

# Executive Summary

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

### 1. Introduction

The U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) has determined that the City of Asbury Park is eligible to be an entitlement jurisdiction in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. As such the City receives an annual “entitlement” as determined by HUD. In order to meet HUD requirements Asbury Park has prepared its FY 2021 Annual Action Plan for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. This is the second Annual Action Plan component of the HUD approved 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. This Five Year Consolidated Plan defines goals, objectives and performance measures for the City’s housing, infrastructure, and public service programs. The Annual Action plan serves to streamline the HUD grant application process and to ensure that all annual funding decisions are in line with the goals and objectives outlined within the Consolidated Plan. In FY2021 the City of Asbury Park has been allocated \$417,051 in Community Development Block Grant Funds.

The Community Development Block Grant Program seeks to effectively develop and maintain viable urban communities. Despite continued revitalization, many Asbury Park households experience low income, housing and employment characteristics indicating the need for continued support and more focused services.

### 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.

Based on data from both quantitative and qualitative analysis the Asbury Park has identified the following priority needs to address:

1. Improve and expand housing opportunities for low/moderate income households.
2. Improve, maintain and expand municipal infrastructure
3. Support addition and expansion of public services
4. Support improvements to parks, libraries and non profit facilities.
5. Support actions to further economic development and creation of new employment opportunities

### 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 is responsible for ensuring compliance with all rules and regulations associated with the CDBG entitlement grant program. The City's Annual Action Plans and Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPER) have provided details about the goals projects and programs completed by the City. During the 2015-2019 consolidated Plan:

- 149 residents were provided homeless prevention/utility payment services.
- Upgrades to local roads and sidewalks
- Improvements and upgrades to four local parks located throughout the city
- Installation of security cameras at city intersections
- Purchase of necessary fire equipment
- Annual Community Events
- Improvements to the Boys and Girls Club, Senior Center, Community Affairs and Resource Center

#### **4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process**

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Asbury Park Community Development Block Grant applications are presented at a public hearing.

The FY2021 Annual Plan was presented at a public hearing and available for the public to review during a 30 day comment period.

The plan was approved before submission by the City Council

#### **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**

#### **7. Summary**

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

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

The following are the agencies/entities 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	ASBURY PARK	Community Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

### Narrative

The City of Asbury Park is the Lead and Responsible agency for for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) entitlement programs in Asbury Park. The City is also a participant in the Monmouth County HOME consortium.

### Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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City of Asbury Park  
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## **AP-10 Consultation - 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)**

### **1. Introduction**

The Development of the FY2021 Annual Action Plan was completed through a shared services agreement between the Asbury Park Office of Community Development and the Monmouth County Office of Community Development. The City's Community Development office is the primary public agency responsible for administering programs and projects specified within the plan. The Action Plan is a one-year plan which describes the eligible programs, projects and activities to be undertaken with funds expected during FY 2021-22 and their relationship to the priority housing, homeless and community development needs outlined in the 2020-24 Consolidated Plan.

**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)).**

Local non profit agencies and City staff provided input towards the development of the Annual Action Plan.

**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.**

Monmouth County Office of Community Development and several Non profits located in Asbury Park are active participants in the Monmouth County Homeless Services Executive committee; a consortium of providers that provide homeless assistance throughout Monmouth County.

**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 is not an ESG entitlement jurisdiction and therefore does not receive directly receive ESG funds. Local non profits submit applications for Monmouth County annual funding allocations.

