



DRAFT

*ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
FY 2018*

**Community Development Block Grant
and
HOME Investment Partnership Program
for
Amherst, Cheektowaga, Tonawanda Consortium**

April 1, 2018 - March 31, 2019

Town of Amherst Community Development



Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The Town of Amherst receives Federal funding allocations annually, commonly referred to as “Entitlement Funds”, from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). HUD funding is provided to the Town as part of two main programs: the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), the latter of which Amherst receives as part of a 3-Town Consortium with the Towns of Cheektowaga and Tonawanda (A-C-T HOME Consortium).

Prior to every Program Year, Amherst develops an Annual Action Plan with public input that dictates the specifics of how these federal funds will be utilized. The Annual Action Plan is a more refined and specific plan that builds off of *The Five Year Consolidated Plan for Amherst, Cheektowaga and Tonawanda*. The Five Year Consolidated Plan establishes overarching priorities based on researched needs of the community and suggests programs, partners and resources for addressing those needs. The Five Year Consolidated Plan also provides a background on the institutional structure and public policies that are necessary to implement plan priorities successfully. The 2018 Annual Action Plan is the fourth year supplemental to The Five Year Consolidated Plan (2015-2019).

A housing needs assessment and market analysis presented in The Five Year Consolidated Plan’s Consortium Profile outlines a number of overriding themes or priorities to address critical housing and neighborhood needs. These themes and priorities are included below and the 2018 Action Plan must outline specific programs and projects that address these priorities:

Priority #1:

- Maintain and improve housing stock through rehabilitation, demolition and new construction for low-moderate income households.
- Rehabilitation of existing low-moderate income owner-occupied housing, including substantial rehabilitation;
- Weatherization Assistance Program to assist low income homeowners;
- Substantial rehabilitation or demolition of severely deteriorated housing occupied by low income homeowners and construction of new housing;

Priority #2:

- Maintain the supply of decent and affordable existing and new rental housing and supportive elderly housing for low and very low income residents.
- Provide and increase affordable homeownership opportunities to low income households.

Priority #3:

- Provide for emergency shelter and service needs of the homeless.
- Address the housing and service needs of the at-risk population and others with special needs.
- Prevent or ameliorate neighborhood deterioration in areas where low income households and substandard conditions are concentrated.

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.

Community Development Objectives

Infrastructure

Prevent or reduce deterioration in neighborhoods through installation of new or replacement of deteriorated infrastructure such as sidewalks, curb cuts etc.

Public Facilities

The Town has extensive park and recreation systems that need to be maintained and upgraded to have a positive impact on the quality of life of the residents.

Public Services

There are many direct, supportive counseling services needed to improve the quality of life and to help mitigate and prevent problems for youth, senior citizens and families in need of assistance.

Economic Development

There is a need to foster redevelopment in the town's older neighborhood business districts and create/retain jobs for lower-income persons.

Historic Preservation

There is a recognized need to preserve elements of local heritage and accomplish historic preservation within the town.

The overall goal of the CDBG Program is the development of viable urban communities that will provide decent affordable housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunities, principally for low- to-moderate income persons. The main focus of the Town of Amherst's program is in the area of housing and neighborhood preservation. The CDBG Program's broad goals can be accomplished by a variety of eligible activities including housing rehabilitation, improvements to public facilities and infrastructure, recreation improvements, code enforcement and community policing, economic development activities and public service programs.

Besides housing, the Town of Amherst also uses CDBG funds to create suitable living environments by funding public services that improve the lives of its low and moderate income residents by providing services to seniors, youth, and at-risk populations, such as victims of domestic violence.

Development of this Annual Plan takes place on an ongoing basis throughout the year, as the Town receives continual input from various parties in the delivery of housing and community development activities. The Town began the process by notifying residents of low income housing developments in the Town of the availability of HOME and CDBG funds at the October 18, 2017 public hearing held during the Amherst Town Board meeting. Mailings soliciting input were provided to Belmont Housing Resources for WNY, Housing Opportunities Made Equal, the Buffalo Urban League, YWCA, Eggertsville Community Organization, the Family Justice Center, the Village of Williamsville, Supportive Services Corp., HOMEFRONT, Consumer Credit Counseling, West Side Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc., and NACA as well as to Town Departments involved with service/activity delivery to residents in at-risk neighborhoods and to special populations. A final public hearing will be held in January 2018 to notify the public of the final Plan publication and final budget decisions for CDBG and HOME funds.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

The Town of Amherst's past performance in the administration and implementation of the CDBG and HOME programs has fulfilled the spirit and intent of the federal legislation creating these programs. The Town has facilitated affordability for decent housing, availability and accessibility of suitable living environments, sustainability of suitable living environments, and the accessibility of economic opportunities. The following is a summary of the Town's past performance as reported to HUD in the *FY2016 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)*, the most recent report filed. A summary is provided below, but a full chart of outcomes based on planning goals can be found in the CAPER, which is available at the Town's Planning Department.

During the 2016 program year - April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017 - the Town of Amherst provided \$493,036 in housing rehabilitation loans to eligible owners of forty-five (45) single family homes, of which twenty-five (25) of the forty-one households completed the entire rehabilitation work during the program year. This sum includes \$309,304 in CDBG funds, \$85,905 in HOME funds, and \$97,827 in NYS Affordable Housing Corporation (AHC) grant funds expended during this period. Lead paint hazards were removed from eight (8) homes and twenty (20) homes were weatherized. 2017 Program figures are not yet available, as the program year has not ended.

In addition to housing rehabilitation loans, HOME funds are used to purchase foreclosed, vacant and deteriorated residential property in Amherst for rehabilitation or demolition and new construction for resale to an income eligible first-time homebuyer. This activity is accomplished in conjunction with the Town's designated Owner Developer, New Opportunities Community Housing Development Corp. Through an agreement with New Opportunities and the area Land Bank, a vacant property lot was purchased at 1519 Eggert Road in late 2016 and a new home was constructed in the 2017 Program Year. The property is currently up for sale to an eligible first-time homebuyer. A total of \$226,590 in HOME program funds were spent to acquire and build 1519 Eggert Road.

HOME funds were also used to assist six (6) individual first-time homebuyers in purchasing homes in Amherst during the 2016 program year. Assistance includes a deferred loan for closing costs.

In 2016 CDBG funds were also used for community services, including fair housing/discrimination assistance, housing counseling and after-school programming. A total of nine (9) homebuyer workshops were held, and 104 low and moderate income households were assisted with homebuyer counseling. Ten (10) households were assisted in homeownership counseling and foreclosure prevention. Over 151 people were assisted with fair housing and discrimination concerns. Approximately 120 children were assisted in after school programs. Funds were provided to support the YWCA's work with domestic violence victims, and to support the Amherst Senior Center's wheelchair accessible van utilized to assist individuals with restricted mobility and disabilities.

The above public services and fair housing activities have a proven, positive impact on the quality of life and well-being of the residents of the neighborhoods in the Town. These activities further the goals identified in The Five Year Consolidated Plan (2015-2019) and have provided effective change in an efficient manner.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The development of the Annual Action Plan is a public process that invites citizens, including residents of public and assisted housing developments, to comment on the plan via public hearings and written statements. Public participation is sought and managed according to the Towns' Citizen Participation Plans. Copies of the Towns' Citizen Participation Plans are available upon request.

A Notice of a Public Hearing on the Annual Action Plan is published in the legal sections and as a display ad in the Amherst BEE, the Cheektowaga BEE and the Ken-Ton BEE at least 10 days prior to the date of each of the public hearings held during the planning process. Public hearings in the Town of Amherst are conducted as part of regularly scheduled Town Board meetings and thus have a "captive audience" with a broader reach than would be experienced at separate meetings for the Annual Action Plan alone. These meetings are also broadcast on local public access television and available through video recordings of the meetings on Amherst's website.

In order to afford citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties another reasonable opportunity to examine the plan's contents and to submit comments, the Towns also publish a summary of the proposed Annual Action Plan and where the document is available for review in the Amherst BEE, the Cheektowaga BEE and the Ken-Ton BEE as a display advertisement, at least 30 days prior to submission of the final document to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Complete copies of the draft and final Annual Action Plan are made available online on the Towns' websites, as well as in all Town libraries, the Amherst Planning Department, the Village Clerks' offices in

Depew, Sloan, Kenmore and Williamsville and the Town Clerks' offices in Amherst, Tonawanda and Cheektowaga. In addition, the Towns provide a copy of the Plan to citizen and organizations that request it.

The Towns will consider any comments or views of citizens received in writing, or orally at the public hearings, during the preparation of the final Annual Plan. A summary of these comments or views, and a summary of any comments or views not accepted and the reasons therefore, shall be attached to the final Annual Action Plan.

At this time the Town is providing notice via the above channels that the final deadline for public comments on the 2018 Draft Annual Action Plan is January 17, 2018, and are required to be submitted in writing to Amherst Community Development, 5583 Main Street, Williamsville, NY 14221 or to communitydevelopment@amherst.ny.us.

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.

There were no public comments received at the 1st Public Hearing which was held on October 18, 2017.

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

N/A

7. Summary

N/A

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
Lead Agency	AMHERST	
CDBG Administrator	AMHERST	Town of Amherst Community Development
HOPWA Administrator		
HOME Administrator	AMHERST	Town of Amherst Community Development
HOPWA-C Administrator		

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The Town of Amherst administers the Town's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Grant and is also lead town for the Amherst, Cheektowaga and Tonawanda HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Consortium. Federal funds are estimated to be reduced by approximately 10% in FY 2018, resulting in an allocation of approximately \$446,585 in Community Development Block Grant funding. The decrease in anticipated CDBG funds is reflected almost across the board in the draft 2018 Annual Action Plan Budget, with all but three sub recipients seeing a decreased allocation from prior years. If the allocation is higher than anticipated, then an additional \$10,000 will be allocated to Planning Activities in preparation for the next Five Year Consolidated Plan. If there is any additional money remaining following the increased allocation beyond the \$10,000 the amount will be allocated to the CDBG Homeowner Rehab Program. Any reduction in the anticipated allocation will be removed from the CDBG Homeowner Rehab Program.

