

CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan. 91.520(a)

This could be an overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that were proposed and executed throughout the program year.

The City of Columbus has continued its progress toward meeting its strategic plan goals in 2025 through delivery of the 2025 action plan. The 2025 AAP took steps to meet each of the City's Priority Needs, as identified in the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan. The objectives of the 2025 AAP prioritized investment for public facilities, which has been a consistent focus for the City's CDBG funds in recent years, prioritized housing development and housing services primarily through the HOME and HOPWA programs, and prioritized shelter and services for homeless individuals through ESG. These federal funds fill critical needs in the City and Central Ohio communities by supporting the strong network of human service agencies, affordable housing providers, and other institutions that provide for low- and moderate-income residents in need.

The City has continued its focus on investing in the rehabilitation and new construction of affordable rental housing since adopting the Columbus Housing Strategy in 2023. The Housing Strategy calls for a doubling of housing production for a period of 15 years to address the growing shortages of housing of all types. In November 2025, voters approved a total \$1.9 million bond package for the City, \$500 million of which is dedicated to affordable housing. While exact uses for those funds are still being determined, a framework for the funds has been established: \$175 million will be used for land acquisition that will create opportunity near other public investment, \$150 million will be used to build and preserve affordable homes, \$125 million will focus on housing stability, homelessness prevention, and shelter, and \$50 million for innovative models for new affordable housing. The additional bond funding available has allowed the City to shift HOME funds away from activities like tenant-based rental assistance and focus on development of new or rehabilitated affordable housing.

The City's efforts to meet the needs of homeless individuals has continued through its funding of a City-staffed Housing Outreach Team and Homeless Advocacy Liaison. These staff members work to connect homeless individuals to services and resources. Emergency Solutions Grant funds are passed through to the Community Shelter Board, along with other City funds (over \$10 million in 2025), to ensure shelter, warming centers or cooling centers in extreme weather, and other services are available to meet the needs of all homeless individuals.

Comparison of the proposed versus actual outcomes for each outcome measure submitted with the consolidated plan and explain, if applicable, why progress was not made toward meeting goals and objectives. 91.520(g)

Categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee’s program year goals.

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Effectively administer HUD programs	Planning and Administration	CDBG: \$ / HOPWA: \$ / HOME: \$	Other	Other	1	0	0.00%	1	0	0.00%
Enforce fair housing laws	Fair Housing	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	500	131	26.20%	100	131	131.00%
Improve community facilities and infrastructure	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	27500	183	0.67%	5500	183	3.33%
Increase housing opportunities	Affordable Housing Public Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Rental units constructed	Household Housing Unit	105	0	0.00%	21	0	0.00%

Increase housing opportunities	Affordable Housing Public Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	30	0	0.00%	7	0	0.00%
Increase housing opportunities	Affordable Housing Public Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	69	0	0.00%	14	0	0.00%
Increase housing opportunities	Affordable Housing Public Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	402	32	7.96%	80	32	40.00%
Increase housing opportunities	Affordable Housing Public Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers	Households Assisted	20	0	0.00%			
Increase housing opportunities	Affordable Housing Public Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME: \$	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing	Households Assisted	160	0	0.00%			
Provide community services	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	4125	1281	31.05%	825	1281	155.27%
Provide community services	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Homelessness Prevention	Persons Assisted	270	105	38.89%	135	105	77.78%
Provide essential services to prevent homelessness	Homeless	ESG: \$	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing	Households Assisted	180	0	0.00%	36	0	0.00%

Provide essential services to prevent homelessness	Homeless	ESG: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	9500	0	0.00%	1900	0	0.00%
Provide social services to special populations	Non-Homeless Special Needs	HOPWA: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	3016	0	0.00%	603	0	0.00%
Provide social services to special populations	Non-Homeless Special Needs	HOPWA: \$	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing	Households Assisted	890	0	0.00%	178	0	0.00%
Provide social services to special populations	Non-Homeless Special Needs	HOPWA: \$	Homelessness Prevention	Persons Assisted	346	0	0.00%	69	0	0.00%

Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date

Assess how the jurisdiction’s use of funds, particularly CDBG, addresses the priorities and specific objectives identified in the plan, giving special attention to the highest priority activities identified.