### **2. Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and consultations**

**Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated**

1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	ASBURY PARK
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Other government - Local
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Consolidated plan and Annual Action Plan were presented to the Mayor and Council for their review and approval.
2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	INTERFAITH NEIGHBORS
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Non profit Neighborhood Organization

<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Interfaith Neighbors has worked closely with the City on many housing and developmental projects, and has been a subrecipient of the Community Development Block Grant program. Those projects included: job training and capital improvements. The City will continue to work closely with Interfaith Neighbors in order to assist residents with housing needs to ensure a healthy and safe environment.
3 <b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Community Affairs and Resource Center
<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Non Profit Neighborhood Organization

<p><b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b></p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment  Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless  Homeless Needs - Families with children  Homelessness Needs - Veterans  Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth  Homelessness Strategy  Non-Homeless Special Needs  Market Analysis  Economic Development  Lead-based Paint Strategy</p>
<p><b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b></p>	<p>Community Affairs Resource Center (CARC) is also another organization that works closely with the City. CARC has partnered with the City to provide Spanish Translation and provide a shared service with the City to ensure that they are Lead Based Paint compliant. CARC is also a subrecipient of the Community Development Block Grant program. Those projects have included: Capital Improvements. The City will continue to partner with CARC in support of their many programs and to ensure a healthy and safe environment in the community.</p>
<p>4 <b>Agency/Group/Organization</b></p>	<p>MONMOUTH COUNTY</p>
<p><b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b></p>	<p>Other government - County</p>

<p><b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b></p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment  Public Housing Needs  Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless  Homeless Needs - Families with children  Homelessness Needs - Veterans  Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth  Homelessness Strategy  Non-Homeless Special Needs  Market Analysis  Economic Development  Lead-based Paint Strategy</p>
<p><b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b></p>	<p>Monmouth County Department of Community Development has an agreement to provide a shared service with the City in order to help assist with the planning and implementation of the CDBG projects. Continuing the shared service agreement, will ensure the City's success in carrying out the Community Development Block Grant program.</p>

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

**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	Monmouth County Homeless Systems Collaborative	Identifies efficient use of resources to end homelessness in Monmouth County.

**Table 3 - Other local / regional / federal planning efforts**

**Narrative**

**AP-12 Participation - 91.401, 91.105, 91.200(c)**

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

The City of Asbury Park is committed to increasing awareness and involvement in the preparation and implementation of the CDBG Program. Through the citizen participation process, the grantee will become more aware and sensitive to low-and moderate-income citizen's needs. It will also afford the City an opportunity to better inform the public of the purpose of the CDBG grant and the funding allocation process and ensure that selected projects are meeting the needs of the community.

City staff and the CDBG Committee assisted in the selection of th 2021 CDBG projects. Citizens were invited to the public meeting to keep the process open. A notice was placed in the newspaper and online to inform citizens of the opportunity to provide input.

**Citizen Participation Outreach**

<b>Sort Order</b>	<b>Mode of Outreach</b>	<b>Target of Outreach</b>	<b>Summary of response/attendance</b>	<b>Summary of comments received</b>	<b>Summary of comments not accepted and reasons</b>	<b>URL (if applicable)</b>
	Newspaper/City's Website	Low-mod-income residents	0	0		

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**

## Expected Resources

### AP-15 Expected Resources - 91.420(b), 91.220(c)(1,2)

#### Introduction

The Office of Community Planning and Development at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allocates CDBG, funds to the City of Asbury Park.

The Anticipated Resources Matrix below outlines each of these funds, the expected amount of resources and program income available in in Fiscal Year 2021 (Year 2), and a pre-populated list of available uses of funds from the HUD’s planning system (Integrated Disbursement and Information System). The City will administer approximately \$410,994 during the FY2021 program year. Proposed activities are listed in section AP-35 - Projects segment. The City has a contingency plan in place in case of any changes in grant allocation.

#### Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	417,051	0	0	417,051	1,250,491	

**Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table**

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

The City will continue to utilize federal, state and private resources currently available to develop and expand affordable rental opportunities, homeownership options for low- and moderate-income households, and to promote other critical community initiatives. CDBG allocations will be leveraged by the City of Asbury Park general funds and the resources of nonprofit organizations, private developers, and private donors.