The ACT HOME Consortium is also estimating a 10% reduction in HOME Grant funds for a total of \$575,949 to be shared by the three Towns (Amherst, Cheektowaga and Tonawanda). Any change in estimated HOME funding will be absorbed by the HOME Housing Rehabilitation activities in the Consortium Towns, after the 10% Administration costs are adjusted.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

The Town of Amherst Community Development administers the Amherst HOME Consortium allocation for the three towns of Amherst, Cheektowaga and Tonawanda. Amherst's Community Development Department is also responsible for the Five Year Consolidated Plan in collaboration with the Towns of Cheektowaga and Tonawanda, along with the Erie County Consortium.

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

1. Introduction

The Town of Amherst is the "Participating Jurisdiction" or Lead Agency, for the ACT HOME Consortium. HOME and CDBG will be administered through the Community Development division of the Town's Planning Department. New Opportunities Community Housing Development Corp. and University Heights Collaborative are non-profit neighborhood development agencies and will manage the projects involving the acquisition and rehabilitation or new construction of housing for the Town of Amherst.

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 Town of Amherst will continue to act as the lead for the Erie County PHA Consortium, acting as a conduit for Section 8 (Housing Choice Voucher Program) rental subsidies for eligible, very low income households in Erie County;

Continue to support eligible development applications for new rental units for low income elderly through the Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program (Section 202);

Continue to support eligible development applications for newly created rental units for low-income visually and/or physically impaired residents and support applications for new rental units for low income elderly through the Section 8/Section 202 New Construction Program if funding becomes available.

Housing Opportunities Made Equal (H.O.M.E) will advocate for victims of perceived housing discrimination and offer informational workshops on discrimination to Town Officials. Fair Housing Resources and the generation of Fair Housing News will also be handled by H.O.M.E. and a link to their website is available on the Town's Community Development page: www.amherst.ny.us/community under Fair Housing.

Buffalo Urban league will advocate for victims of predatory lending practices, refinancing and foreclosure prevention scams, both in cases of existing homeowners attempting to refinance mortgages, and new homebuyers in need of mortgages. Counseling is also available for Town residents with consumer credit issues and the League may arrange free legal services for the low-income families and elderly households facing mortgage foreclosure or other legal/credit issues.

Belmont Housing Resources for WNY, Inc. will administer housing counseling and financial education services for recipients of first-time homebuyer assistance under the HOME program, for households in

danger of mortgage default; at-risk households in danger of becoming homeless; and tenant-landlord disputes. Consultation on reverse mortgages is also available for eligible senior homeowners. Erie County Supportive Services Corp. will administer weatherization services for low-income owner and tenant households (excluding multi-unit complexes) providing energy efficient heating and insulation, windows and weatherproofing and in some cases energy efficient refrigerators.

Amherst Center for Senior Services will provide handicapped accessible van transportation for the elderly in order for them to access necessary services and support to foster independent living.

The Town will continue to work with the sub-recipient agencies that currently assist in program delivery. Amherst will also continue to cultivate relationships with other agencies that provide housing and service delivery to residents in at-risk neighborhoods and to special populations. Finally, the Town will continue to solicit input from agencies to provide new venues for providing affordable housing, assisting such agencies in locating appropriate sites for new investment and redevelopment.

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.

The Town of Amherst and the ACT HOME Consortium work with the Homeless Alliance of Western New York, our Continuum of Care for the homeless and at risk population of the area, to identify and meet the needs of this population and work to provide shelter and affordable, stable housing to prevent homelessness. Amherst does not receive any ESG funding and any monetary assistance is through CDBG.

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

N/A

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Belmont Housing Resources for WNY, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services-homeless Services-Education Service-Fair Housing Regional organization Foundation
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Belmont Housing Resources for WNY administers the Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCV) (formerly known as Section 8 Program) for Western New York. Their current waiting list has been suspended since July 2011 and is currently closed to new applicants until current applicants are accommodated. The Town of Amherst, as lead agency for the Erie County PHA Consortium, oversees the monitoring of Belmont's Section 8 Program.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Buffalo Urban League Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Regional organization Foundation

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Families with children
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Buffalo Urban League, Inc. (BUL) will advocate for victims of predatory lending practices, refinancing and foreclosure prevention scams, both in cases of existing homeowners attempting to refinance mortgages and new homebuyers in need of mortgages. Counseling is also available for Town residents with consumer credit issues and BUL with the Western New York Law Center may arrange free legal services for the low-income families and elderly households facing mortgage foreclosure or credit issues.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES MADE EQUAL, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Education Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Housing Opportunities Made Equal, Inc. (HOME) will advocate for victims of perceived housing discrimination and offer informational workshops on discrimination to Town Officials. Advertising for Fair Housing issues will also be handled by HOME and a link to their website is on the Town's Community Development page: www.amherst.ny.us/community (under Fair Housing). A landlord-tenant training and fair housing video are typically scheduled in the Town as a Fair Housing Month activity.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	YWCA of WNY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Employment

What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The YWCA operates four units of transitional housing in the Town of Amherst for homeless victims of domestic violence. The YWCA coordinates with area shelters to provide case management and assistance with issues relating to illness, credit, crime, and lack of education or employment. The organization is applying for CDBG funds for case management and transportation assistance.

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	Homeless Alliance of WNY	Homeless Alliance of WNY is the designated Continuum of Care (CoC) agency for Erie County. The Consortium supports the efforts of the Homeless Alliance of WNY as the Collaborative Applicant of the Continuum of Care. Although homelessness is not perceived as a significant problem in the A-C-T Consortium, persons who are homeless or at-risk have access to the various elements of the CoC available. Amherst works with County and Town agencies and the CoC to assist and provide services to Town residents.

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 Citizen Participation Plan sets forth the procedures and policies the Towns of Amherst, Cheektowaga and Tonawanda will use to encourage citizen participation in the development, operation and reporting of their annual Community Development Block Grants, HOME Investment Partnership Grant and the Consolidated Plan.

Citizens are encouraged to participate in the development of the Consolidated and Annual Plans, any substantial amendments to the Plans, and the Performance Report. This participation by low-and moderate-income persons, particularly those living in designated target areas and in areas where Community Development Block Grant funds are proposed to be used, and by residents of predominantly low and moderate income neighborhoods, (as defined by the Federal guidelines) is particularly encouraged as is the participation of all residents, including seniors, minorities and persons with disabilities.

A Notice of a Public Hearing on the development of the Annual Action Plan and to invite public comments and inquiries is placed in the legal section and as a display ad of the Amherst Bee, the Cheektowaga BEE and the Ken-Ton BEE publications at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the hearings. The Two Public hearings held in the Town of Amherst as part of the Action Plan's development are conducted as part of regularly scheduled Town Board meetings and thus have a broader reach than would be experienced at separate meetings for the Annual Plan alone.

Each town also invites residents of public and assisted housing developments to participate in the process of developing and implementing the Consolidated and Annual Plans. The Towns will provide copies of their Citizen Participation Plan upon request. In order to afford all interested parties a reasonable opportunity to examine its contents and to submit comments, the Towns publish a summary of the proposed Plan and a notice of availability of the document for public review in the Amherst BEE, the Cheektowaga BEE and the Ken-Ton BEE and the Metro as a display advertisement at least 30 days prior to final document submission to the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Complete copies of the proposed Annual Action Plan are made available online on the Towns' websites, as well as all Town libraries, the Amherst Planning Department, the Village Clerks' offices in Depew, Sloan, Kenmore and Williamsville and the Town Clerks' offices. The summary describes the contents and purpose of the Annual Plan, and includes a list of the locations where copies of the entire proposed Plans may be examined. In addition, the Towns provide a copy of the plan to citizen groups that request it, and copies on disc to individuals upon request.

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	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	First Public Hearing at Town Board meeting on October 18, 2017.	None received.	N/A	
2	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Ad in Amherst Bee for notice of first public hearing and public meeting in October 2017; ad in Amherst Bee for notice of availability of draft Annual Action Plan available for review in December 2017.			www.amherstbee.com
3	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	Notices for public hearings, availability of requests for funding, Draft Annual Plan, and proposed projects are posted on the main page of the Town's website.			http://www.amherst.ny.us/

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The Town of Amherst will receive approximately \$446,585 in Community Development Block Grant funding for 2018, with an anticipated \$200,000 in program income from previous years' rehabilitation activities. The Amherst, Cheektowaga, Tonawanda (A-C-T) HOME Consortium will receive approximately \$575,949 in 2017 HOME Investment Partnerships Grant funding, with an anticipated \$300,000 in program income from previous years' HOME housing rehabilitation, homebuyer and acquisition-rehabilitation activities. The Town of Amherst has \$27,000 left of the New York State Affordable Housing Grant to match and supplement the CDBG and HOME funding allocated to its housing rehabilitation program.

