



City of Mesquite

Program Year 2024-2025

Annual Action Plan

Presented to the
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Field Office of Community Planning and Development

July 1, 2024

Table of Contents

Executive Summary.....	3
AP-05 Executive Summary- 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)	3
PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies- 91.200(b).....	7
AP-10 Consultation- 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l).....	9
AP-12 Participation- 91.105, 91.200(c).....	12
Expected Resources.....	14
AP-15 Expected Resources- 91.220(c)(1,2).....	14
Annual Goals and Objectives.....	17
AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives- 91.220(c)(3)&(e)	17
AP-35 Projects- 91.220(d).....	17
AP-38 Project Summary	19
AP-50 Geographic Distribution- 91.220(f).....	22
Affordable Housing.....	23
AP-55 Affordable Housing- 91.220(g).....	23
AP-60 Public Housing- 91.220(h).....	24
AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities-91.220(i).....	25
AP-75 Barriers to Affordable Housing- 91.220(j).....	28
AP-85 Other Actions-91.220(k).....	29
Program Specific Requirements.....	32
AP-90 Program Specific Requirements.....	32

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires local communities and states to prepare a 3–5-year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, and Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) in order to receive federal housing and community development funding. The City of Mesquite is a participating jurisdiction and receives entitlement grants from HUD for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). This document is the City of Mesquite's 2024 Annual Action Plan and states how the city plans to allocate and implement the fiscal year (FY) 2025 CDBG entitlement funds of \$1,055,228 for the program year (PY) 2024 beginning October 1, 2024 and ending September 30, 2025.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

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

The objectives and outcomes detail what the City intends to accomplish with CDBG funds to meet the priority needs of housing and community development for the 2024 program year. The City of Mesquite has established the following strategies, objectives, and outcomes to guide its 2024 Annual Action Plan goals.

Strategy 1. Improve and preserve the city's housing stock.

Objective DH-1.1 (availability/accessibility of decent housing): Reduce the number of single-family homes with lead-based paint hazards through the City's rehabilitation program. **2024 outcome/goal:** 15 housing units

Objective DH-1. 1 (affordability of decent housing): Continue to support programs to rehabilitate and improve existing single-family homes occupied by low- and moderate-income and special needs owners. **2024 outcome/goal:** 21 housing units

Strategy 2. Support organizations that provide services for the city's special needs and low and moderate-income populations.

Objective SL-1.1 (availability/accessibility of a suitable living environment): Provide funding to organizations that provide supportive services for the city's special needs and low and moderate-income populations. **2024 outcome/goal:** 6,180 people

- Hope's Door New Beginnings Center: 40 people
- Sharing Life Community Outreach: 5,100 people
- Sharing Life Community Outreach-Homelessness: 75 households
- The Senior Source: 850 people
- The Family Place: 75 people
- Summer Youth Internship Program: 20 youth
- Visiting Nurse Association (VNA): 20 people

Objective SL-1.2 (availability/accessibility of a suitable living environment): Increase involvement and support of the All Neighbors Coalition Continuum of Care process and the annual point-in-time homeless count. **2024 outcome/goal:** 1 point-in-time homeless count, , COC membership, Member of Youth, CAS, PIT, COC Board, and Street Outreach Committees.

Strategy 3. Improve and maintain the city's neighborhoods.

Objective SL-3.1 (sustainability of a suitable living environment): Achieve and preserve neighborhood integrity through a positive Code Enforcement program by providing inspections and issuing code enforcement violations in CDBG eligible neighborhoods. **2024 outcome/goal:** 21,535 households benefited in area

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

The City of Mesquite established three strategies to address housing and community developments for program year 2024. The following summarizes how CDGB funds were used to address the city's needs.

Strategy 1. Improve and preserve the city's housing stock, including housing for special needs populations.

Single-family housing rehabilitation and maintenance support of both owner and renter occupied structures in the CDBG-eligible areas have supported this strategy.

- The City of Mesquite provided a Single-Family Housing Rehabilitation program that provided exterior home repair (through the Exterior Renewal Program) and limited repair (through the

Limited Repair program) and emergency repair grants to low-income, single-family households to improve, repair, or replace items that pose an imminent threat to health and/or safety.

- The Neighborhood Development program used CDBG funds to enforce minimum property standards to ensure proper maintenance of both rental and homeowner structures in CDBG-eligible areas. The activity proactively addressed substandard living conditions, both interior and exterior, with an aggressive Rental Certificate of Occupancy program.