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

Asbury Park recreation department utilizes the public parks and beach areas for summertime recreation programs for the youth of the city. Additionally the City allows local groups use of Springwood Avenue Park for recreational and cultural activities. The Senior Center serves as a meeting, recreation and food distribution location for Asbury Park Seniors. Additional city departments that work towards addressing the priority needs identified within the Consolidated Plan are the public library, 7 public schools, 9 social and community agencies, Visiting Nurses Association, 44 churches and the NJ Transit rail station.

**Discussion**

The City of Asbury Park, working with Monmouth County will continue to use Federal entitlement funds for the benefit of all citizens. City staff will continue to evaluate projects and expenditures to determine that grant allocations are spent in the most productive matter and correspondingly the largest number of residents (especially low/moderate households) can be assisted.

## Annual Goals and Objectives

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

#### Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Local Infrastructure Improvements	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	CITY WIDE Southwest Quadrant	Public Facility Improvements	CDBG: \$202,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2000 Persons Assisted Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5000 Households Assisted
2	Public facility improvements	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	CITY WIDE Southwest Quadrant	Fire & Police Equipment	CDBG: \$96,512	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2000 Persons Assisted Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 6000 Households Assisted
3	Expand Affordable Housing Availability	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs	CITY WIDE Southwest Quadrant	Affordable housing	CDBG: \$20,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 3 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 25 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Public Service Assistance	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development	CITY WIDE Southwest Quadrant	Sustainability	CDBG: \$15,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1000 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1500 Households Assisted

Table 6 – Goals Summary

### Goal Descriptions

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	Local Infrastructure Improvements
	<b>Goal Description</b>	With FY2021 funding the city has obligated CDBG funds towards installation of a cross generational play area on Atkins Avenue in Asbury Park, and Basement renovations at the Community Affairs Resource Center.
2	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public facility improvements
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Asbury Park plans to allocate FY2021 CDBG funds towards the purchase of Police Security Cameras and Fire Equipment.
3	<b>Goal Name</b>	Expand Affordable Housing Availability
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Asbury Park will allocate FY2021 funds towards homebuyers assistance and homeless prevention programs.
4	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Service Assistance
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Asbury Park holds annual community events every year to educate local residents on available services, celebrate cultural and holiday events, and kick off specialty seasons.



## AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

### Introduction

Asbury Park's 2021 Annual Action Plan contains funding for projects including the following:

- Parks/Public Facilities Improvements
- Police Security Cameras and Fire Department Equipment
- Administration
- Community Events
- Homeless Prevention
- Homebuyers Assistance

#	Project Name
1	FY2021 Homebuyers Assistance
2	FY2021 Community Events
3	FY2021 Homeless Prevention/Tenant Relocation
4	FY 2021 Water Spray Park
5	FY2021 Community Affairs Resource Center
6	FY2021 CDBG Administration
7	FY2021 Purchase of Fire Equipment and Security Cameras

**Table 7 – Project Information**

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

Characteristics that continue to constitute the basis for prioritizing investment in the neighborhoods in the Southwest Quadrant are:

1. Highest Concentration of Labor Force Unemployed
2. Most Densely Populated
3. Largest Household Size
4. Greatest Incidences of Overcrowding
5. Lowest Median Income
6. Highest Concentration of Poverty Populations
7. Aged & Dilapidated Housing Stock
8. Lack of Active Playing Field Areas and Recreational Facilities

The City has made significant progress toward the revitalization of Asbury Park and especially the Southwest Quadrant. Currently, new housing is being developed by Interfaith Neighbors on Springwood Avenue, additional Springwood Park improvements are being made, upgrades to the Water Spray Park and renovation of the dilapidated Turf Club.