The City's 2025 AAP prioritized the development and preservation of affordable housing, improvements to non-profit facilities, and public services. CDBG funds were invested in roof, HVAC, and public facility redevelopment projects at non-profit owned properties, helping to ensure the continued delivery of high-quality services to LMI residents across the City, as well as in public services to provide health care, relocation services for domestic violence victims, fair housing and other legal services for low-income tenants, and financial life skills.

The City's public application process for CDBG funds has allowed a greater prioritization of community-driven activities and resulted in 62 external applications for funding that were considered for the 2025 Annual Action Plan. These applications were considered for their potential impact, readiness, organizational capacity, and alignment with City priorities. This public process has expanded the City's ability to address the highest priority needs in local communities across the City.

CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted).

91.520(a)

Table 2 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds

Narrative

Across all programs, a significantly higher proportion of those served identify as Black or African American compared to the proportion of Black or African American individuals in the general population of the City (29% based on 2024 estimates). Beneficiaries of these grant programs ranged from 66% to 77% Black or African American. The percent of the beneficiary population of these programs identifying as Hispanic/Latino is either equivalent to or less than the percent of those across the entire City population. Median household incomes in Columbus are approximately 35-45% lower for Hispanic and Black households, respectively, when compared to White households.

Considering the large income gap by race/ethnicity, it is not surprising that Black/African American residents are overrepresented as beneficiaries of these grant programs. However, the limited representation of Hispanic/Latino residents in the beneficiary population points to potential issues with language barriers or other barriers that may prevent these individuals from reaching the services funded with CPD grant dollars. This trend has remained consistent in recent years and indicates more work could still be done to reach Hispanic populations.

CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	9,439,990	5,459,235
HOME	public - federal	6,461,256	499,577
HOPWA	public - federal	5,137,163	2,641,166
ESG	public - federal	657,093	0

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

Expended amounts during program year 2025 for the HOME program reflect only the program income expended, as the City prioritized expending past year funds pending the outcome of a legal case and did not expend any FY2025 HOME grant funds. Delays related to staffing turnover and negotiation of an updated subrecipient agreement prevented 2025 ESG funds from being paid in 2025.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

The City does not have any Target Areas identified in its current Consolidated Plan or the 2025 Annual Action Plan. Many investments are made in programs and facilities that are available to all residents. The renovations of some non-profit facilities are focused in neighborhoods with significant economic disadvantage.

Leveraging

Explain how federal funds leveraged additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements were satisfied, as well as how any publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that were used to address the needs identified in the plan.

The City uses affordable housing bond funds and federal funds to address affordable housing needs in Columbus. Building on the success of the 2019 \$50 million affordable housing bond sale that leveraged another \$276 million in public and private sector funds helped to build more than 1,300 affordable housing units, Columbus voters approved another \$200 million bond package in 2022 for affordable housing, and another \$500 million bond package in 2025. City affordable housing bond funds, in conjunction with federal funds, support homeownership development and rental development. The City deploys its HOME funds as gap financing for these projects. The use of federal funds, in turn, leverages LIHTC equity to further facilitate affordable housing development.

In 2025, the City used bond funds (and some carryover from prior year match funds) to meet its match requirement. One bond funded rental project is eligible as a HOME match project, totaling \$879,014 in payments made in FY 2025.

The City used \$2 million of CDBG to support the Mid Ohio Food Collective’s Eastland Prosperity Center project, a transformational rehabilitation of a former grocery store into a free food market, community health center, and hub for City and non-profit social service programs. The project also received \$2 million in CPF funds directly from HUD, \$2 million in ARPA funds from Franklin County, and leveraged \$2 million of local City funds, \$500,000 of state funds, and more than \$6.5 million in private investment/donor funding.

Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match	
1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year	1,023,440
2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year	879,014
3. Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)	1,902,454
4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year	558,709
5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4)	1,343,745

Table 5 – Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match Report

Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year								
Project No. or Other ID	Date of Contribution	Cash (non-Federal sources)	Foregone Taxes, Fees, Charges	Appraised Land/Real Property	Required Infrastructure	Site Preparation, Construction Materials, Donated labor	Bond Financing	Total Match
PO387354	04/17/2025	879,014	0	0	0	0	0	879,014

Table 6 – Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year

HOME MBE/WBE report

Program Income – Enter the program amounts for the reporting period				
Balance on hand at beginning of reporting period \$	Amount received during reporting period \$	Total amount expended during reporting period \$	Amount expended for TBRA \$	Balance on hand at end of reporting period \$
2,636,593	242,326	499,577	0	2,379,342

