility to their homes specifically through the installation of wheel chair ramps. The program has been set up to assist Florissant residents with disabilities with handicapped ramps or assistance with the upkeep of their homes.

Jamestown New Horizons offers horseback riding lessons to Florissant residents with disabilities. By allocating CDBG funds to Jamestown New Horizons the City is able to address the recreation needs to residents with disabilities that would otherwise go unmet.

The City received two requests for 2010 funding – the first one was from TEAM which offers Florissant residents emergency assistance with food, temporary housing, and assistance with mortgage and utilities payments. The second request was from St. Ferdinand Shrine to assist with funding for the replacement/reconstruction of the restrooms to make them ADA/Handicap accessible. The construction of this facility will not only remove an architectural barrier that currently exists but help provide accessibility to all people.

In addition, the City of Florissant receives funding from the St. Louis County HOME Consortium which will be used to fund the Down Payment Assistance Program. The DPA program has changed to offer qualifying applicants with up to \$3,500 in a zero-percent interest loan that is forgivable after 5 years.

Following the presentation a question and answer session was held. Carol O'Mara told members the budget would be presented at a Public Hearing to City Council and residents of Florissant at the October 12th Council meeting. Francine Andrews volunteered to present the budget at the council meeting.

The Committee members discussed the proposed activities and agreed on a change regarding the monies allocated to the St. Ferdinand Shrine ADA compliant bathrooms. The 2010 Budget will reflect funding of 50% of the entire project not to exceed \$30,000.00.

Jackie Pagano made a motion on the change of funding to the St Ferdinand Shrine ADA compliant bathroom project as follows 50% of the entire project not to exceed \$30,000.00 and the other \$10,000.00 will be directed back to Home Repair Program for disbursement as needed. This motion was seconded by Pat Reed. Motion was passed.

A motion was made by Jackie Pagano to approve the 5 Year Consolidated Plan 2010-2014 and the Annual Action Plan for 2010 CDBG budget. Pat Reed seconded. Motion was passed.

The committee decided to discuss the Beautiful Home Awards at the next meeting, scheduled for October 15, 2009.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 was made by Jacqueline Pagano, seconded by John Otte. Motion was approved. Meeting was adjourned.

CDBG *Estimated* Financial Summary

FY2010 CDBG Program

Community Development Block Grant Resources

Entitlement Amount Estimate \$220,000.00

Total FY Anticipated Funding \$220,000.00

Proposed Uses of CDBG Funds

Housing Programs

Home Improvement Program (26 Homes) \$130,500.00

C.O.P.S. \$ 10,000.00

St. Ferdinand Shrine \$ 30,000.00

Public Services

Jamestown New Horizons \$ 3,500.00

TEAM \$ 2,000.00

Grant Administration

Administration \$ 44,000.00

Total \$ 220,000.00