## AP-38 Project Summary

<b>Project Summary Information</b>  <b>1</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	FY2021 Homebuyers Assistance
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY WIDE Southwest Quadrant
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Expand Affordable Housing Availability
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$10,000
	<b>Description</b>	Assistance to help income qualified residents purchase a home in Asbury Park.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2023
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	This funding will help approximately 3-4 income qualified households purchase a residence in Asbury Park.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Throughout Asbury Park
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Downpayment assistance for qualified homebuyers
<b>2</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	FY2021 Community Events
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY WIDE Southwest Quadrant
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Service Assistance
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Sustainability
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$15,000

	<b>Description</b>	The city hosts annual events for local residents. Proposed FY2021 events include National Night Out, Easter, Black History Month Celebration, Movies in the Park, Springwood Avenue Tree Lighting, Resource Fair, food drive and the Back to School Block Party.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2023
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Approximately 600 very/low-low/moderate income residents attend these annual community events. In total the events attract from 2000-5000 residents.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Asbury Park Municipal Plaza, Springwood Park, Hammary Basketball Courts and the Senior Center
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Planned activities include a Black History Month Celebration, National Night Out, Back to School Block Party, Movies in the Park, Springwood Avenue Tree Lighting, Resource Fair, Easter and a food drive. During several of these events, there are vendors providing information on various local topics and services benefitting residents: job training and health screening opportunities, homebuyer's assistance, rental assistance information, home repairs, educational information provided by local community agencies, and assistance with utility services from local agencies (NJ Natural Gas Company, Jersey Central Power and Light Company, NJ Water Company).
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	FY2021 Homeless Prevention/Tenant Relocation
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY WIDE Southwest Quadrant
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Service Assistance
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homeless Prevention. Sustainability
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$10,000

	<b>Description</b>	One time utility payments and or Relocation for income qualified Asbury Park Residents.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2023
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	This program may help approximatley 25 households per year.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Throughout Asbury Park
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	This program provides one day grants to income eligible households to cover past due utility payments e.g. gas, water, electicity, etc. and relocation for tenants affected due to code violation(s).
<b>4</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	FY 2021 Water Spray Park
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY WIDE
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public facility improvements
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Facility Improvements
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$143,057
	<b>Description</b>	Installation of a new water spray park on Atkins Avenue.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2023
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The Asbury Park Water Spray Park will provide a family friendly play area that will provide safe entertainment for residents. During the course of the season it is expected to provide benefit to approximatley 2,000 households in the southwest quadrant.
	<b>Location Description</b>	311 Atkins Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The project plans to demo existing features and surfacing, design and install new products and surfacing for the water spray park facility.

<b>5</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	FY2021 Community Affairs Resource Center
	<b>Target Area</b>	Southwest Quadrant
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public facility improvements
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Facility Improvements Homeless Prevention. Sustainability
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$65,000
	<b>Description</b>	Basement rehabilitation of the Community Affairs Resource Center to allow more space for offices and files.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2023
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	CARC is a social service organization located on the Westside of Asbury Park. This organization provides vital community services and programs to all residents of Monmouth County. Services are provided to predominately very low to low income individuals and facilities.
	<b>Location Description</b>	913 Sewall AVenue, Asbury Park, NJ
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	CARC is proposing to finish the basement to include a record/file room, a conference room and a large office to enable the non profit to keep up with the growing numbers of clients and record retention requirements.
<b>6</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	FY2021 CDBG Administration
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY WIDE
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Local Infrastructure Improvements Public facility improvements Public Service Assistance Expand Affordable Housing Availability

	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Facility Improvements Public Infrastructure Improvements Fire & Police Equipment Affordable housing Homeless Prevention. Sustainability
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$77,482
	<b>Description</b>	Oversight and coordination of activities comprising the Community Development Block Grant Program in both the Asbury Park and Monmouth County offices.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2023
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	1 municipal plaza Asbury Park, NJ
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Administrative activities by City and County staff to manage the Community Development Block Grant Program
<b>7</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	FY2021 Purchase of Fire Equipment and Security Cameras
	<b>Target Area</b>	CITY WIDE Southwest Quadrant
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public facility improvements
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Fire & Police Equipment
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$96,512
	<b>Description</b>	Fire Equipment for staff, and security cameras throughout the City