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	446,585	200,000	0	646,585	0	

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: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership	575,949	300,000	0	875,949	0	

Table 2 - 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 Town of Amherst has currently wrapping up the use of a \$300,000 New York State Affordable Housing Corporation Grant that offers eligible single family homeowners a forgivable grant amount toward the rehabilitation of their home. The grant matches the Town's CDBG or HOME rehabilitation funds 60/40. The CDBG or HOME portion of the assistance is offered as a 0% deferred loan, to be repaid at sale or transfer of the property, or if the homeowner no longer permanently resides in the home. There is approximately \$27,000 left to spend of this grant and the Town is currently in the process of reapplying for an additional \$300,000 of these funds.

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

N/A

Discussion

N/A

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	Improve Housing Stock	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Town Wide	Residential Rehabilitation-Owner-Occupied *A	CDBG: \$200,824 HOME: \$321,955	Rental units rehabilitated: 2 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 35 Household Housing Unit
2	Promote Affordable Homeownership	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Windermere- Meadow Lea Egbertsville Town Wide Springville Callodine	Homebuyer Assistance for Affordable Hsg *A	CDBG: \$14,500 HOME: \$147,595	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 150 Households Assisted Homeowner Housing Added: 2 Household Housing Unit Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 6 Households Assisted
3	Provide Assistance to At-Risk Population	2015	2019	Affordable Housing Homeless	Town Wide	Assist Victims of Domestic Violence *A Hsg Counseling & Foreclosure Prevention Assist *A	CDBG: \$24,500	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 25 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	Special Needs Population	2015	2019	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs	Town Wide	Handicapped Accessibility *A	CDBG: \$14,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2000 Persons Assisted
5	Rental Housing Owner-occupied Rehabilitation	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Town Wide	Residential Rehab- Owner occupied Rental *A	CDBG: \$0	Rental units rehabilitated: 1 Household Housing Unit
6	Weatherization Assistance	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Town Wide	Weatherization Assistance *A	CDBG: \$0	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 10 Households Assisted
7	Affirmatively Further Fair Housing	2015	2019	Affordable Housing Public Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs	Town Wide	Fair Housing Counseling *A	CDBG: \$6,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 120 Persons Assisted
8	Historic Preservation/Elimination of Slum & Blight	2015	2019	Preservation	Town Wide	Historic Preservation *A	CDBG: \$31,261	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation: 1 Business

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
9	Community Services	2015	2019	Non-Housing Community Development	Windermere-Meadow Lea Eggertsville Town Wide Springville Callodine	Community Policing *A Public Services - Youth Services *A	CDBG: \$44,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 550 Persons Assisted Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 15 Household Housing Unit

Table 3 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Improve Housing Stock
	Goal Description	<p>Conduct homeowner rehabilitation for ten extremely low-income, fifteen low-income, nine moderate-income, and six Military Veteran households through the Towns' Housing Rehabilitation Program. The programs improve and maintain quality affordable housing stock within the Towns of Amherst, Cheektowaga and Tonawanda.</p> <p>CDBG: Amherst \$390,824 (includes \$190,000 Program Income)</p> <p>HOME: Amherst \$117,785 (\$35,000 in Program Income); Tonawanda \$252,785 (\$100,000 in Program Income); Cheektowaga \$116,385 (\$30,000 in Program Income)</p> <p>Previous years funding will supplement the HOME EN funding for the Residential Rehab Programs. Improvements for handicapped accessibility are offered through the Towns' Homeowner Rehab Programs. Approximately five units will be assisted for seniors aging-in-place or homeowners with physical challenges.</p>

2	Goal Name	Promote Affordable Homeownership
	Goal Description	<p>Promote Home Ownership for Low-/Moderate Income Households by providing the following: purchase assistance through the Towns' First-time Home Buyer Programs; housing counseling for low-to-moderate income residents in Amherst; creation of new affordable housing through the Amherst and Cheektowaga's Acquisition/Rehab or New Construction/Resale Program.</p> <p>Through the HOME Investment Partnership Program affordable homeownership opportunities will be made available to persons with incomes below 80% median income in the Towns of Cheektowaga, Amherst and Tonawanda. The First-time Homebuyer Program will provides closing cost assistance (0% loans) to approximately six income qualifying individuals. The First-Time Homebuyer Program goals and HOME funding is indicated below:</p> <p>HOME: Cheektowaga – Assist 4 homebuyers; \$0 allocated, as \$101,000 remains in prior years allocations.</p> <p>HOME: Amherst - Assist 4 homebuyers; \$0 allocated, as \$77,000 remains in prior years allocations.</p> <p>HOME: Tonawanda – Assist 2 homebuyers; \$10,000 allocated, with \$51,000 remaining in prior years allocations.</p> <p>The Acquisition-Rehabilitation/New Construction-Resale program will help to expand the supply of decent, safe and affordable housing to low and moderate income households and will promote economic self-sufficiency for lower income families and individuals who are first-time homebuyers. The Town of Amherst and Cheektowaga will assist two households with this opportunity in 2018. The HOME funding for the Acquisition-Rehab/New Construction/Resale Program is allocated accordingly:</p> <p>HOME: Amherst - \$247,595 (includes \$100,000 in Program Income)</p> <p>HOME: Cheektowaga - \$156,400 (includes \$70,000 in Program Income)</p> <p>Through CDBG funding Belmont Housing Resources for WNY provides a variety of counseling services to assist first-time homebuyers; help persons with credit problems to qualify for FHA insured mortgages; help persons save their homes from foreclosure with financial counseling and intervention with mortgagors; assist renters in resolving disputes with landlords; and assist those who are homeless or may become homeless. Amherst’s CDBG funding allocated to Belmont Housing for affordable housing counseling services in 2018 is \$14,500 and is estimated to assist 150 households.</p>

3	Goal Name	Provide Assistance to At-Risk Population
	Goal Description	<p>Provide assistance and counseling to families or individuals who have become homeless or are in imminent danger of becoming homeless. Amherst’s CDBG funding will be utilized to provide public services through the YWCA of WNY and Buffalo Urban League to prevent homelessness of certain at-risk populations.</p> <p>The YWCA works with victims of domestic violence in Amherst and provides temporary housing and supportive service programming to help the women and their families to escape violence and become self-sufficient. The YWCA provides case management services for homeless domestic violence victims, with four housing units in the Town of Amherst.</p> <p>Buffalo Urban League provides housing counseling services to ensure families find and maintain affordable housing options that work for them. Counseling includes foreclosure prevention; first-time homebuyer education; financial management counseling; rental-assistance counseling; and fair housing counseling.</p> <p>Amherst will utilize CDBG funding to provide this assistance and aims to assist 50 households.</p> <p>CDBG: Amherst - \$6,000 Buffalo Urban League</p> <p>CDBG: Amherst - \$18,500 YWCA</p>

4	Goal Name	Special Needs Population
	Goal Description	<p>Assist frail seniors as a special needs population for assistance with travel and access to essential services and activities. CDBG funds are allocated to assist the Senior Services Center of Amherst in purchasing a wheelchair accessible van to assist disabled seniors with trips for grocery shopping and doctor appointments. Van service will also provide better access for the elderly to the Senior Center at Audubon and its many services.</p> <p>Also improve handicapped accessibility to the Senior Center's ADA bathrooms by installing ADA push buttons on the main door to the bathrooms.</p> <p>CDBG: Amherst - \$8,000 Senior Van; \$6,000 ADA push buttons</p> <p>Aside from this allocation, the Town will continue to be supportive of other services available to special needs populations, such as applications by the Erie County PHA Consortium for any new Section 8 rental subsidies, should they become available, developers seeking low-income housing tax credits and Section 202 funds. Funds are also available to assist victims of domestic violence in emergency situations through the Town of Amherst Family Offense Unit of the Police Department.</p>
5	Goal Name	Rental Housing Owner-occupied Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	<p>Rehabilitate existing renter-occupied low-income housing units.</p> <p>The Town will utilize CDBG Homeowner Rehab funding to maintenance and rehabilitation of existing owner-occupied low income rental housing. The 2018 Goal is 1 unit rehabbed and prior year's allocations or program income will be provided to fulfill this goal.</p>

6	Goal Name	Weatherization Assistance
	Goal Description	<p>Assist low income homeowners with weatherization assistance through the Weatherization Assistance Program to ensure safe affordable housing.</p> <p>This program will create more energy efficient housing units for low-moderate income homeowners by providing energy audits resulting in as-needed energy efficient furnaces, insulation, windows and, in some cases, energy efficient refrigerators. The energy savings will assist in creating a more affordable housing environment throughout the Consortium. Through CDBG funding, the Town covers an administration fee (\$200) per unit assisted.</p> <p>CDBG: Amherst – 10 units assisted, \$0 allocated (\$4,100 in prior years funds available)</p>
7	Goal Name	Affirmatively Further Fair Housing
	Goal Description	<p>Ensure access to fair, safe and affordable housing for all residents and strive to prevent discrimination in housing and the workplace.</p> <p>Amherst, through CDBG funding, provides fair housing counseling services via Housing Opportunities Made Equal. Housing Opportunities Made Equal provides education and enforcement action for fair housing and landlord tenant disputes and reports perceived discrimination in housing and employment.</p> <p>CDBG: Amherst - \$6,000 Allocated</p>
8	Goal Name	Historic Preservation/Elimination of Slum & Blight
	Goal Description	<p>Address buildings and public facilities in need of repair in order to eliminate neighborhood slum and blight.</p> <p>Currently the Village of Williamsville has identified the Williamsville Meeting House on Main Street in the Village as in need of stained glass window repair. They will allocate their 2018 share (7%) of CDBG funding to restore the windows of this Historic Landmark structure. The Village is seeking match funds from other agencies to preserve and stabilize the site, and has committed its 7% of the CDBG funds received by the Town as a match for this activity.</p> <p>CDBG: Williamsville - \$31,261 allocated.</p>