Strategy 2. Support organizations that assist the city's special needs population - The City has supported several organizations that provide public services targeted to assist persons with special needs including persons who are at-risk of homelessness, victims of domestic violence (including children), low-income adults and families and persons with disabilities. The following organizations have been able to offer assistance due to CDBG funds:

- Hope's Door provides outreach services, mental health counseling, transitional housing, and emergency shelter to women and children who are victims of domestic violence.
- Mesquite Independent School District, Safe Landing Program provides a safe and nurturing environment for students facing significant risk, with the goal of promoting their development academically, emotionally, and socially so that they may live up to their best possibility.
- Sharing Life Community Outreach serves as a food pantry HUB for the community, provides rental assistance and non-food essentials. Other programs available include the WARM program, which provides temporary shelter for individuals who are unsheltered during times of extreme weather conditions. The organization also serves as a Financial Empowerment Center, providing financial coaching, GED testing, and employment services.
- The Senior Source is a non-profit agency that assist seniors and their families with a range of age-related issues such as: finances, transportation, and companionship. The Senior Source Ombudsman program exists as an advocacy program for elderly Mesquite residents in long-term care facilities with the goal of resolving various client concerns such as long-term care issues, resident's rights, and abuse and neglect.
- The Family Place provides domestic violence intervention services to victims and their families. Services include emergency shelter, counseling, case management, and support services such as employment assistance, access to legal support, medical and dental care.
- Visiting Nurse Association provides a "Meals on Wheels" program that provides home-delivered meals five days a week to homebound or disabled seniors in Mesquite. The Visiting Nurse Association is a non-profit that provides healthcare services to the elderly and disabled individuals who are also homebound.

Strategy 3. Improve and maintain the city's neighborhoods.

Through code enforcement, the City has assisted the residents in improving and maintaining the neighborhoods in CDBG-eligible areas of Mesquite.

- Code Enforcement CDBG funds were used to fund the salaries and activities of code enforcement officers who cover 59 CDBG-eligible areas. Through inspection and enforcement of code violations, the code enforcement officers have helped prevent neighborhood decline.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

To inform residents of the public input process and opportunities for the 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan, a notice was published on the city's web site and posted in the local newspaper, The Daily Commercial Record. Two public hearings regarding the activities and recommended budget proposed in the 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan were held on July 1, 2024 and August 5, 2024. The purpose of the hearing was to obtain comments from residents and to allow individuals or organizations requesting funding to address the City Council. In addition to the public hearings, a 30-day comment period was held July 1, 2024 through August 5, 2024 in which citizens had the opportunity to provide further comments with access to the 2024 Annual Action Plan draft available online and at the Housing and Community Services building at 1616 N. Galloway Ave., Mesquite, TX 75149.

5. Summary of public comments

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

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

The City Council accepted the allocations as recommended by city staff for an equitable distribution of public service funds.

7. Summary

The 2024 Annual Action Plan consists of proposed budgets and activities that will be implemented with PY2024 CDBG entitlement funds of \$1,055,228 for which the grant year will begin on October 1, 2024 and end September 30, 2025.

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	MESQUITE	CDBG Division- Housing and Community Services Department

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The City of Mesquite's CDBG Division of the Housing and Community Services Department (HCS) serves as the lead agency in the development and implementation of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (AI), 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, and correlating Annual Action Plans. The City of Mesquite retained J-QUAD Planning Group, an economic research and consulting firm specializing in housing research, to assist in the preparation of the AI. The City of Mesquite's CDBG Division is responsible for the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, 2024 Annual Action Plan, and the administration of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). In addition, other City offices, nonprofits, for-profits, and quasi-governmental entities have various roles and responsibilities for carrying out strategies and activities of the Consolidated Plan.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

In developing the 2024 Annual Action Plan, the CDBG Division of the HCS Department consulted with other City departments and received recommendations from the City Council. Residents had opportunities to provide comments through two public hearings and a 30-day comment period.

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

The City of Mesquite continually engages and builds relationships with local service agencies, private industry, and health providers. For example, the Public Housing Agency in Mesquite, The Mesquite Housing Division, is a division of the City of Mesquite and housed in the same department as CDBG administration, allowing for constant coordination. Mesquite Housing administers the City's Housing Choice Voucher program and was consulted during the development of the Consolidated Plan and annual Action Plan. The following Table in Question 2 represents a comprehensive list of those who participated in the 2024 Annual Action Plan process. In connection, with the City's Analysis of Impediments, the city has made continued effort to focus on fair housing by collaborating with property owners as well as current public housing clients through a series of training session and education events.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.

Housing Forward is the lead agency designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Dallas and Collin Counties Continuum of Care (CoC). The Continuum consists of several agencies including local governments, nonprofits, faith-based organizations, housing providers, and other community organizations and individuals. The Continuum meets regularly through general assembly and workgroup meetings to collaborate on homeless issues and services including the allocation of ESG funds, HOME funds, performance standards, policies and procedures, HMIS, housing opportunities, and other resources. While the City of Mesquite does not receive ESG funds, the City is involved and supports the Housing Forward Continuum of Care (CoC) and their annual point-in-time homeless count and through membership on the Homeless Collaborative Governing Board. The city also funds Sharing Life Community Outreach which provides rental assistance to families and individuals facing imminent homelessness. The City of Mesquite Southeast Alliance Community Care Team also hired a Homeless Outreach Coordinator, whose role is to provide case management services to unsheltered individuals and families. The Homeless Outreach Coordinator is attending meetings and trainings provided by Housing Forward.