	<b>Target Date</b>	12/30/2022
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	All city households at all income levels will benefit from the continued allocation of CDBG funds for the purchase of fire equipment and the installation of security cameras.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Fire equipment: 800 Main Street, Asbury Park. Waiting for direction from the police department as to the location of the security cameras.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The police department is seeking CDBG funds to continue the purchase of security cameras for installation at designated intersections.  The Fire Department is looking to purchase protective equipment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air pack</li> <li>• cylinder and valve assembly</li> </ul>

## AP-50 Geographic Distribution - 91.420, 91.220(f)

**Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed**

In accordance with the CDBG criteria, the City continues to target the southwest quadrant (Census tracts 8072 and 8073) as the point of focus for revitalization and service activities as a priority area, as well as a citywide geographic focus.

The west side has a population of 5,275 residents, with a poverty rate of 36% in a .38 square mile radius. According to the most recent census statistics the demographics break down as follows:

- 13% other nationality
- 29% Hispanic;
- 50% Black and
- 37% White.

### Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
CITY WIDE	35
Southwest Quadrant	65

**Table 8 - Geographic Distribution**

## **Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically**

The neighborhoods in the southwest quadrant reflect these general characteristics as demonstrated by recent census data releases:

- Highest Concentration of Labor Force Unemployed
- Most Densely Populated
- Largest Average Household Size
- Greatest Incidences of Overcrowding in residences
- Lowest Median Income
- Highest Concentration of Poverty Populations
- Aged & Dilapidated Housing Stock
- Lack of Active-Playing Field Areas for Recreation and Recreational Facilities

These characteristics constitute the basis for a continued allocation of investments in the southwest quadrant of the City. This area consistently over the years has been determined to have the greatest need for redevelopment and revitalization. The southwest neighborhood continues to be economically and socially disadvantaged, which diminishes the quality of life for these households. This area continues to need support and intervention.

## **Discussion**

## **AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing -91.420, 91.220(j)**

### **Introduction**

Development of restaurants, shops, and luxury housing beginning in the early 2000s and continuing through this decade, has increased the need for affordable housing within the City of Asbury Park. With the influx of high-income households increasing, it is becoming harder for the lower-income populations to find decent affordable housing in the area, forcing them to look elsewhere. Both rental and homeowner costs have risen significantly over the past decade. Additionally, escalating housing costs and local property values are major obstacles to the continued development of affordable housing. The city of Asbury Park continues to work to expand opportunities to address affordable housing issues. However, funding for the creation of new units is limited in terms of quantity and flexibility.

### **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 Asbury Park adopted Housing Element and Fair Share Plan outlined a framework to expand affordable housing opportunities for the creation of very-low, low, moderate, and middle income housing. The plan outlines how the City will work to achieve this goal through the following activities for the creation of affordable housing by developers and property owners:

- inclusionary zoning
- mandatory affordable housing set aside ordinance for new development
- establish a fund to help subsidize the construction of affordable housing.

### **Discussion**

## **AP-85 Other Actions - 91.420, 91.220(k)**

### **Introduction**

Asbury Park will continue to utilize allocated CDBG funds to invest in programs needed by the residents and local businesses.

Over the course of this funding period, the City will continually assess and make adjustments to its policies in response to changing market conditions and service needs, and will ensure projects that serve households and communities with higher needs for services, funding, and housing are awarded preference points during the funding process.

Federal resources received under this annual action plan are not enough to address the all of needs of households and persons experiencing homelessness those who are currently underserved by the market and available programs. Given the layers of financing often needed to deliver services or make housing affordable to special needs populations and the lowest-income households, the City will provide preference points to projects that leverage other resources, so that federal and local funds may be stretched further and assist as many underserved households as possible.