9	Goal Name	Community Services
	Goal Description	<p>Improve the quality of life for families and youths and seniors in the community by providing afterschool programming, community policing events, and neighborhood outreach.</p> <p>The Town of Amherst will provide after-school programming with the Boys and Girls Club of Buffalo in the Eggertsville Community Center to serve youths from low-and-moderate income families in the neighborhood. The after-school programs are expected to benefit over 50 children in 2018.</p> <p>CDBG: Amherst - \$37,000 allocated</p> <p>In addition, Amherst Recreation Department and Police Department will hold community policing/public safety events in the Eggertsville neighborhood and at the Senior Center to build better community relationships to the local police force. The Police Department will also provide utilize these events to provide public safety information to area families and seniors. The Community Policing events will be provided by CDBG funding and serve approximately 500 people in our target neighborhoods.</p> <p>CDBG: Amherst - \$6,000 allocated</p> <p>The Eggertsville Community Organization will conduct neighborhood outreach event to rental housing in the Eggertsville neighborhood to provide education on safe housing and required code regulations. The Amherst CDBG Program will provide funding for pamphlet development and printing costs, while the other technical assistance will be provided by the Building Department and Fire Safety Division.</p> <p>CDBG: Amherst - \$1,000 allocated</p>

AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

Introduction

The proposed projects for the estimated allocation of 2018 CDBG and HOME funds have been determined through citizen participation, community outreach, Town departments, neighborhood organizations' and non-profit agencies' requests for funding based upon the goals and objectives of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan.

#	Project Name
1	Amherst CDBG Housing Rehabilitation
2	Amherst Housing Rehabilitation (HOME) funds
3	CDBG General Program Administration
4	CDBG Office Expenses
5	Public Information and Advertising
6	Lead Based Paint Testing and Clearance
7	Belmont Housing Counseling Services
8	Buffalo Urban League Foreclosure Prevention Services
9	Fair Housing Counseling through H.O.M.E.
10	Amherst Center for Senior Services Wheelchair Van
11	Boys and Girls Club Afterschool Program
12	Village of Williamsville Meeting House
13	YWCA, Inc. Transitional Housing
14	Community Policing Engagement Events
15	Eggertsville Community Organization
16	Senior Center ADA Bathroom Access
17	Amherst First-time Homebuyer Program (HOME)
18	Amherst Acquisition-Rehabilitation/New Construction-Resale (HOME)
19	Amherst HOME Administration
20	Tonawanda Residential Rehabilitation (HOME)
21	Tonawanda First-time Homebuyer Closing Cost Assistance (HOME)
22	Tonawanda HOME Administration
23	Cheektowaga Housing Rehabilitation (HOME)
24	Cheektowaga CHDO Acquisition-Rehabilitation/New Construction-Resale (HOME)
25	Cheektowaga First-time Homebuyer Program (HOME)
26	Cheektowaga HOME Administration
27	CDBG Program Required Planning Activities

Table 4 – Project Information

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

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Amherst CDBG Housing Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Windermere-Meadow Lea Eggertsville Town Wide Springville Callodine
	Goals Supported	Improve Housing Stock
	Needs Addressed	Residential Rehabilitation-Owner-Occupied *A, Residential Rehab-Owner-Occupied Military Grant *A, Handicapped Accessibility *A
	Funding	CDBG: \$192,824
	Description	Deferred interest free loans up to \$20,000 to low-moderate income homeowners to undertake necessary repairs to their homes. (\$55,524 CDBG Rehab; \$127,300 Rehab Payroll - total \$182,824); Anticipated \$190,000 CD Program Income received FY18-19 to supplement entitlement funds. CDBG housing rehab for 2018 will be accomplished with Entitlement funds and program income. Approximately \$10,000 is a set-aside for Veterans-specific homeowner rehab grants. The Town's State AHP Grant will supplement the funding in target areas, if received. If there is a decrease in the CDBG allocation it will be absorbed primarily by CDBG rehabilitation.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 35 households will benefit from this program.
	Location Description	Town-wide. If additional state grant funds are received, they'll be applied as match to target areas.

	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 14A - Housing rehabilitation for needed repairs to bring properties to code and provide safe secure housing units. These repairs may include structural or mechanical systems such as roofing, siding, insulation, windows, doors, electrical and plumbing.
2	Project Name	Amherst Housing Rehabilitation (HOME) funds
	Target Area	Windermere-Meadow Lea Egbertsville Town Wide Springville Callodine
	Goals Supported	Improve Housing Stock
	Needs Addressed	Residential Rehabilitation-Owner-Occupied *A, Residential Rehab-Owner-Occupied Military Grant *A
	Funding	HOME: \$82,785
	Description	\$117,785 is allocated to offer 0% deferred loans averaging \$10,000 to low- to- moderate income households to rehabilitate deteriorated structures. Anticipated \$35,000 in HOME program income received after 04/01/18 and any additional returns in 2018 from prior HOME Rehab activities will supplement the project, along with the remainder of the NYS AHC grant. If there is a decrease in the HOME grant for 2018 it will be absorbed by the housing rehabilitation program and HOME admin. allocation.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately ten homes will be rehabilitated through this program. The homeowners must be income eligible and reside in the home. Such repairs as roofing, siding, windows, plumbing, electrical and heating are allowed as long as the home is brought up to housing quality standards. A minimum of \$1,000 must be used for repairs.
	Location Description	Town-wide
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 14A - Housing Rehabilitation for needed repairs to bring properties up to code and provide safe secure housing.

3	Project Name	CDBG General Program Administration
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Improve Housing Stock Promote Affordable Homeownership Provide Assistance to At-Risk Population Special Needs Population Rental Housing Owner-occupied Rehabilitation Weatherization Assistance Affirmatively Further Fair Housing Historic Preservation/Elimination of Slum & Blight Community Services
	Needs Addressed	Residential Rehabilitation-Owner-Occupied *A, Residential Rehab-Owner-Occupied Military Grant *A, Public Services - Youth Services *A, Hsg Counseling & Foreclosure Prevention Assist *A, Residential Rehab-Owner occupied Rental *A, Handicapped Accessibility *A, Public Facilities *A, Weatherization Assistance *A, Community Policing *A, Assist Victims of Domestic Violence *A, Fair Housing Counseling *A, Historic Preservation *A
	Funding	CDBG: \$108,000
	Description	These funds are used for staff administration of the CDBG Grant.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 21A - Administration of all CDBG funded activities.

4	Project Name	CDBG Office Expenses
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Improve Housing Stock Promote Affordable Homeownership Provide Assistance to At-Risk Population Special Needs Population Rental Housing Owner-occupied Rehabilitation Weatherization Assistance Affirmatively Further Fair Housing Historic Preservation/Elimination of Slum & Blight Community Services
	Needs Addressed	Residential Rehabilitation-Owner-Occupied *A, Residential Rehab-Owner-Occupied Military Grant *A, Public Services - Youth Services *A, Hsg Counseling & Foreclosure Prevention Assist *A, Residential Rehab-Owner occupied Rental *A, Handicapped Accessibility *A, Public Facilities *A, Weatherization Assistance *A, Assist Victims of Domestic Violence *A, Fair Housing Counseling *A, Historic Preservation *A
	Funding	CDBG: \$1,000
	Description	Office supplies, copying costs and mailing expenses for administration of CDBG Program.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 21B - General office supplies

5	Project Name	Public Information and Advertising
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Improve Housing Stock
	Needs Addressed	Residential Rehabilitation-Owner-Occupied *A, Residential Rehab-Owner-Occupied Military Grant *A, Residential Rehab-Owner occupied Rental *A
	Funding	CDBG: \$2,000
	Description	Advertising for Public Hearings, the availability of funds, reports, plans, and other housing activities or opportunities associated with the federal grants received by the Town.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 21C - Advertising for Public Hearings, the availability of funds, reports, plans, and other housing activities or opportunities associated with the federal grants received by the Town.
6	Project Name	Lead Based Paint Testing and Clearance
	Target Area	Windermere-Meadow Lea Eggertsville Town Wide Springville Callodine
	Goals Supported	Improve Housing Stock
	Needs Addressed	Residential Rehabilitation-Owner-Occupied *A, Residential Rehab-Owner-Occupied Military Grant *A, Residential Rehab-Owner occupied Rental *A, Handicapped Accessibility *A

	Funding	CDBG: \$8,000
	Description	Lead-based paint risk assessment/evaluation for CDBG and HOME rehabilitation activities and clearance testing after repairs.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 15 properties will be inspected and cleared after repairs are completed to assure that there is no presence of lead-based paint.
	Location Description	Town-wide
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 14I - A risk assessment of the presence of lead based paint hazard by the Town's contracted qualified environmental firm prior to rehabilitation work, and the clearance testing required at the completion of the work to ensure the elimination of the lead hazard.
7	Project Name	Belmont Housing Counseling Services
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Promote Affordable Homeownership
	Needs Addressed	Hsg Counseling & Foreclosure Prevention Assist *A
	Funding	CDBG: \$14,500
	Description	Belmont Housing Resources for WNY, Inc. is a HUD certified counseling agency that will provide tenant, pre-purchase, post-purchase, foreclosure, reverse mortgage and mortgage default counseling services to low-moderate income residents. Renewed contract with Belmont Housing Resources with same provision for annual renewal.
	Target Date	3/31/2019