Table 7 – Program Income

Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises – Indicate the number and dollar value of contracts for HOME projects completed during the reporting period

	Total	Minority Business Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Contracts						
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-Contracts						
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	Women Business Enterprises	Male			
Contracts						
Dollar Amount	0	0	0			
Number	0	0	0			
Sub-Contracts						
Number	0	0	0			
Dollar Amount	0	0	0			

Table 8 - Minority Business and Women Business Enterprises

Minority Owners of Rental Property – Indicate the number of HOME assisted rental property owners and the total amount of HOME funds in these rental properties assisted

	Total	Minority Property Owners				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dollar Amount	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 9 – Minority Owners of Rental Property

Relocation and Real Property Acquisition – Indicate the number of persons displaced, the cost of relocation payments, the number of parcels acquired, and the cost of acquisition

Parcels Acquired		0	0			
Businesses Displaced		0	0			
Nonprofit Organizations Displaced		0	0			
Households Temporarily Relocated, not Displaced		0	0			
Households Displaced	Total	Minority Property Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cost	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 10 – Relocation and Real Property Acquisition

CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

Evaluation of the jurisdiction's progress in providing affordable housing, including the number and types of families served, the number of extremely low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and middle-income persons served.

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	36	0
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	162	50
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	178	144
Total	376	194

Table 11 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	254	0
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	35	46
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	87	4
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	0	0
Total	376	50

Table 12 – Number of Households Supported

Discuss the difference between goals and outcomes and problems encountered in meeting these goals.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

The number of new building permits was slightly reduced in 2025, and we expect to see that change as the new zoning and residential tax abatement codes impact projects coming online in 2026. The City of

Columbus has not encumbered 2025 HOME funds, and is waiting for the resolution of a court case to inform decisions to be made in 2026. The 2026 and 2027 AAPs may, as a result, see higher goals and outcomes as these funds are hopefully committed to projects.

Include the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income persons served by each activity where information on income by family size is required to determine the eligibility of the activity.

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	0	32
Low-income	0	29
Moderate-income	0	1
Total	0	62

Table 13 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

For the HOME rental and homeownership programs, there was a total of 62 HOME-assisted units, including 32 Extremely Low income, 29 Low income, and 1 Moderate-income unit.

Beneficiaries of HOME-funded homeownership units are counted in multiple activities, first through the production and sale of the units, and again because many are paired with down payment assistance. Thirteen homeownership units were produced, and 12 units were reported as receiving down payment assistance in 2025.

The CDBG program funded roof replacement for 28 eligible households through a subrecipient agreement with Habitat for Humanity Mid-Ohio.

CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)

Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:

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

The city aims to reduce and eliminate homelessness by reaching out to individuals experiencing homelessness and assessing their specific needs through various initiatives:

- The City of Columbus funds the Housing Outreach Team, which assists individuals experiencing homelessness. This team operates through the Community Shelter Board and the Continuum of Care. A full-time staff member from the City of Columbus serves as the Homeless Advocacy Liaison. This liaison receives reports of homeless encampments, visits these locations to conduct wellness checks, and addresses immediate needs. The Homeless Advocacy Liaison collaborates with the Housing Outreach Team to share important information gathered during these interactions. The Housing Outreach Team works to connect individuals facing homelessness with essential services and resources, with the goal of helping them secure permanent housing.
- The City of Columbus collaborates with shelters and other nonprofits to support the transitional housing and inclement weather programs in the shelter system. To enhance these efforts, city officials and partners are reaching out to unsheltered residents to inform them about available services. Additionally, they are making budgetary adjustments at the local level to improve responses and support for these individuals. This winter, there are more than 120 warming center beds available across four locations, and 90 extreme weather beds opened during periods of extreme inclement weather in the City. A significant focus this year is on engaging couples and pet owners, as these groups are often the hardest to reach. So far, 90 dogs and 20 cats have been accommodated alongside their owners for the winter. Transportation services are also being provided to help eliminate barriers to accessing the warming centers.
- The City of Columbus is currently deploying new homeless outreach engagement specialists to connect and engage with the most difficult-to-house, chronically homeless individuals. This program will be supported by HOME-ARP funding.
- The City increased funding for the Community Shelter Board, providing over \$10 million in 2025 to enhance the shelter system's capacity to serve homeless individuals in Columbus. This funding aims to ensure that they receive high-quality case management services.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City addresses emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons in a number

of ways:

- The City is continuing to refine the shelter system’s approach to transitional housing before it is rolled out systemwide. The City has created cohorts to evaluate how best to engage new populations or use new methods to engage existing populations. The new populations engaged were selected based on pending remediations (e.g., encampment clean-ups). New methods include using a different set of service providers and a larger use of bus passes. Upon completion of the new cohorts, the City will review the outcomes before implementing the process systemwide.
- The City is launching a new pilot program aimed at improving engagement and assistance for unsheltered individuals to help them secure housing. This initiative will use HOME-ARP funds to establish a dedicated team of engagement specialists who will collaborate with specialized Columbus Police Officers, Addiction Specialists, and Social Workers. This multidisciplinary team will operate more efficiently, manage smaller caseloads, and respond more quickly to needs on-site. Benefits for program participants include assistance with court matters and warrants, transportation services, customizable goal structures, and a reliable point of contact throughout the process of obtaining the necessary documents and information to secure housing. Considering that many clients may face significant barriers, we believe this program will enable faster access to permanent supportive housing and other supportive housing programs compared to traditional methods

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after 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); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

The City helps low income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless by providing access to resources and services from public and private agencies:

- Building on a successful 3-year pilot, the Homelessness Prevention Network (HPN) expanded from 26 full-time Housing Resource Specialists in 2024 and 2025 and is now funded by the City. HPN is a key initiative with the Central Ohio Stable Housing Network (COSHN), which was formed in 2023 to coordinate efforts by HPN, emergency rental assistance, emergency rehousing, and other eviction and homelessness prevention initiatives in Columbus and Central Ohio. COSHN and HPN are “Kept individuals and families stably housed” through networks of non-profit and government agencies. HPN’s Housing Resource Specialists used housing problem-solving and prioritized access to prevention to assist families and pregnant women most at risk of literal homelessness. The approach of the HPN was centered on the use of standardized screening, triage, and prioritization processes by a diverse set of Access Points and Service Providers, particularly in areas with high housing insecurity so that highest-risk households could be more readily identified, engaged, offered housing problem-solving assistance, and, if needed, prioritized access to additional targeted prevention assistance directly or via referral to

another HPN service providers. The program ended in September 2025, and many HPN providers retained their Housing Resource Specialists. During the evaluation of a 12-month program period, 4,356 unique households were served, with 99% of households avoiding the homeless crisis response system and 91% of participant households not receiving a formal eviction summons within 3 months of the intervention.

- The City passed “Access to Counsel” legislation in 2024 that guarantees certain low-income populations access to an attorney when facing eviction. This legislation was passed after the publication of a report commissioned by the City that found that access to counsel reduces the likelihood that a household facing eviction will lose its housing. Funding for this initiative continued in 2025.
- In 2024, the City of Columbus amended its Housing Code to require property owners to cover the costs of relocating individuals and families vacated from their homes through no fault of their own. In 2025, Vacated Tenant Services (VTS) program was established to assist households that are displaced and are forced to leave their rental units due to conditions that the property owner is responsible for repairing. VTS pays for up to three months of hotel stays for households that are vacated from their homes because Code Enforcement deemed the property uninhabitable. Without this program, many of those households would have entered into the homeless system.
- The City funds the Resilient Housing Initiative (RHI). RHI’s aim is to prevent homelessness by providing stabilizing resources to residents facing homelessness, such as rapid financial assistance, housing-focused case management, and Housing Problem Solving. The program operates within Coordinated Entry and provides diversion for those calling for shelter tonight and prevention for those calling with less acute instability. In the first three months of the program, 613 households have been enrolled for services.

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 supports the transition to permanent housing in a number of ways

- The City continues supporting the transition to permanent housing within our 5 core areas (Continuum of Care Application, Crisis Response, Outreach Services, Permanent Supportive Housing Services, and the Safety Net program) through financial support. The 2025 budget included about \$10 million in general fund dollars for this effort.
- The City is providing financial support to a small, non-profit focusing on transitional-aged youth and unaccompanied youth. The City’s financial support funds warming center beds onsite. These beds

are specifically for youth and are not available at the other warming center locations offered to the general public.