### **Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs**

This plan continues to consider needs to improve the priorities of the residents of the southwest quadrant as the main focus area of CDBG funded projects.

Along with the programs that the Department of Community Development will carry out to address the needs of the underserved, other community agencies will be addressing those issues as well.

The Community Affairs Resource Center (CARC) provides services to economically disadvantaged individuals and families throughout the City with the goal of revitalizing the communities served. CARC provides bilingual/bicultural diversity through its services. CARC continues to provide to an increasing number of clients services for advocacy, case management, protective services, domestic violence, information and referrals, translation and interpretations, immigration consultations, assistance with required documentation for filing tenant/landlord disputes, child support, divorce and other legal matters, income tax preparation, soliciting Individual Tax Identification Numbers (TIN), notary public, career assessment, job readiness and employment placement, NJ Family Care applications, Food Stamp (SNAP) and NJ Shares Energy Assistance applications. Facility rehabilitation funded through CDBG will continue to allow the facility to provide the above services to the community while

being a safe center and meeting Code Enforcement standards.

The Asbury Park Boys & Girls Club provides a safe and fun environment for the most vulnerable children in the community. The City will fund the rehabilitation of the building in order for the club to continue its dedication for the community.

The Department of Social Services will continue to operate the Senior Center in order to provide the Senior Citizen population with resources and activities needed.

The Asbury Park Police Department will continue to assist the Monmouth County Special Needs Registry by providing awareness to those with physical and mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities due to a physical and or intellectual disability. The goal is to ensure all Monmouth County residents who may be in need of special assistance are able to get the help and support they need in a time of emergency or during interaction with Law Enforcement, Fire or EMS personnel.

### **Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing**

Housing cost burden remains the most prevalent problem related to housing in Asbury Park, driven by the community's high rate of poverty. The City will continue to prioritize housing programs and developments with the goal of preserving, producing, and improving affordable housing. The city will continue to support the programs and projects of its affordable housing developers when submitting for HOME investment partnership grants.

The City's Homelessness Prevention program is designed to prevent individuals/families from being homeless by providing financial assistance when utility services are facing termination; the Home Repair Program is designed to assist the homeowner with emergent home repairs as a result of a code enforcement violation; Relocation assistance is provided to individuals faced with homelessness as a result of a code enforcement assistance until the code violation is abated.

In February 2019, the city adopted the third round housing element and fair share plan to address the lack of affordable housing and to express concerns that as the city continues to experience economic prosperity, its growth could be hampered by lack of housing options. This plan will

require future residential projects throughout the city to include affordable units as part of the project plans.

Monmouth County allocates HOME funding to Interfaith Neighbors and Coastal Habitat for Humanity to construct affordable housing units for purchase.

### **Actions planned to develop institutional structure**

Asbury Park community development staff collaborates with the Planning Department, and other municipal departments to ensure a coordinated approach to the delivery of services that assist low- and moderate-income areas throughout the city. During the development of the Plan, the CD staff consulted with key stakeholders, City Departments. The utilization of these broad base of organizations will assist the City in addressing its community development, housing, homeless and special needs objectives.

- City staff will continue to provide and develop expertise to address and, where possible, change conflicting rules, regulations and time frames inherent in complex institutional structures.
- Re-evaluate existing programs and ensure they are appropriately scaled to meet the community's need

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

Throughout the implementation of this Annual Action Plan, Asbury Park will continue to enhance coordination with other critical public and private organizations that will be critical partners to help realize the goals outlined in the Consolidated Plan. These actions include:

- Continue to foster its relationship with the Asbury Park Housing Authority
- Continue to connect public and private housing agencies with social service agencies in the community through both direct communications and publicly through community events

### **Discussion**

## Program Specific Requirements

### AP-90 Program Specific Requirements - 91.420, 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

#### Introduction

#### Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	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
<b>Total Program Income:</b>	<b>0</b>

#### Other CDBG Requirements

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

## Discussion