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	150 households or individuals will benefit from the counseling and financial education offered by the program.
	Location Description	Town-wide
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code: 05K - Counselors from Belmont Housing Resources for WNY, Inc. (Belmont) will offer financial education classes and individual financial and landlord/tenant counseling to first time homebuyers two times per month in Amherst Town Hall as well as at the Main Street (Buffalo) offices of Belmont. These counseling services include credit counseling, reverse mortgage information, mortgage default and foreclosure prevention and landlord-tenant rights information as well as first time homebuyer assistance.
8	Project Name	Buffalo Urban League Foreclosure Prevention Services
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Provide Assistance to At-Risk Population
	Needs Addressed	Hsg Counseling & Foreclosure Prevention Assist *A
	Funding	CDBG: \$6,000
	Description	Counseling and legal assistance for income eligible Amherst Homeowners to avoid mortgage default and/or predatory lending situations. Additional assistance is available for credit counseling and credit restructuring and foreclosure prevention.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 25 households will benefit from the credit counseling and foreclosure prevention services offered by the Buffalo Urban League.
	Location Description	Town-wide

	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 05C - Buffalo Urban League provides counseling on mortgage modification and foreclosure prevention, and provides the legal services needed to assist homeowners to remain in their homes through the loan modification process.
9	Project Name	Fair Housing Counseling through H.O.M.E.
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Affirmatively Further Fair Housing
	Needs Addressed	Fair Housing Counseling *A
	Funding	CDBG: \$6,000
	Description	Housing Opportunities Made Equal, Inc. (HOME) will advocate for victims of perceived housing discrimination and offer informational workshops on discrimination to Town Officials. Advertising for Fair Housing issues will also be handled by HOME and a link to their website is on the Town's Community Development page: www.amherst.ny.us/community (under Fair Housing). A landlord-tenant training and fair housing video are typically scheduled in the Town as a Fair Housing Month activity.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 120 individuals will be assisted through the education, advocacy and enforcement assistance offered by Housing Opportunities Made Equal, Inc.
	Location Description	Town-wide
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 21D - The counselors and legal staff of Housing Opportunities Made Equal offer services to current and potential residents of the Town who feel they are victims of discrimination in housing and employment. The staff also provides information about landlord and tenant rights and mitigation in rental disputes if needed. HOME provides the enforcement of the Fair Housing Act to ensure that all persons are treated equally in their desire for affordable safe and secure housing in Amherst.

10	Project Name	Amherst Center for Senior Services Wheelchair Van
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Special Needs Population
	Needs Addressed	Handicapped Accessibility *A
	Funding	CDBG: \$8,000
	Description	To provide a portion of the cost for a wheelchair-accessible van to be used for transportation of senior citizens who live in the Town of Amherst. The addition of this accessible van to the Center's fleet replaces an obsolete vehicle. The new van will provide service to approximately 2000 Amherst seniors with mobility issues, allowing them to meet medical appointments and daily errands of shopping and banking, and allowing them to retain their independence.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 2000 eligible seniors in Amherst will have access to the accessible transportation services offered through the Senior Center
	Location Description	Town-wide
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 05A - The Senior Center will purchase a wheelchair accessible van to provide services to the frail elderly in the community to help maintain their independence in their daily routine.
11	Project Name	Boys and Girls Club Afterschool Program
	Target Area	Windermere-Meadow Lea Eggertsville Springville Callodine
	Goals Supported	Community Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services - Youth Services *A

	Funding	CDBG: \$37,000
	Description	The Boys & Girls Club Program serves low income youth residing in Allenhurst Apartments, Princeton Court Apartments, and other Eggertsville neighborhoods in target areas adjacent to the Windermere School. It has been extended to the Amherst School District and is housed in the Eggertsville Community Center on Bailey Avenue in Eggertsville, opened in 2009. The after-school program provides educational, social and recreational opportunities to approximately 55 children per day, designed to support the families and enhance the children's potential to succeed in school and the community, in a safe environment for the children. CDBG funds will cover the cost of staff for the after-school program.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 50 youth from low-mod households will be assisted at the Eggertsville Community Center after school program each day.
	Location Description	Eggertsville which includes Springville, Callodine, Windermere-Meadow Lea.
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 05D - The After School Program provides educational, social and recreational programs for children in a safe environment. CDBG funding covers the cost of staff people for the after school activities.
12	Project Name	Village of Williamsville Meeting House
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Historic Preservation/Elimination of Slum & Blight
	Needs Addressed	Historic Preservation *A
	Funding	CDBG: \$31,261

	Description	The Village of Williamsville is allocated 7% of Amherst's annual CDBG funding. Funding will be directed to the restoration of the stained glass windows in the Historic Village Meeting House on Main Street in the Village. The Village has decided to commit their CDBG allocation to this activity, to match other grants. Any increase or decrease in CDBG funding will be reflected in this share of CDBG funding.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	5300 residents of the Village of Williamsville, and the population of residents in the Town of Amherst who live and/or work near Williamsville.
	Location Description	The Historic Meeting House is located on Main Street near Mill in the Village of Williamsville.
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 16B - The project will cover the needed roof repair and the re-glazing of the stained glass windows in the Village Meeting house in conjunction with the Village of Williamsville's New York State Historic Preservation Grant to restore Landmark status buildings.
13	Project Name	YWCA, Inc. Transitional Housing
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Provide Assistance to At-Risk Population
	Needs Addressed	Assist Victims of Domestic Violence *A
	Funding	CDBG: \$18,500
	Description	Four households in designated homes in the northwest portion of the Town will receive services including case management and transportation assistance. The supportive housing provides shelter for low-income domestic violence victims/battered spouses and their children (four adult females and fourteen children). The CDBG funds are being used to pay for bus passes and for a portion of case management salaries.
	Target Date	3/31/2019

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Four households.
	Location Description	Creekwoods neighborhood.
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 05G - Public service activities including case management to address barriers and regain self-sufficiency, and transportation for domestic violence victims. Transitional housing and supportive service programming for homeless women and their children.
14	Project Name	Community Policing Engagement Events
	Target Area	Windermere-Meadow Lea Eggertsville Town Wide Springville Callodine
	Goals Supported	Community Services
	Needs Addressed	Community Policing *A
	Funding	CDBG: \$6,000
	Description	The Amherst Police Department together with the Amherst Recreation Department will hold a "Cops n Kids Community Event" and "Coffee with a Cop" Events to improve community relationships with the police in target areas and with special populations. The Kids event will host public safety tables, emergency vehicles for touring, and community cops meet n greet, plus giveaways with safety gear, such as fire alarms and bike helmets. The Coffee with a Cop events will be held at the Senior Center and build public safety awareness with Seniors in the community in regards to personal safety, aging-in-place, current safety concerns, and what to do in emergency situations. The Community Policing activities are expected to reach over 400 people.
	Target Date	3/31/2019

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The Kids event will be held in the Windermere neighborhood and draw families from the neighborhood and other nearby neighborhoods, Eggertsville and Springville-Callodine. The Senior events will occur a couple times per year and benefit seniors who utilize the Senior Center. Approximately 400 people are expected to benefit from the events held.
	Location Description	Eggertsville, Springville-Callodine, and Windermere- Meadow Lea. Town-wide for the Senior events.
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix code O5I - Crime Awareness/Prevention Promotion of crime awareness and prevention, including crime prevention education programs and paying for security guards.
15	Project Name	Eggertsville Community Organization
	Target Area	Eggertsville Springville Callodine
	Goals Supported	Community Services
	Needs Addressed	Code Enforcement *A
	Funding	CDBG: \$1,000
	Description	Fund the development and printing of educational brochures for Eggertsville Community Organization. The ECO members will conduct neighborhood outreach on code requirements for property maintenance and safety. The single outreach event will be held on a Saturday with members from the Town's Building department and Fire Safety Division and provide door-to-door outreach and educational handouts on services and assistance to ensure residents have safe housing.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately two blocks of families will benefit in the Eggertsville and Springville-Callodine neighborhood target areas, totaling 80 families.
	Location Description	Outreach will occur in the Eggertsville and Springville-Callodine neighborhoods.

	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix code 21C - Public Information Providing information and other resources to residents and citizen organizations participating in the planning, implementation, or assessment of CDBG-assisted activities.
16	Project Name	Senior Center ADA Bathroom Access
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Special Needs Population
	Needs Addressed	Handicapped Accessibility *A
	Funding	CDBG: \$6,500
	Description	Installation of ADA Access Push Buttons
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 2,000 Seniors with accessibility needs utilize the senior center annually.
	Location Description	The Senior Center is located in the Audubon neighborhood, which is a eligible LMI census tract area.
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 03A - Senior Centers Acquisition, construction, or rehabilitation of facilities for seniors.
17	Project Name	Amherst First-time Homebuyer Program (HOME)
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Promote Affordable Homeownership
	Needs Addressed	Homebuyer Assistance for Affordable Hsg *A
	Funding	

	Description	Closing Cost Assistance is provided in the form of a 0% deferred loan to income eligible first time home buyers in the Town and Village of Williamsville. Eligibility is for households less than 80% AMI based upon 2018 HUD Income Guidelines. This activity will be supplemented with HOME program income received in 2018 from previous closing cost assistance loans. No CDBG EN funds will be applied to this program in 2018, as \$77,000 remains from prior year allocations.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 4 first-time homebuyers households will be assisted in 2017. Previous years' funding available.
	Location Description	Town-wide
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 13 - Direct Homeownership Assistance to LMI households.
18	Project Name	Amherst Acquisition-Rehabilitation/New Construction-Resale (HOME)
	Target Area	Egbertsville, Springville Callodine, Windermere-Meadow Lea, Town-wide
	Goals Supported	Promote Affordable Homeownership
	Needs Addressed	Acquisition Rehabilitation Resale *A
	Funding	HOME: \$90,000
	Description	Acquisition and rehabilitation of an existing vacant, deteriorated single family house in a target neighborhood, or acquisition of a vacant lot and new construction of a single-family house for resale to an income eligible first-time homebuyer. Amherst will acquire at least one home or vacant lot in 2018, allocating \$90,000 of 2018 funding and supplementing it with the sale proceeds from 1519 Eggert Road (\$100,000 in Program Income). The owner/developer to manage the rehabilitation or new construction of the property may be a CHDO.
	Target Date	3/31/2019