CR-30 - Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j)

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

The City meets regularly with the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA). At the present time, CMHA is converting its public housing portfolio through the Rental Assistance Demonstration program. The City is actively engaged in providing gap funding to RAD projects upon request. The City has three HOME ARP projects that are pending closing while CMHA waits for the determination on PBV for all three projects. These projects were ready to close in 2025, but since the vouchers were, and are, on hold, the closings have been delayed.

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

- The City has a Homebuyer Education Advisory Committee that meets quarterly. Included on that committee are staff from CMHA homeownership voucher program.
- The City's downpayment assistance program works with the homeownership voucher program to provide downpayment assistance upon request.
- The City increased the maximum amount available for downpayment assistance from \$7,500 to \$14,999 in order to be more competitive in the current housing market, and the City and continues increased outreach efforts to real estate professionals, lenders, and community organizations.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

CMHA is not a troubled PHA.

CR-35 - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j)

Actions taken 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. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)

Actions taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

Actions taken to reduce lead-based paint hazards. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

For properties built before 1978 and redeveloped with City funds, a lead assessment is performed before work starts and a lead clearance is received after the work is complete. For rehabilitation work, any project that exceeds \$25,000 per unit requires a lead assessment and lead abatement if needed.

The City is spending down the last of the Ohio Department of Development funds and preparing to close out the grant, and currently has forty (40) active cases since the grant started in April, 2025.

Actions taken to reduce the number of poverty-level families. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

In 2025, the City funded a legal assistance program to address poor housing conditions, which creates opportunities for improving the economic status of individuals and families, and for protecting and preserving safe and sanitary housing.

In 2025, the City funded a financial life-skills program, which provides education to residents in order to help them better navigate the complex worlds of finances and housing.

Homeownership assistance programs and development of affordable housing also provide supports to families who are cost burdened by rising housing costs and may help these families begin to build wealth and stability.

Actions taken to develop institutional structure. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City provides CHDO Operating funding through the Community Development Collaborative to support CHDOs in the efforts to develop housing in their neighborhoods. The City continues to provide technical assistance to CHDOs as a capacity building measure. The City provides technical assistance and support to local organizations through grant programs and staff consultation.

The City's efforts to develop Annual Action Plans and other non-HUD efforts including the City's Housing Strategy continually bring together stakeholder organizations to gather feedback, establish priorities, encourage collaboration, and offer assistance.

Actions taken to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City tracks the progress of funded projects and is aware when projects are at or near completion. If a pressing need for housing occurs due to an emergency vacate, City staff reach out to developers whose projects are coming online to inquire about vacancies and referrals.

The City also leads the Columbus Area Affordable Housing Task Force which shares information on projects in development and troubled projects in the community.

In 2025, the City worked to contract HOME-ARP funds with agencies providing supportive services in multiple affordable housing developments with the goal of assisting residents to maintain their housing and avoid eviction.

The Central Ohio Stable Housing Network (COSHN) continues to convene social service providers, housing specialists, and landlords to coordinate public and provide services. COSHN is using a Coordinated Prevention Framework to practice and document our shared understanding of approaches that reduce housing insecurity generally, while also preventing literal homelessness and inflow of individuals and families into the homeless crisis response system.

Identify actions taken to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in the jurisdictions analysis of impediments to fair housing choice. 91.520(a)

In 2024, the maximum amount of downpayment assistance was increased from \$7,500 to \$14,999 to increase access to homeownership to assist buyers with the increase in property costs and closing costs. This continues to be critical in 2025 and beyond as costs of homeownership remain high.

The City continues to fund TBRA for homeless individuals.

City staff review building plans to assure accessibility requirements and advocate for the construction of accessible units.

The City's Department of Development, through both its Code Enforcement team and Building and Zoning Services, and through the newly formed Division of Housing Stability, is working to expand its fair housing protections and services.

The City provides CDBG funding to the Legal Aid Society of Southeast and Central Ohio to provide fair housing complaint intake, enforcement, and testing.

CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

Describe the standards and procedures used to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and used to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements

Citizen Participation Plan 91.105(d); 91.115(d)

Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports.

The City published a 30-day public comment notice in the Columbus Dispatch that ran from 2/26 through 3/28. It notified the public that the CAPER report was be available on our City's website for them to review, make any comments or ask any questions. The comments are reviewed and responded to in advance of final submission to HUD.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.