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

The City of Mesquite does not receive ESG funds. However, the City is involved and supports the Housing Forward Continuum of Care (CoC), who is the geographic area's CoC with Housing Forward as the lead agency. The CoC is continually developing and evaluating performance standards and policies for ESG allocation as well as the administration of HMIS through various task committees.

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

1	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Mesquite
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA City Departments Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Mesquite's Housing Division, , CARE Team, and Neighborhood Vitality were consulted for the development of the 2024 Annual Action Plan. Continued improved coordination between departments will increase the success of revitalization efforts including those funded through CDBG activities.

2	Agency/Group/Organization	Sharing Life Community Outreach
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Nonprofit
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs

<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Several discussions took place between the City of Mesquite and Sharing Life Community Outreach that provides free educational classes to the community. The ideal outcome is for the subrecipient to incorporate digital literacy classes to offer to low-mod income families with children. The City of Mesquite would then consult with Mesquite Independent School District to identify families in need of this service.</p>
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Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

Agencies not consulted during the drafting of the Action Plan were agencies Managing Flood Prone Areas, Management of Public Land or Water Resources nor external Emergency Management agencies. The City of Mesquite does not currently have any development projects in place utilizing CDBG funds.

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Housing Forward	The Strategic Plan works in conjunction with the COC plan.

Table 2 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative

This section is optional and was left blank intentionally.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

City of Mesquite made efforts to broaden citizen participation by holding two public hearings to allow citizens the opportunity to public comment on the Program Year 2024 CDBG Budget and Program Year 2024 Annual Action Plan. The goal was to receive input on how citizens would like the funds to be spent which would prioritize certain goals over others. A notice for 30-day public comment period was also

posted in the Daily Commercial Record and Mesquite News newspapers to solicit comments regarding the CDBG Budget and Annual Action Plan via postage mail or email for individuals who could not make it to the public meeting.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	News-paper Advertisement	Non-targeted/broad community	A notice was published on June 27, 2024 and June 30, 2024, in the newspaper soliciting public comments from the public regarding the CDBG Budget and 2024 Annual Action Plan.			
2	News-paper Advertisement	Non-targeted/broad community	A notice was published in the newspaper on July 11, 2024 and July 14, 2024 soliciting public comments from the public in regards to the CDBG Budget and 2024 Annual Action Plan.			
3	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community				

Table 3 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City of Mesquite receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) entitlement funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The City will use a combination of federal and General Fund monies as well as private funds for project leveraging to address the priority housing and community development needs and specific objectives identified for the 2024 Annual Action Plan. The following resources can be utilized either directly through the city or through other private entities. Federal resources include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and HUD Housing Choice Voucher program.

Priority Table

Source of Funds	Source	Use of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1		Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan	Narrative Description
CDBG	Public-Federal	Admin and Planning, Economic Development, Housing, Public Improvements, Public Services	Annual Allocation	\$1,055,228	\$0	The City of Mesquite does not expect to generate program income from CDBG related programs and activities.
			Program Income	\$0		
			Prior Year Resources	TBD		
			Total	\$1,055,228		

Table 4 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

The City does not receive HOME or ESG funds with matching requirements. The city submits applications for grant funding for other revitalization efforts. For example, the City received the Lowe's/Keep America Beautiful Community Improvement Grant to create a pocket park in a CDBG eligible neighborhood. Federal advantage also includes local resources of donations and volunteers who assist with a local house or yard project on Addressing Mesquite Day.

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

Currently, vacant lots within the City are being utilized for revitalization efforts.

Discussion

This section is optional and was left blank intentionally

Annual Goals and Objectives

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

Sort	Goal Name
1	Affordable Housing Opportunities
2	Homeless Activities
3	Essential Service Programs
4	Non-Housing Community Development

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

The City of Mesquite does not receive HOME funds. However, the City has a goal to rehabilitate 21 single-family homes owned by low- or extremely low-income residents during PY2024. The City will continue its Code Enforcement and Neighborhood Vitality programs to increase the sustainability of suitable living environments through neighborhood preservation and property standards.

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The following table outlines the projects to be carried out by the City of Mesquite during PY2024 covered by this Action Plan.

Sort	Project Name
1	Administration
2	Public Services
3	Neighborhood Projects
4	Housing

Table 5 – Project Information

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

Quantitative research (housing market and demographic analysis) and qualitative research (surveys, public meetings, focus groups, and resident input) impacted the priority needs and strategies for the City of Mesquite's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. Needs were developed and then ranked using high, medium, and low priority ranking.