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	One eligible first time homebuyer household will benefit from the resale of a rehabilitated property. The neighborhood will also benefit from the rehabilitation of the property or in-fill development that occurs.
	Location Description	Egbertsville; Town-wide.
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 14G - One home will be rehabilitated or a new home constructed and sold to a first time homebuyer through a non-profit owner/developer. A purchase subsidy will be available to supplement the closing cost homebuyer assistance, to make the home more affordable.
19	Project Name	Amherst HOME Administration
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Improve Housing Stock Promote Affordable Homeownership
	Needs Addressed	Residential Rehabilitation-Owner-Occupied *A
	Funding	HOME: \$57,595
	Description	Funds for staff and office costs for oversight and implementation of HOME activities: \$57,595. This figure is 10% of the total HOME Consortium allocation. The admin. funds will be supplemented with Amherst HOME Program Income; \$15,0000 for a total of \$72,595. Increases in 2018 allocation will be applied to the HOME Admin budget line in accordance with percentages allowed.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	N/A

	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code: 21H - Oversight and administration of the HOME Investment Partnership Grant for the Amherst HOME Consortium.
20	Project Name	Tonawanda Residential Rehabilitation (HOME)
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Improve Housing Stock
	Needs Addressed	Residential Rehabilitation-Owner-Occupied *A
	Funding	HOME: \$162,785
	Description	The Town of Tonawanda will allocate \$162,785 of FY2018 HOME EN and approximately \$100,000 of Program Income to provide a 0% deferred payment loan to low-moderate income homeowners (income is below 80% of the HUD area median income) in the Town-excluding the Village of Kenmore-for necessary repairs to their homes.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately seven income eligible households will be assisted in the Town of Tonawanda.
	Location Description	Town-wide.
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 14A - Housing Rehabilitation for needed repairs to bring properties up to code and provide safe secure housing.
21	Project Name	Tonawanda First-time Homebuyer Closing Cost Assistance (HOME)
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Promote Affordable Homeownership
	Needs Addressed	Homebuyer Assistance for Affordable Hsg *A
	Funding	HOME: \$10,000

	Description	The Town of Tonawanda will provide closing cost assistance for First Time Homebuyers to purchase a home in that Town. The assistance is in the form of a 0% deferred payment loan provided to potential homebuyers whose income is less than 80% of HUD area median income. Previous years' funds to supplement the project.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 2 households will be assisted.
	Location Description	Town-wide
	Planned Activities	Provide closing cost assistance for First Time Homebuyers to purchase a home. The assistance is in the form of a 0% deferred payment loan provided to potential homebuyers whose income is less than 80% of HUD area median income.
22	Project Name	Tonawanda HOME Administration
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Improve Housing Stock
	Needs Addressed	Residential Rehabilitation-Owner-Occupied *A
	Funding	
	Description	The Town of Tonawanda will use 10% of its HOME program income received in 2018 for admin funding for staff to administer the HOME program in Town.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A

	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 21H Staff costs for the administration of Tonawanda HOME activities for 2018.
23	Project Name	Cheektowaga Housing Rehabilitation (HOME)
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Improve Housing Stock
	Needs Addressed	Residential Rehabilitation-Owner-Occupied *A
	Funding	HOME: \$86,384
	Description	The Town of Cheektowaga will allocate \$86,384 of FY2018 HOME EN and \$100,000 of HOME Program Income to provide a 0% deferred payment loan to low-moderate income homeowners (income is below 80% of the HUD area median income) for necessary repairs to their homes.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 10 low and moderate income homeowners will be assisted.
	Location Description	Town-wide
Planned Activities	Cheektowaga will allocate \$86,384 of FY2018 HOME EN and \$100,000 of Program Income funds to provide a 0% deferred payment loan to low-moderate income homeowners (income is below 80% of the HUD area median income) for necessary repairs to their homes.	
24	Project Name	Cheektowaga CHDO Acquisition-Rehabilitation/New Construction-Resale (HOME)
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Promote Affordable Homeownership

	Needs Addressed	Acquisition Rehabilitation Resale *A
	Funding	HOME: \$86,400
	Description	Acquisition of a vacant and/or foreclosed property for rehabilitation or new construction of a single-family home and resale to an income-eligible first time homebuyer. Cheektowaga is allocating \$86,400 HOME EN funding.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 1 low-moderate income family or individual will benefit from the creation or rehab of the single-family home.
	Location Description	Town-wide.
	Planned Activities	The Town is prepared to acquire and rehabilitate a vacant, deteriorated property for resale as an affordable unit to an eligible first time homebuyer using HOME entitlement funds and program income received from the previous year's activities. This activity will be completed in conjunction with a CHDO developer, such as Matt Urban Center.
25	Project Name	Cheektowaga First-time Homebuyer Program (HOME)
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Promote Affordable Homeownership
	Needs Addressed	Homebuyer Assistance for Affordable Hsg *A
	Funding	
	Description	Closing cost assistance to income eligible first-time homebuyers. The loan is a 0% deferred loan to cover the closing costs. Previous years' funding to be used.
	Target Date	3/31/2019

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 4 households will be assisted.
	Location Description	Town-wide.
	Planned Activities	Closing cost assistance will be provided to approximately four eligible first time homebuyers in Cheektowaga in the form of a 0% deferred loan to be repaid upon sale or transfer of the property, or if the borrower no longer permanently resides at the address.
26	Project Name	Cheektowaga HOME Administration
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Improve Housing Stock
	Needs Addressed	Residential Rehabilitation-Owner-Occupied *A
	Funding	
	Description	The Town of Cheektowaga will use 10% of its HOME program income received in 2018 for admin funding for staff to administer the HOME program.
	Target Date	3/31/2019
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	N/A
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 21H - Costs associated with administration and delivery of HOME funded activities. 10% of Cheektowaga's HOME program income will be used for this activity.
27	Project Name	CDBG Program Required Planning Activities
	Target Area	Town Wide

Goals Supported	Affirmatively Further Fair Housing
Needs Addressed	Residential Rehabilitation-Owner-Occupied *A, Residential Rehab-Owner-Occupied Military Grant *A, Hsg Counseling & Foreclosure Prevention Assist *A, Residential Rehab-Owner occupied Rental*A, Handicapped Accessibility *A, Homebuyer Assistance for Affordable Hsg *A, Public Facilities *A, Weatherization Assistance *A, Community Policing *A, Assist Victims of Domestic Violence *A, Fair Housing Counseling *A, Infrastructure *A, Acquisition Rehabilitation Resale *A, Historic Preservation *A.
Funding	
Description	Develop program planning necessary for proper administration of CDBG and HOME programming, including the Affirmatively Further Fair Housing Report, Five-year Consolidated Planning, Direct Community-Level Surveys or Market Analyses. Approximately \$10,000 in Program Income will be applied to this Project in 2018.
Target Date	3/31/2019
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
Location Description	Planning will address Town-wide analyses and needs. Surveys, if conducted, may be neighborhood specific.
Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code 20 - Hire a consultant to complete necessary planning activities to ensure program funds are allocated to the greatest need and benefit.

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

The Town of Amherst encompasses approximately 50 square miles from Niagara Falls Boulevard in the west, Transit Road in the east, Tonawanda Creek Road in the north and Wehrle Drive in the south. There are no complete Census tracts in the Town that fall above 51% low-mod income, so the Town uses the upper quartile of low-mod concentration for its eligibility guide for federal assistance. The highest concentration of low-mod households can be found in the western portion of the Town, both north and south. This is the older portion of the Town that borders on the City of Buffalo and has the higher number of affordable housing units, both owner-occupied and rental as well. As the population ages in the Town other pockets of low-mod income elderly households become evident throughout the Town in many of the established "higher income" neighborhoods, which is why some of the projects are directed townwide.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Windermere-Meadow Lea	10
Egbertsville	50
Town Wide	30
Springville Callodine	10

Table 5 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The Egbertsville target area, including Windermere-Meadow Lea neighborhoods, has the highest percentage of assistance as it is the older part of the town and the housing stock needs more attention to maintain. The higher percentage of low-mod income households are also concentrated in this area of the Town. Finally, acquisition-rehab and Land Bank activities are concentrated in this area.

Discussion

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing - 91.420, 91.220(g)

Introduction

The highest percentage of CDBG and HOME funds are directed to providing and improving the affordable housing units in the Town. The Town does not receive homeless assistance through ESG, but relies on the Homeless Alliance of WNY and Belmont Housing Resources for WNY, Inc. (PHA for Housing Choice Voucher Program/Section 8 rental assistance) to assist those at risk of homelessness. Housing Rehabilitation is the largest activity for retaining affordable housing stock in the Town.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	1
Non-Homeless	25
Special-Needs	2
Total	28

Table 6 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	2
The Production of New Units	1
Rehab of Existing Units	35
Acquisition of Existing Units	2
Total	40

Table 7 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The Town has acquired a vacant property on Meadow Lea through the Buffalo Erie Niagara Land Improvement Corporation for rehabilitation and resale to a low-mod household. In 2018 the town will also acquire vacant parcels on Sunset Ct and Grover Cleveland Highway with the help of the Land Bank and will construct a three bedroom home to sell to an eligible first-time homebuyer. The majority of the housing funds will be used for rehabilitation of income-eligible existing owner-occupied units through a 0% deferred loan program. The program will also assist approximately four first-time income eligible homebuyers with closing cost assistance in the form of a 0% deferred loan.

