



CITY OF AUSTIN

2019 – 2020

2020 – 2021

2021 – 2022

2022 – 2023

2023 – 2024

FY 23-24 ACTION PLAN

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FY 2023-2024 Draft Action Plan

AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)	1
PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)	12
AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)	14
AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)	41
AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c)(1,2)	48
AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives	57
AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)	64
AP-38 Project Summary	67
AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)	96
AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)	97
AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)	103
AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)	107
AP-70 HOPWA Goals– 91.220 (l)(3)	113
AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)	114
AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)	122
AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(l)(1,2,4)	127

Attachment I: Citizen Participation

- A: Citizen Participation Plan
- B: Public Engagement Summary

Attachment II: Grantee Unique Appendices

- A: Resale and Recapture Policy
- B: ESG Program Standards
- C: Monitoring Plan
- D: Relocation Policy
- E: HOME Sale Price Information
- E: Funding Summary & Production Table

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Austin submits this FY 2023-24 Action Plan as the fifth of five Action Plans within the FY 2019-24 Consolidated Plan. The following section provides a concise summary of the FY 2023-24 Action Plan. The final document will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) no later than August 16, 2023. In FY 2023-24, the City of Austin expects to receive continued funding from HUD through four entitlement grants: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG); HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME); Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG); and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). In addition to federal funding from HUD, the City of Austin (City) appropriates local funds to the Housing Department, formerly the Housing and Planning Department (HPD), for affordable housing and community development activities. HUD's guidance regarding the inclusion of non-federal funding sources in a Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan is that non-federal sources are to be included if they are reasonably expected to be made available to address the needs outlined in the plan.

This Action Plan is not intended to confer any legal rights or entitlements on any persons, groups, or entities, including those named as intended recipients of funds or as program beneficiaries. The terms of this Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan are subject to amendment and to the effect of applicable laws, regulations and ordinances. Statements of numerical goals or outcomes are for the purpose of measuring the success of programs and policies and do not impose a legal obligation on the City to achieve the intended results. Actual funding of programs and projects identified in this plan are subject to completion of various further actions, some of which involve discretionary determinations by the City or others. These actions include HUD approval of this plan; appropriations by the United States Congress and the Austin City Council; reviews and determinations under environmental and related laws; and results of bidding and contracting processes.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

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

The City's FY 2019-24 Consolidated Plan establishes funding priorities for the FY 2023-24 Action Plan in the following high priority need areas: Special Needs Assistance; Homeless Assistance; Renter Assistance; Homebuyer Assistance; Homeowner Assistance; Housing Development Assistance; Other Community Development Assistance. These funding priorities were established based on the housing and community development needs identified through public and stakeholder input while developing the FY 2019-24 Consolidated Plan, the 2019 Housing Market Analysis, a Regional Analysis of

Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI), and City Council direction. All the proposed funding priorities will serve very-low, low and moderate-income households in the City of Austin. See Exhibit 1 on page 4 of this document for a listing of FY 2019-24 Consolidated Plan programs and descriptions.

In 2017, the Austin City Council adopted the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint, a ten-year community plan to align resources, ensure a unified strategic direction, and facilitate community partnerships to reach the City's affordable housing goals. The Blueprint identifies five community values along with key recommended actions the City could take to support them:

- **Prevent Households from Being Price out of Austin:** Support legislation to allow flat dollar-amount Homestead Exemptions, create a preservation property tax exemption for properties to minimize displacement of low-income renters, expand the use of shared-equity ownership and mechanisms to preserve and create ownership options for households at 80-120% MFI, and invest in preservation strategies to combat gentrification.
- **Foster Equitable, Integrated and Diverse Communities:** Promote strategic investments and create protections for low-income renters by developing a strike fund to preserve multi-family buildings to retain affordable housing units, implement Austin's Fair Housing Action Plan, bolster enforcement of Fair Housing requirements, and undertake strategic land banking for affordable housing.
- **Invest in Housing for Those Most in Need:** Pursue future General Obligation Bonds and local fund appropriations for affordable housing, leverage low-income housing tax credits, challenge the private sector to fund affordable workforce housing, maximize the use of public properties for affordable housing, and expand housing for people with disabilities.
- **Create New and Affordable Housing Choices throughout Austin:** Use the affordable housing goals in this plan to guide policy, implement consistent density bonus programs, streamline City codes and permitting processes, better utilize land for affordable housing, revise the S.M.A.R.T Housing Program, relax regulations on affordable housing products (including cooperatives and Accessory Dwelling Units), and create a Multifamily Property Tax Exemption Program.
- **Help Austinites Reduce Household Costs:** Connect housing with transportation choices, increase efforts to help households to reduce utility costs through weatherization of current residences, and ensure the future housing developments are close to healthy grocery stores, health care services, and social support agencies.

In 2018 and 2022, voters approved two bonds valued at \$250 million and \$350 million, respectively, to support affordable housing programs administered by the City of Austin Housing Department. This substantial increase in resources has enabled the Housing Department to reprioritize and maximize the use of federal funds. The realignment of resources is also reflective of feedback received from the community during the community needs assessment period conducted for the FY 2019-24 Consolidated Plan.

City of Austin Ordinance 820401-D ("The Austin Housing and Community Development Block Grant Ordinance") dated April 1, 1982, sets forth requirements and provisions for the administration of funds received by the City under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, including the assertion that "the primary objectives of community development activities in the City of Austin shall be the development of a viable urban community, including decent housing, a suitable living environment, elimination of slums and blight and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low- and moderate-income," and that in implementing the above, "the City's general obligation to provide capital improvements to the target areas is not diminished except in extraordinary circumstances. Capital improvements in the target areas are to be funded through the normal course of City-wide capital improvements." Responsive to this ordinance, infrastructure needs are designated a low priority for Consolidated Planning purposes and will not be funded with Community Development Block Grant funding.

Exhibit 1.

FY 2019-24 Consolidated Plan Priorities	
Program	Program Description
Special Needs Assistance	Special Needs Assistance will assist low- to moderate-income Austinites by providing mental health services for at-risk youth, childcare services and services for seniors.
Homeless Assistance	Homeless Assistance provides services to the City's most vulnerable populations, including persons experiencing homelessness, persons living with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons experiencing mental illness, unaccompanied youth, persons with chronic substance abuse, and veterans.
Renter Assistance	Renter Assistance activities will provide assistance that can make rent more affordable, tenants' rights services, and financial assistance for necessary rehabilitation to make rental units accessible.
Homebuyer Assistance	Homebuyer Assistance provides counseling to renters wishing to become homebuyers. This category includes the Down Payment Assistance Program, which offers loans to qualifying low- and moderate-income homebuyers to help them buy their first home.
Homeowner Assistance	Homeowner Assistance provides services to individuals that own their homes, but need assistance to make the home safe, functional and/or accessible.
Housing Development Assistance	Housing Development Assistance includes programs that offer assistance to nonprofit and for-profit developers to build affordable housing for low- and moderate-income households, and to acquire real property for affordable housing purposes.
Other Community Development Assistance	Other Community Development Assistance includes activities that provide capacity building for nonprofit organizations that are focused on affordable housing development and workforce development, as well as providing support for small business development.

Exhibit 1 Consolidated Plan Priorities Table**3. Evaluation of past performance**

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

The City of Austin's Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPER) indicate a strong track record of setting and meeting goals. The City continuously evaluates program success and seeks to optimize program delivery in order to assist house holds with the greatest needs. The most recent remote monitoring was conducted by HUD for the CDBG Childcare Services and Senior Services

programs as well as the CDBG-CV RENT program. As a result, City staff and subrecipients received additional program and technical assistance training, and internal program guidelines, policies, and procedures were revised. All these actions were undertaken to improve program effectiveness, management efficiency and increase staff and subrecipient capacity and performance.