High priority needs:

- Rehabilitation of single-family homes
- Reduce the number of single-family homes with lead-based paint hazards
- Support organizations that provide supportive services for the city's special needs and low- and moderate-income populations.
- A strong code enforcement program in CDBG eligible neighborhoods
- Proper maintenance of both rental and homeowner structures in CDBG eligible areas

Medium priority needs:

- Demolish and clear homes and/or buildings (if necessary) that are hazardous, uninhabitable, and economically beyond repair. Demolishing and clearing out substandard homes will increase and improve neighborhood stability, and encourage self-help fix up and clean up campaigns in low-income neighborhoods. This is a remedial action in the City's Analysis of Impediments that the city has been working toward in connection with the Department of Neighborhood Vitality.

Low priority needs:

- Improve infrastructure (e.g., sidewalks, streets, storm drainage systems, etc.) in CDBG eligible neighborhoods. Improving infrastructure will increase and improve neighborhood stability as mentioned as a remedial action in the Analysis of Impediments.

AP -35 Project Summary

1	Project Name	Administration & Planning
	Target Area	CITYWIDE
	Goals Supported	Administration
	Needs Addressed	Grant Administration
	Funding	CDBG: \$125,000
	Description	City of Mesquite PY24 CDBG's Administration related activities.
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The Administration activity covers the cost of administering, operating, and monitoring the CDBG program. Activity has no direct beneficiaries.
	Location Description	The administration of the CDBG grant will take place at 1616 N. Galloway Ave., Mesquite, TX 75149.
	Planned Activities	Administration
2	Project Name	Public Services
	Target Area	CITYWIDE
	Goals Supported	Public Service Programs
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Activities Public Service Programs
	Funding	CDBG: \$158,284
	Description	Funding to provide public services to low and/or moderate-income persons in the City of Mesquite. This project provides funding for , , Hope's Door New Beginnings Center, Sharing Life Community Outreach, The Family Place, The Senior Source, and Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) and Summer Youth Internship Program
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Estimated 6,180 low-income families will benefit from the proposed activities from Objective SL-1.1 (Public Service Agencies)
	Location Description	Description Activities will take place within the City of Mesquite.
	Planned Activities	Public Service projects will provide services to an estimated 6,180 individuals through assistance with utilities and rent; meals-on wheels services; and crisis relief.
3	Project Name	Neighborhood Projects
	Target Area	CDBG Eligible Neighborhoods - Code Enforcement
	Goals Supported	Code Enforcement Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Non-Housing Community Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$200,000.00

	Description	City of Mesquite PY24 CDBG Neighborhood Projects Activities will focus on addressing code enforcement issues and maintenance of rental and homeowners structures in CDBG areas.
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Estimated people benefit from code enforcement and maintenance of rental and homeowner structures: 21,535
	Location Description	City of Mesquite 59 CDBG Areas
	Planned Activities	Environmental Code- \$200,000
	Planned Activities	Environmental Code- \$200,000
4	Project Name	Housing
	Target Area	CITYWIDE
	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Provide Affordable Housing Opportunities
	Funding	CDBG: \$571,944 and \$36,000 for DPA
	Description	Funding to support rehabilitation of existing homes and expansion of homeownership for low to moderate-income individuals.
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	21 low/moderate income persons for Housing Rehab; 2 low/moderate income persons for Down Payment Assistance Program
	Location Description	Description Activities will take place within the City of Mesquite
	Planned Activities	This project includes activity Housing Rehabilitation that provides single-family homeowner rehabilitation and emergency repair grants to low-income households to improve, repair or replace items necessary to meet minimum building codes or to repair items that pose an imminent threat to health and/or safety. This project also includes a Down Payment Assistance program to help low-moderate income residents, who are first-time homebuyers, with financial assistance to gain homeownership.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)**Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed**

The City of Mesquite’s public service grants are provided for assistance to special needs populations citywide, including persons who are at-risk of homelessness, victims of domestic violence (including children), and low-income adults and families. Similarly, housing rehabilitation services will be provided to qualified extremely low- to low-income homeowners throughout the City of Mesquite. Code Enforcement is the only LMA area benefit activity. Code Enforcement will take place in CDBG-eligible areas to prevent deterioration.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Census Tract 017606	0.6

Table 6 - Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
CITYWIDE	61%
CDBG Eligible Neighborhoods – Code Enforcement	19.5%

Table 7 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Approximately 19.5% percent (\$200,000) of PY2024 entitlement funds will go towards specifically affecting the LMA CDBG eligible areas through neighborhood revitalization activities. Code Enforcement activities will take place in CDBG-eligible areas where there is a concentration of substandard housing stock, neglected improvements and/or property nuisances. The objective of Code Enforcement is to achieve and preserve neighborhood integrity by providing inspections and issuing code enforcement violations. Code Enforcement activities are a proactive approach to arrest neighborhood decline, which requires owners to reinvest in the maintenance of their property.