AP-60 Public Housing - 91.420, 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Town of Amherst does not have a public housing development that the municipality owns. Multi family rental units are owned privately and units are available with rental assistance through project specific vouchers or Section 8 rental assistance. There are approximately 10 subsidized housing complexes in the Town and an additional four developments of affordable rental units that are not subsidized but below market rate.

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

The Town is currently working with Belmont Housing Resources of WNY to identify properties appropriate for development of low-income senior housing. The desire is to utilize existing neighborhoods that require in-fill development and incorporate complementary uses into the development. If an appropriate project is found, the Town will continue working with Belmont to outline phased incentive funding for the project to match low-income housing tax credits in future program years.

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

The Towns' HOME Acquisition-Rehab-Resale and First-Time Homebuyer programs are designed to provide affordable and sustainable housing to residents of low to moderate income households. Residents of multi-family and affordable rental housing in the towns are notified of the availability of the homes produced through these programs through advertising in local papers, the Towns' websites and the website of Belmont Housing Resources for WNY, Inc. and direct flyers sent to the managers' offices of the complexes and to first-time homebuyer education classes.

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

N/A

Discussion

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities - 91.420, 91.220(i)

Introduction

The Town does not receive any direct homeless assistance but relies on assistance through the Homeless Alliance of WNY and Belmont Housing Resources for WNY's Housing Choice Voucher/Section 8 emergency housing assistance.

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

Erie County Social Services and the Homeless Alliance have contracted with some Amherst area motels to provide emergency shelter for several people identified as being homeless in the Town. Amherst's Meals on Wheels Program has also stepped forward in these cases to provide daily meals. Community Development Block Grant funds may be made available to the Amherst Meals on Wheels program to provide healthy nutritious meals to the Town's identified homeless individuals or families if requested.

The 2018 Action Plan goals do address assisting frail elderly and those at-risk of homelessness. Hearts for the Homeless emergency shelter will continue to operate their mobile shelter. The motor home travels throughout the Towns and the City of Buffalo to find the homeless street people to provide food and clothing. At that time, the homeless are assessed as to their needs and referred to proper agencies for case management.

Compass House continues to enable youth to move to permanent housing and defray rent and utility arrears to prevent eviction and/or termination. The Salvation Army will also cover these same costs for adults who find themselves in similar situations.

The Police Departments and the administrators of the emergency rooms of Kenmore Mercy Hospital in Tonawanda, St. Joseph's Hospital in Cheektowaga and Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital in Amherst will work together to identify the homeless, assess their needs, and refer them to the appropriate agency.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Grant funds are available to assist victims of domestic violence in emergency situations through the Town of Amherst Family Offense Unit of the Police Department. Additional funds provide support through the YWCA for four units of Transitional Housing in the Town for families re-establishing themselves after the disruption of domestic violence. Funds are used for case management and

transportation.

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.

Low and moderate income households sometimes find themselves in a situation where they "lose ground" in terms of their housing situation. The Town will continue to develop its programs to assist existing low and moderate income residents so that they can maintain and improve their current residential situations. This also includes homeowner rehabilitation assistance and weatherization assistance for owners and renters.

The Town will contract with Belmont Housing Resources for WNY, Inc. and Buffalo Urban League to provide advocacy and counseling to homeowners who are refinancing homes in order to consolidate consumer debt. The Town will also provide a copy of relevant HUD brochures, and refer residents to Belmont and Buffalo Urban League when past housing rehabilitation clients seek to refinance their homes.

Additional services are provided through Belmont for credit and mortgage default counseling and the Buffalo Urban League for legal assistance for foreclosure prevention and loan modification for homeowners at risk of losing their homes through job loss, costly medical emergencies, etc.

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.

Amherst belongs to the Erie County Fair Housing Partnership, which provides a forum to identify current fair housing issues. This organization deals with sub-prime lending activities which may be legal, but which often set up low and moderate income homeowners to become overburdened with debt and lose their homes to foreclosure. They also offer counseling and legal assistance to homeowners facing foreclosure. Community Development staff has worked with the Partnership to develop workshops on mortgage loans, mortgage modification and foreclosure prevention in order to better prepare and educate potential homebuyers and current homeowners involved in home buying activities, refinancing

or mortgage modification.

The Town will contract with a HUD Certified non-profit housing organization for the provision of housing counseling services to homebuyers, homeowners and renters. This counseling will educate residents on their personal responsibilities in managing their financial affairs to maintain a healthy credit rating, as well as their opportunities to improve their own financial circumstances.

Discussion

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

Introduction

Chronic Homelessness

The Town's Community Development staff has participated in the Prism Project Forum and Point in Time to survey the homeless and help to create a data base of services utilized by the chronically homeless. These projects, sponsored by the Homeless Alliance of Western New York, have produced a Ten-Year Action Plan for the broader Erie County community. Among the priorities it sets for the community are: permanent housing for the chronically homeless, permanent housing for clients dealing with mental illness and/or substance abuse issues (MICA) clients.

The seventh annual Project Homeless Connect Buffalo was held in September 2015 at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center. More than 70 human service agencies throughout the area offered assistance in finding jobs, a place to live, health care and fulfilling other needs for those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Free shuttle buses were available to bring people in from local soup kitchens and shelters.

The Town of Amherst also continues to act as the lead applicant PHA for the Erie County PHA Consortium. In this role the Town contracts with Belmont Housing Resources WNY to act as the management agent for the day-to-day operation of the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program. (It should also be noted that Belmont is a participant in the Prism Project Forum.) The PHA has a set-aside of rent vouchers for the homeless and also for youth aging-out-of-foster care, who typically have higher rates of homelessness. Crisis Services refers eligible clients to Belmont for these rent subsidies.

The PHA also has vouchers under the VASH (Veterans Administration Supportive Housing) program. These are available to homeless veterans with substance abuse/mental health issues. The Homeless Outreach program through the local VA hospital is a very involved partner with Belmont in linking these rent subsidies with follow-up care to providing a stabilizing force in these persons' lives (community-oriented outreach, clinical care and case management services).

Transitional Services, Inc. operates a community residence for 13 adults on North Ellicott Creek Road in the Town of Amherst. The agency provides opportunities for community living for persons with mental health issues. Staff provides individual assessment, rehabilitation services, case management and supportive counseling to each unique individual. The Town of Amherst is also host to sixty-three (63) group homes for the developmentally disabled.

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.

Amherst is currently undergoing changes to its residential, commercial and office space markets. While housing values soar, commercial and office demand is decreasing and demographics are shifting. The town is aging as well. To address these changes, the Town is reimagining itself in a project called Imagine Amherst. Imagine Amherst has been working with residents and technical committee over the past two years to revise guiding language in the comprehensive plan to address commercial development's form and mixture of uses in older commercial clusters in town. The changes to the comprehensive plan were recently adopted in December 2017.

In 2018, Amherst will be looking to implement this new vision for the town through zoning amendments and how those amendments take shape will affect affordable housing stock in town and the reinvestment into many of Amherst's affordable neighborhoods in the future. Amherst's Community Development staff will be involved with the project to ensure affordability is a component of these zoning changes and to align with any funding priorities necessary to support affordable housing in 2019 and beyond.

Aside from the Imagine Amherst project, staff is also looking at other codes and regulations that impact affordable housing. In 2018, a review of zoning code and other town policies will take place and recommendations will be developed.

Discussion

The Town continues its program to rehabilitate existing low-income, owner-occupied, single-family and two-family housing by providing a 0% interest deferred payment loan through the CDBG and HOME Programs. Approximately 35 single-family units and two two-family unit will be rehabilitated. (Town/Village-wide)

Through the Consortium's partnership with New Opportunities Community Housing Development Corp. Amherst will acquire and rehabilitate or build at least one home in the Town to be resold to first-time homebuyers. This property will be made affordable to an income-eligible homebuyer below 80% Area Median Income using HOME funds.

Amherst will also weatherize existing low income owner occupied housing and rental housing (excluding multi-unit complexes) through the Weatherization Assistance Program funded by the Department of Energy and administered through Supportive Services Corporation. Approximately 25 Amherst units will be weatherized, using current year's and previous years' funds. (Town/Village-wide)

The Town will continue to support the activities of the Erie County Fair Housing Partnership and will actively participate in a 2018 Conference and other activities scheduled for April, Fair Housing Month. A committee has been formed through the Partnership to review public transportation availability and its effect on housing choices for the low-mod income population seeking or retaining employment in the

Town as noted in our Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing as an issue that requires attention in the suburbs as well as the city.

The Town of Amherst has a very active Committee on Disabilities that has addressed ADA compliance in all Town facilities and will be directing its efforts, along with Town departments, to establishing a Town Policy on ADA compliance and accessibility throughout the Town. Fair Housing counselors are noting an increased rate of discrimination reports from persons with disabilities that are trying to find housing in the Town. The Town's CDBG and HOME housing programs do offer rehabilitation loans to single family homeowners and owner occupied two family units to provide accessibility repairs.

The Town of Amherst will continue to act as the lead PHA for the Erie County PHA Consortium, acting as a conduit for Section 8 rental subsidies for eligible, very low income households in Erie County.

Continue to support:

- Eligible applications for new rental units for low income elderly through the Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program (Section 202).
- Eligible applications for newly created rental units for low-income visually and/or physically impaired residents.
- An application for new rental units for low income elderly through the Section 8/Section 202 New Construction Program if funding becomes available.