There have been no changes to the City's program objectives in 2025.

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

No

[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.

CR-50 - HOME 24 CFR 91.520(d)

Include the results of on-site inspections of affordable rental housing assisted under the program to determine compliance with housing codes and other applicable regulations

Please list those projects that should have been inspected on-site this program year based upon the schedule in 24 CFR §92.504(d). Indicate which of these were inspected and a summary of issues that were detected during the inspection. For those that were not inspected, please indicate the reason and how you will remedy the situation.

Provide an assessment of the jurisdiction's affirmative marketing actions for HOME units. 24 CFR 91.520(e) and 24 CFR 92.351(a)

Refer to IDIS reports to describe the amount and use of program income for projects, including the number of projects and owner and tenant characteristics

2024 program income was committed to the Aspire project constructed by Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority in the amount of \$ 2,000,000.00. The project is still in construction, therefore there are no tenant characteristics at this time. A second project, a Habitat for Humanity single-family home, was partially funded with \$49,000.00 of program income. The house is completed, sold to a qualified buyer and reported in IDIS.

Describe other actions taken to foster and maintain affordable housing. 24 CFR 91.220(k) (STATES ONLY: Including the coordination of LIHTC with the development of affordable housing). 24 CFR 91.320(j)

As described elsewhere in the CAPER, the City has made significant updates to its zoning code and land use plans in the past few years, as well as its Community Reinvestment Area policy that includes tax abatements for affordable housing development. These policies encourage development of affordable housing and diversification of housing types across the City, especially where it is connected to major public infrastructure such as the currently in-development bus rapid transit system. These policy changes alongside the voted bond package allocating \$500 million for affordable housing. The exact purpose of the bond funds is still being determined, and many of these policy updates are continuing into subsequent phases as part of the City's overall Housing and Growth Strategies, but significant efforts have been undertaken to ensure that affordable housing is being prioritized and maintained.

CR-55 - HOPWA 91.520(e)

Identify the number of individuals assisted and the types of assistance provided

Table for report on the one-year goals for the number of households provided housing through the use of HOPWA activities for: short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance payments to prevent homelessness of the individual or family; tenant-based rental assistance; and units provided in housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds.

Number of Households Served Through:	One-year Goal	Actual
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family	65	38
Tenant-based rental assistance	174	144
Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0	0
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0	0

Table 14 – HOPWA Number of Households Served

Narrative

CR-58 – Section 3

Identify the number of individuals assisted and the types of assistance provided

Total Labor Hours	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Total Number of Activities	2	15	0	0	0
Total Labor Hours	3,718	164,586			
Total Section 3 Worker Hours	0	1,990			
Total Targeted Section 3 Worker Hours	0	130			

Table 15 – Total Labor Hours

Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Public Housing Targeted Workers		1			
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Other Funding Targeted Workers.					
Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships).		2			
Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or paying tuition for, off-site training.		1			
Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching).		6			
Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section 3 business concerns.		5			
Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns understand and bid on contracts.		5			
Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate participation by Section 3 business concerns.					
Provided or connected residents with assistance in seeking employment including: drafting resumes, preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities, connecting residents to job placement services.	2	3			
Held one or more job fairs.		6			
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that can provide direct services or referrals.	1				
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that provide one or more of the following: work readiness health screenings, interview clothing, uniforms, test fees, transportation.	2	1			
Assisted residents with finding child care.					
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community college or a four year educational institution.	2				
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training.	1				
Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching.	2				
Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns.					
Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies.	2				
Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses.					

Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.					
Other.		2			

Table 16 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program

Narrative

The City includes the Section 3 Clause in all bid openings and contracts, and Grants Management Section staff attend pre-bid and pre-construction meetings whenever possible to ensure that Section 3 standards are communicated. Grants Management staff assist contractors with compliance and reporting questions when needed to ensure successful compliance with Section 3 standards, including email exchanges, phone calls, and one-on-one meetings. Grants Management staff attend the Department of Development's annual multi-family developer meeting, which convenes representatives from multi-family developers across the City, to present on Section 3 standards required for HOME-assisted projects.

The Grants Management Section has evaluated the City's overall economic development and resident services programs to identify services that support low-income residents in increasing their access to jobs and economic opportunity. These efforts are being reported this year to better reflect the work being done to meet Section 3 objectives.