Discussion

This section is optional and was left blank intentionally.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The City of Mesquite's housing priorities include rehabilitation and improvement of single-family homes of extremely low- to low-income and special need owners and the reduction of single-family homes with lead-based paint hazards. Priorities also include homeless support and non-housing community development through preserving property standards and enforcing codes and ordinances. Beginning PY2024, CDBG Housing Rehabilitation will add a priority to the Waitlist that includes preferences for special needs populations such as homes older than 25 years, applicants 62 years of age or older, and persons on fixed incomes. These individuals have more limited resources and are more vulnerable to falling into poverty or homelessness.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	
Special-Needs	21
Total	21

Table 8 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	75
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	21
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	96

Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

This section is optional and was left blank intentionally.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Mesquite Housing Division, or housing authority, does not own or manage any public housing units. Not applicable for the City of Mesquite.

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

The Mesquite Housing Division, or housing authority, does not own or manage any public housing units. Not applicable for the City of Mesquite.

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

The Mesquite Housing Division, or housing authority, does not own or manage any public housing units. Not applicable for the City of Mesquite. However, the Mesquite Housing Division encourages self-sufficiency of its Housing Choice Voucher participant families and assists in the expansion of family opportunities that address education, socio-economic, recreational, and other service needs through the Family Self Sufficiency Program. The Mesquite Housing Division created the Home Ownership Program in 2013.

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

The Mesquite Housing Division, or housing authority, is not designated as being troubled.

Discussion

This section is optional and was left blank intentionally.

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

Introduction

The City of Mesquite's Housing and Community Services Department will continue to make the issue of homelessness a priority through programs that ensure extremely low- to low-income households are able to maintain and afford homes and other services through the housing rehabilitation program, funding public service agencies, and the Housing Choice Voucher Program. The City of Mesquite is involved with and supports Housing Forward Continuum of Care (CoC), which builds relationships with many shelters, transitional housing agencies, and supportive care providers within the continuum if services are needed. The City of Mesquite will participate in the CoC's annual point-in-time count in an attempt to reach out to homeless persons within the city. , The City will require that all Agencies seeking CDBG funding for services related to homeless and at-risk of homelessness must be Contributing Organizations in the Dallas County HMIS system to ensure client access to increased or continued services. The City's Housing Division holds annual CoC membership, allowing staff to vote on countywide homeless and housing policies, and network with local service providers. Community Services staff will continue to provide CoC members with Equal Access Final Rule compliance trainings, developed in partnership with the Family Violence Law Center in Oakland, CA and sit on the Homeless Collaborative Governing Board. Final Rule Trainings assist Agencies with implementing policies that increase accessibility for homeless LGBTQ individuals and Youth, and the Governing Board will drive multi-sector solutions to end homelessness in our community. In the past program years, the Mesquite Housing Division was awarded more than 50 new vouchers including: 5 additional vouchers for the HUD-VASH program, totaling 15 overall, in partnership with the Veteran Affairs North Texas Health Care System to provide housing and support services to eligible Veterans and their families; 55 vouchers for the Mainstream Housing program which benefits households with one disabled member; and 28 vouchers for the Family Unification Program – Foster Youth to Independence, to provide homeless and at-risk of homeless Youth involved with the State foster care system with 36 months of housing assistance and support services. The City has collaborated with Transition Resource Action Center (TRAC) to offer support services to Youth tenants. The City also has partnerships with Hope's Door New Beginning Center and The Family Place; both agencies provide emergency shelter and essential services to homeless domestic violence survivors.

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

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

The City of Mesquite is involved with and supports Housing Forward Continuum of Care (CoC) who builds relationships with shelters, transitional housing agencies, and supportive care providers within the continuum if services are needed. The City of Mesquite has a one-year goal to sit on the annual Point-in-Time Count Committee, Street Outreach Committee, Coordinated Access System (CAS) Committee, Youth Committee and Youth PIT Count subcommittee, provide Equal Access/Gender Identity Final Rule trainings, and participate in the CoC's HMIS system. The City's HOT Team will continue its partnership with

CitySquare who responds to requests for street outreach submitted by Mesquite Code Enforcement Officer and Police Officers. Recently, CDBG established several new partnerships including Mesquite Independent School District which provides a safe and nurturing environment for at risk students through a holistic approach through an educational, emotional, and relationship-based framework. The Family Place, a non-profit that provides services to domestic violence survivors and their families. The City of Mesquite also has a partnership with the Southeast Alliance Community Care Team. The program's efforts focus on checking in on residents with a history of mental health issues to ensure they receive the treatment and services needed. The Homeless Outreach Coordinator provides homeless outreach to the participating cities and serves as a conduit for homeless clients by providing referrals to the appropriate social services. The Homeless Outreach Coordinator develops and maintains working relationships with established area homeless shelter organizations. These relationships coordinate client-level social service referrals and to streamline the needs of homeless clients.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City of Mesquite is involved with and supports the Housing Forward Continuum of Care (CoC) who builds relationships with shelters, transitional housing agencies, and supportive care providers within the continuum if services are needed. The Housing and Community Services Department also has an established relationship with Sharing Life Community Outreach, a non-profit that provides motel room assistance, amongst other resources, to homeless persons.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