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

Introduction

The Consortium communities recognize that housing programs by themselves will not eliminate or reduce poverty. Subsidized programs targeted in the Consortium Consolidated Plan can free up cash resources for living necessities, but these programs alone cannot raise a household above the poverty level.

The Consortium Towns, understanding the importance of coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies, have developed the Consolidated Plan through consultation and cooperation with such agencies. In doing so, the Towns have established a working relationship with numerous social and housing service providers which will serve as a foundation for coordination and cooperation in the implementation of the Annual Action Plan. Acknowledging that each agency plays a specific role in providing different types of services, the Towns will adhere to a policy of encouraging ongoing communication, referrals and exchange of information among these agencies. Such a policy will allow the Towns to serve as catalysts to help ensure that the full range of appropriate resources are made known and available to service agencies in order to provide a thorough and complete approach to meeting priority housing, social and health needs of low income persons.

Where appropriate and feasible, the Consortium Towns will coordinate their housing programs with services designed to assist low income households to break the cycle of poverty.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The Town of Amherst acts as lead PHA for the Erie County PHA Consortium. In this capacity, it contracts with Belmont Housing Resources for WNY to administer the Section 8 rent subsidy programs in Erie County. The Erie County P.H.A. has established an Action Plan for the Family Self-Sufficiency Program. This program provides rent subsidies to eligible households in concert with other social services and programs on terms that encourage personal responsibility leading to financial independence.

The bank financing for home repair loans for low and moderate income persons reduces the amount of disposable income with the potential of placing the person into poverty. The Consortium Towns offer a 0% deferred payment loan to low and moderate income persons to make house repairs which is payable when the house is sold.

In addition, Erie County's work force development offices provide training and employment opportunities to:

- Economically disadvantaged adults who need training and job skills to secure employment.
- Dislocated workers who are economically disadvantaged and have been laid off and are waiting

to be recalled to the same or similar occupation, for example, a steel worker.

- Provide a summer job to youth who are from low and moderate income families along with on-the-job education classes for the duration of their job.

Employment opportunities may be available for Community Development projects under the Section 3 requirement. Section 3 provides for preference to be given to a contractor who meets requirements for Section 3 certification by agreeing to hire low-income Town residents for that project. The Town requires contractors working on projects funded with CDBG and HOME funds to post any job opening in the rental offices of low-income family housing developments.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The Consortium Towns will continue to undertake housing rehabilitation, acquisition-rehab-resale projects, and first time homebuyer activities. Additionally, Amherst funds and coordinates with agencies that provide housing counseling, foreclosure prevention, landlord-tenant education, and housing and services for victims of domestic violence. By focusing on geographic target areas with low-mod populations, and assisting low-mod income households, the Town assists residents with various aspects of obtaining and maintaining affordable housing.

Eggertsville is one of the oldest neighborhoods in the Town and is the first ring suburban neighborhood adjacent to the City of Buffalo. While a portion of this part of Town does have higher income neighborhoods, many of the older homes have a market value less than \$100,000. While appealing to a lower income population of homebuyers, the homes are in need of repair to maintain their viability. Much of the Town's Housing Rehabilitation funding is concentrated in the Eggertsville area surrounding the University district, Springville-Callodine, Windermere-Allenhurst and Meadow Lea-Mapleview area.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The Consortium Towns will continue to undertake the following action to control lead based paint hazards during Fiscal Year 2018.

Houses built prior to 1978 showing deteriorated paint surfaces, exterior and interior, will be tested and if lead based paint is found it will be addressed. The three towns have sponsored renovators' and remodelers' training for housing rehabilitation contractors offering certifications for inspections and procedures. Also, the Community Development offices will continue to notify contractors of new education/training opportunities offered during the year for the federally required interim control procedures.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

There is currently no economic development or job training program available in the Town directly through CDBG funding. However, the assistance provided through the other CDBG programs to lower-

income households will relieve some of the financial burden and provide affordable options for housing, thus reducing some of the strain on household budgets.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

N/A

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

N/A

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	50,000
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:	50,000

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.	80.00%

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(2)

1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is as follows:

The Towns of Amherst, Cheektowaga and Tonawanda, through the A-C-T HOME Consortium, expect to receive HOME Investment Partnership Grant funds that will be used to rehabilitate owner-occupied homes needing repair and assist income-qualified first-time homebuyers by providing the money needed to cover closing costs and or down payment assistance. This homebuyer assistance

may enable previously underserved rental households to consider the possibility of home-ownership. The outreach activities in support of first-time homebuyer assistance will include advertising, informational workshops, financial education and additional counseling with follow-up post-purchase counseling to further ensure the success of homeownership.

Five Year goal:	50 low-mod income	<u>A</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>I</u>
	first-time homebuyers assisted	20	20	10
2018 goal:	low-mod homebuyers assisted	4	4	2

5-Yr. Sect. 215 goal: 50 low-mod income homebuyers assisted

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

The Amherst, Cheektowaga, Tonawanda HOME Consortium does not incorporate RESALE provisions in any of the HOME activities.

The Consortium Towns will utilize the “Shared Net Proceeds” **recapture** provision for the repayment of these loans in the event there are insufficient funds to repay the loan and homebuyer equity at the time of future resale of the property. See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(5)(ii)(A)(3).

Under the recapture option, the PJ recovers all or a portion of the HOME assistance to the homebuyers, if the housing does not continue to be the principal residence of the qualified low-income family that purchased the unit for the duration of the period of affordability.

The PJ and the homebuyer share the net proceeds based upon the ratio of the HOME subsidy to the sum of the homebuyer's investment plus the HOME subsidy.

As per the written HOME Agreements for the Amherst, Cheektowaga, Tonawanda Consortium’s Homebuyer Program:

“If the HOMEBUYER either sells the PROPERTY or gives up residence at the PROPERTY, he/she shall repay to the TOWN the full amount of the affordable housing subsidy. He/she shall make this repayment to the TOWN within ninety (90) days of his/her sale of the PROPERTY or termination of residency at the PROPERTY. However, if the PROPERTY is sold and the sales price minus the cost of repaying the first mortgage and minus closing costs is insufficient to repay both the full amount of the affordable housing subsidy and the HOMEBUYER’S investment, then the HOMEBUYER shall repay the TOWN only a pro-rated portion of the affordable housing subsidy. In such a case, the pro-rated portion the HOMEBUYER shall repay to the TOWN shall equal the amount yielded by the

following formula:"

$$\frac{\text{HOME investment}}{\text{HOME investment} + \text{HOMEBUYER investment}} \times \text{Net Proceeds} = \text{HOME amount to be recaptured}$$

HOME investment + HOMEBUYER investment

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION: Townwide in each of the three Towns, including the Villages, in the Consortium.

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

The Towns of the Amherst HOME Consortium do not use the Resale guidelines.

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

There are no plans to utilize HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing.

Grantee Unique Appendices

DRAFT 2018 Community Development Block Grant - HOME Program Budget

2018 CDBG Allocation	est. 10% decrease		
Town of Amherst & Village of Williamsville		\$	446,585

Village of Williamsville (7% Portion per Cooperation Agreement)

Stabilization and Rehabilitation of the Historic Village Meeting House	\$	31,261
Town of Amherst Portion	\$	415,324

Rehab	CD Payroll
\$ 55,524	\$127,300

****Est. CDPI
\$200,000**

HOUSING ACTIVITIES

Revolving Loan Program (Includes 3/4 Bldg. Insp. & 9/10 Clerk Typist)*	\$	182,824	\$	190,000
Lead Testing, Risk Assessments, Clearance Testing	\$	8,000		
Weatherization Services	\$	-		
Veterans Housing rehabilitation Grant	\$	10,000		
Total Housing Activities	\$	200,824	\$	190,000

PUBLIC SERVICES

Senior Services Transportation Van	\$	8,000		
Boys and Girls Club (Egbertsville After School)	\$	37,000		
Housing Assistance Counseling Services (Belmont Shelter Corp.)	\$	14,500		
B.U.L.Foreclosure Prevention Counseling	\$	6,000		
Community Policing/Recreation	\$	6,000		
Egbertsville Community Organization	\$	1,000		
YWCA, Inc.	\$	18,500		
Total Public Services	\$	91,000		

PUBLIC FACILITIES & IMPROVEMENTS

Senior Center ADA Bathroom Access	\$	6,500		
Total Public Facilities	\$	6,500		

ADMINISTRATION / PLANNING

Admin. Staff and Fringe Benefits	\$	108,000		
Office Expenses	\$	1,000		
Public Information (advertising)	\$	2,000		
Fair Housing Counseling-HOME	\$	6,000		
Program Required Planning Activities				\$10,000
Total Administration/Planning	\$	117,000		\$10,000

Activities Total	\$	446,585	\$	200,000
CDBG Allocation	\$	446,585		
**2017 Program Income	\$	200,000		
Total CDBG	\$	646,585		

2018 HOME Allocation	est 10% decrease		**Est. PI
Amherst - Cheektowaga - Tonawanda HOME Consortium		\$	575,949 \$ 300,000

Consortium Expenses 3 Town

3 Town Administration/Program Delivery (10% of total)	\$	57,595		
Portion for each town	\$	518,354		
Town of Amherst Portion of Remainder of HOME Grant	\$	172,785	\$	150,000
Program Income Admin Portion			\$	15,000

Town of Amherst Projects

Housing Rehabilitation Loans	\$	82,785	\$	35,000
Acquisition/Rehabilitation or New Construction/Resale	\$	90,000	\$	100,000
First-Time Homebuyer Assistance	\$	-		
Total	\$	172,785	\$	150,000

**Denotes funding from the estimated program income receipts.