The City of Mesquite is involved with and supports the Housing Forward Continuum of Care (CoC) which builds relationships with shelters, transitional housing agencies, and supportive care providers within the continuum if services are needed. In past program years the Mesquite Housing Division was awarded more than 50 new vouchers including: 5 vouchers for the HUD-VASH program in partnership with the Veteran Affairs North Texas Health Care System to provide housing and support services to eligible Veterans and their families; 25 vouchers for the Mainstream Housing program which benefits households with one disabled member; and 25 vouchers for the Family Unification Program – Foster Youth to Independence, to provide homeless and at-risk of homeless Youth involved with the State foster care system with 36 months of housing assistance and support services. The City has collaborated with Transition Resource Action Center (TRAC) to offer support services to Youth tenants. The City also has partnerships with Hope's Door New Beginning Center and The Family Place; both agencies provide

emergency shelter and essential services to homeless domestic violence survivors.

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

The City's activities for non-homeless special needs populations for program year 2024 are:

- **Objective DH-2. 1 (affordability of decent housing):** Continue to support programs to rehabilitate and improve existing single-family homes occupied by low- and moderate-income and special needs owners.
- **Objective DH-1.1 (availability/accessibility of a suitable living environment):** Reduce the number of single-family homes with lead-based paint hazards through the City's rehabilitation program.
- **Objective SL-1.1 (availability/accessibility of a suitable living environment):** Provide funding to organizations that provide supportive services for the City's special needs and low and moderate-income populations.
 - Hope's Door New Beginnings Center
 - Sharing Life Community Outreach: Emergency assistance, food pantry, school supplies, financial coaching and literacy, and computer job training
 - The Senior Source: Senior/Elderly Ombudsman Services
 - The Family Place: Domestic violence referrals services, counseling, and emergency shelter
 - Visiting Nurse Association (VNA): Senior/Elderly Services, Meals on Wheel's program
 - Summer Youth Internship Program: Stipend for low-income Youth receiving on-the-job training, job coaching, and resume assistance.
- **Objective SL-3.1 (sustainability of a suitable living environment):** Achieve and preserve neighborhood integrity through a positive Code Enforcement program by providing inspections and issuing code enforcement violations in CDBG eligible neighborhoods.

Discussion

Several organizations and services also provide homeless preventative services in Mesquite. These include:

- **City of Mesquite's Housing and Community Services Department**—The Mesquite Public Housing Authority provides numerous vouchers targeted to preventing or ending homelessness, include Housing Choice Vouchers, VASH Vouchers, Mainstream Vouchers, and Foster Youth to

Independence Vouchers.

- **Parks and Recreation Department**—Offer programs for low- and moderate- income persons. The programs are funded through the City or by private, state, and federal funding. A program directed at youth includes a discounted after-school care program for children whose parents cannot afford the cost of day care.
- **Mesquite Independent School District and the City of Mesquite**—Sponsor a Free Summer Breakfast and Lunch Program that is open and to all children or youth ages one to 18 years of age. It is provided through the Texas Department of Agriculture. Meals are served daily at selected school cafeterias. Mesquite ISD also opened the Safe Landing program, an after-school drop-in for McKinney-Vento Youth, and the Opening Doors program which provides emergency shelter to homeless Youth and young adults.
- **COMPASS**—Weekday commuter shuttle for residents who live in Mesquite but work elsewhere in the region. Residents able to utilize the service, save money on gas and parking costs.
- **Southeast Alliance Community Care Team** – The program includes services to check in on residents with a history of mental health issues to ensure they receive the treatment and services needed.

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

Introduction

The City of Mesquite contracted J-Quad Planning Group to develop the City of Mesquite's Analysis to Impediments to Fair Housing (AIF) for program years 2020-2024, which is available on the City's website. This report includes a review of City laws and policies, as well as public and private sector conditions that affect fair housing choice. The City is committed to being a positive partner and eliminating barriers to affordable housing choice.

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

The City has developed objectives and activities for the 2024 Annual Action Plan to mitigate barriers to affordable housing:

- Objective DH-2. 1 (affordability of decent housing): Continue to support programs to rehabilitate and improve existing single-family homes occupied by low and moderate income and special needs owners. **2024 outcome/goal:** 21 housing units; \$571,944
- Objective DH-1.1 (availability/accessibility of decent housing): Reduce the number of single-family homes with lead-based paint hazards through the City's rehabilitation program. **2024 outcome/goal:** 15housing units

- Objective SL-3.1 (sustainability of a suitable living environment): Achieve and preserve neighborhood integrity through a positive Code Enforcement program by providing inspections and issuing code enforcement violations in CDBG eligible neighborhoods. **2024 outcome/goal:** 21,535 people benefited in area; \$200,000

Discussion

This section was left intentionally blank.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction

The City of Mesquite, in coordination with partnering agencies, provides various forms of outreach and service to the citizens in order to meet underserved needs, maintain affordable housing, reduce lead-based paint hazards, and reduce the number of poverty-level families.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City of Mesquite is strongly committed to meeting underserved needs in the community. The City has a strong and stable relationship with service providers in the area. The primary gap in the delivery of services is the lack of adequate financial resources to best serve the City's populations in need. The City will work cooperatively and support the service providers in order to maximize financial resources to reduce any gaps in the institutional structure.

The CDBG Division also draws on public and private agencies as resources or partners for housing and economic development programs and to better serve the low-income community. These partnering agencies include but are not limited to City libraries, MISD schools, local for-profit businesses, the Veteran Affairs North Texas Healthcare System, the CoC, and neighboring housing authorities.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City plans to foster and maintain affordable housing through CDBG-funded programs that carry out rehabilitation-related activities, physical improvement activities, and financial assistance programs. These include:

- The CDBG Housing Rehabilitation program will conduct owner-occupied single family housing rehabilitation activities, including limited repair, exterior renewal, and emergency repairs.
- CDBG Code Enforcement personnel will inspect housing that appears to have code violations, and whenever appropriate, the homeowners will be referred to the Housing Rehabilitation Program or Neighborhood Vitality's Helping Others in Mesquite Everyday (H.O.M.E.) program.
- The CDBG Down Payment Assistance program which provides financial assistance to first-time homebuyers in Mesquite. A 5-year affordability period is tied to the assistance.
- The Housing and Community Services Department is the primary organization through which the City carries out fair housing related activities, by providing consultation and assistance to people

who have fair housing questions and/or desire to file a complaint.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

HUD has regulations to protect children from the hazards of lead-based paint in federally funded projects. HUD continues to provide training for compliance with these regulations. Staff from the City's Housing Division has attended trainings and is currently in compliance with these regulations for the Housing Choice Voucher program and the CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program. Lead-based paint qualifying housing rehabilitation projects are tested and City staff oversee mitigation efforts. In addition, the City continues to provide the required notices and information about the hazards and risks of lead-based paint to all program participants.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City of Mesquite is committed to provide the lowest income residents with quality housing and neighborhoods in addition to helping these residents move out of poverty and become self-sufficient. The City's housing and community development programs are targeted to improving the housing and neighborhood conditions of low- and moderate-income residents.

As it has done in the past, the City will continue working to attract high paying jobs and industry to the community through the Economic Development Department. The City of Mesquite will also continue to work with and through the Mesquite Chamber of Commerce and other similar bodies in the region to increase the quality and size of the labor force in Mesquite. The City continues to support the Mesquite Independent School District who provides each child with a sound educational foundation to better prepare them to assume effective positions in the workplace in the future, thus helping reduce the level of poverty in Mesquite. Through the Family Self Sufficiency Program, the Mesquite Housing Division encourages self-sufficiency of their Housing Choice Voucher participant families and assists in the expansion of family opportunities that address educational, socio-economic, recreational, and other human service needs.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure.

The City of Mesquite will implement the 2024 Annual Action Plan through the CDBG Division of the Community Services Department, which serves as the lead agency. The Housing and Community Services Department is the local government entity specifically responsible for carrying out housing and community development activities. The Community Services Department will also collaborate with other departments of the city, nonprofits, for-profits, and quasi-governmental entities including the City Council, the Mesquite Housing Division, supportive service organizations, faith-based organizations, etc., to carry out the strategies and activities of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and the 2024 Annual Action

Plan.

As part of the annual CDBG application process, the City holds public hearings where the residents and service providers of Mesquite provide input concerning the priority needs of the community. The CDBG Division reviews the funding applications with the priority needs of the Consolidated Plan and the needs of the community in mind, and funding recommendations are then made to the City Council during public hearings for approval.

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

The City Council assists in the Annual Action Plan process by providing input on the needs of the community through reviewing final program year funding allocations and approving the final Annual Action Plan. As the lead agency, the Housing and Community Services Department provides consultation and assistance to people who have fair housing questions and/or desire to file a complaint.

The Housing and Community Service Department works with non-profits, for-profits, the local Continuum of Care, faith-based organizations, and public agencies to achieve the Consolidated Plan's established strategies, objectives, and outcomes. The two key roles these outside agencies serve are they receive funds through a competitive allocation process to serve low-income and special needs populations throughout the community and they provide resources for needs assessments, networking, and communication of available services to low-income or homeless clients.

Discussion

This section is optional and was left blank intentionally.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction

The City of Mesquite estimates that 88 percent (\$930,228) of the PY2024 CDBG entitlement funds will be used for activities that benefit persons of extremely low- to low-income. The remaining 12 percent will be used for administration activities for the grant. The City will allocate approximately 19.5% percent (\$200,000) of the PY2024 entitlement funds to specifically impact the CDBG eligible areas identified to receive neighborhood revitalization activities as discussed in the geographic section.

No program income is expected in PY2024. While no grant funds have been returned to the line of credit, the City does anticipate a portion of funds allocated to activities in the 2023 program year will not be expended and will rollover to the 2024 program year. The funds will be reallocated in PY2024 and amendments to the Annual Action Plan will be made prior to CDBG fund expenditure for these activities.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I) (1)

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

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

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0

2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	88%

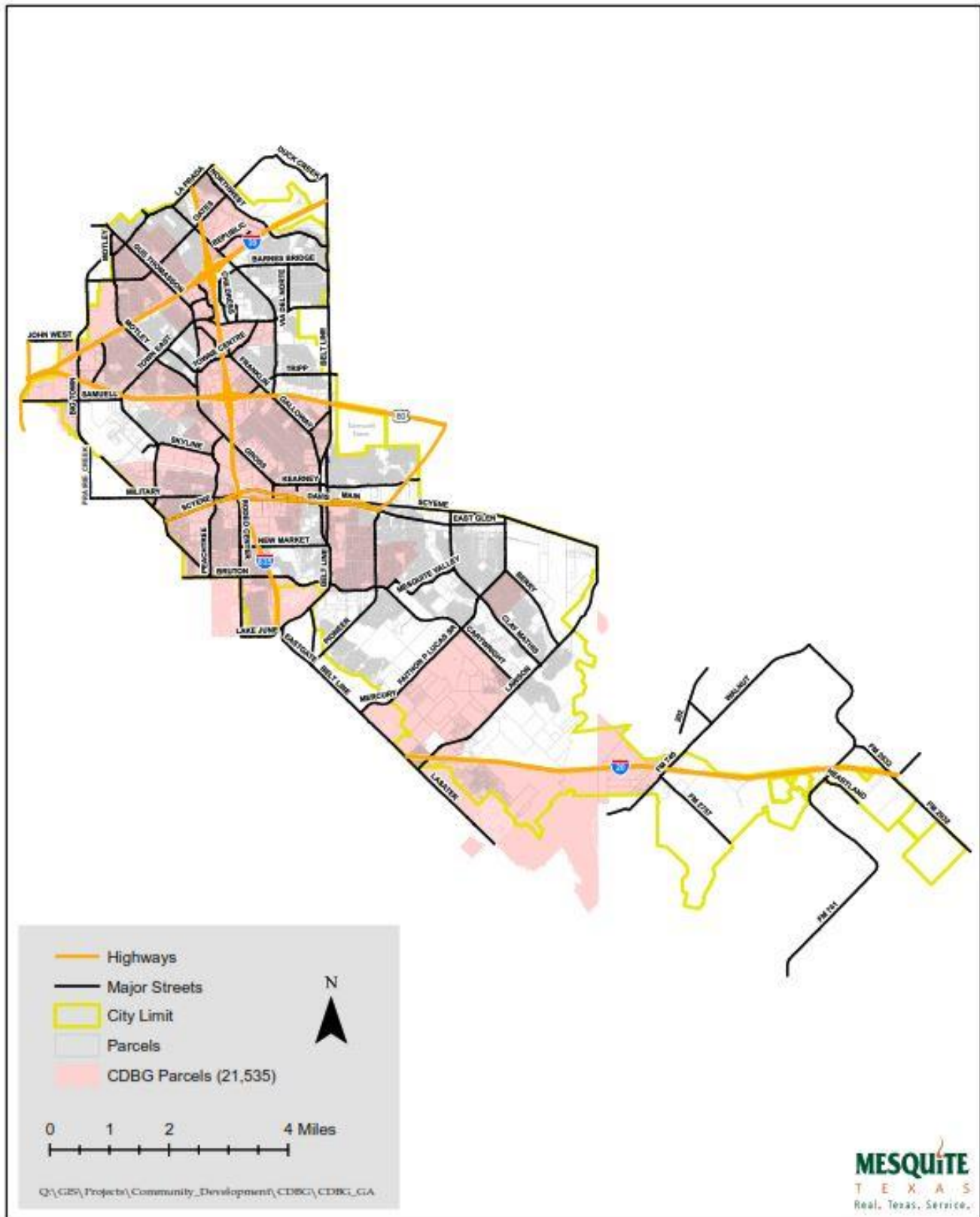
Discussion

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Pending Attachments:

SF-424 & Certifications – execute upon arrival from HUD

CDBG 2020 Areas – Code Enforcement



2024-2025
Annual Action Plan