While the programs implemented in previous Consolidated Plan years have been successful, the City's FY 2019- 24 Consolidated Plan priorities were updated to be responsive to community feedback received during the planning process and to align with the City's the ten-year Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint [<http://austintexas.gov/housingblueprint>]. The alignment of the Consolidated Plan with the City's housing plan required the City to take an interdisciplinary planning approach by collaborating with internal and external partners to focus federal dollars where the need is the greatest. This ongoing collaboration is fundamental to leveraging non-federal resources to maximize programs that offer the deepest affordability and have a long-lasting and sustainable effect. Collaborative efforts with internal and external stakeholders and the community are discussed further in this section.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Outreach

The City continues to use the online platform *Speak Up Austin* to collect valuable feedback from the public that informs the Action Plan with the community's needs and priorities. Additionally, Housing Department staff consulted with various organizations and commissions to receive feedback on the needs of specific populations. Public hearings were held with the Community Development Commission and the Austin City Council to capture public input during the development of the Action Plan. The Community Development Commission advises the Austin City Council on the development and implementation of programs designed to serve low-income communities and the community at large, with an emphasis on federally funded programs.

For the Action Plan's Community Needs Assessment and public comment periods, information about the Action Plan process and opportunities for the community to submit feedback were published in the local newspapers *Austin American Statesman* and *El Mundo*, in English and Spanish, respectively. For the Community Needs Assessment period, information was also shared in the City's public utilities newsletter, *Austin Utilities Now*. In addition, a press release regarding the public comment period was posted on the Housing Department's website and sent to a list of local and national media outlets which can be found in this document in Attachment I B: Public Engagement Summary. Additionally, information about the Action Plan process was available on its dedicated *Speak Up Austin* web page during both the Community Needs Assessment and public comment periods where community members had the opportunity to digitally provide input and feedback. Overall, community members had the opportunity to provide feedback through either virtual or in-person attendance at public hearings, through the Action Plan's *Speak Up Austin* web page, via email sent to the Housing Department, postal mail and phone. More details about the community engagement process are discussed in sections AP-10: Consultation and AP-15: Citizen Participation in this document.

Community Needs Assessment Period

The Housing Department conducted the FY 2023-24 Community Needs Assessment period from March 6, 2023 through April 15, 2023. During this time, the public could give input on community needs and funding priorities via the *Speak Up Austin* platform, which shared information in both English and Spanish. Notice of the Community Needs Assessment was included in the *Austin Utilities Now* newsletter and Housing Department's website. Additionally, two public hearings were conducted in this period by the City of Austin City Council on March 23, 2023 and the City of Austin Community Development Commission on April 11, 2023 to receive input to inform the draft Action Plan. Through the course of this period, 23 boards, commissions, committees and organizations received a presentation on the Action Plan process and gave input on what needs and programs should be prioritized, including the Community Development Commission, the African American Resource Advisory Commission, the Commission on Aging (formerly the Commission on Seniors) and many others (full list is seen below.) In addition, multiple City of Austin staff with subject matter expertise coinciding with content in the Action Plan were consulted, including staff with expertise in watershed protection, displacement prevention and emergency management. Through the *Speak Up Austin* web page, the City received 14 comments in this period. A full account of the comments received through the Community Needs Assessment can be found in Attachment I B: Public Engagement of this document.

Draft Action Plan Public Comment Period

In accordance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan as amended, a draft Action Plan was available for review and comment by the public from May 9, 2023 and to June 9, 2023. A press release providing notice of the public comment period and public hearings was posted on the Housing Department's website and sent to local and national media outlets. In addition, public notices announcing and providing information about the public comment period were published in the local newspapers *Austin American Statesman* and *El Mundo* in English and Spanish, respectively. The draft Action Plan was accessible online through a dedicated *Speak Up Austin* web page and was also made available in the form of paper copies that were placed at public facilities throughout the City. The public were able to provide feedback through the *Speak Up Austin* web page, as well as via email, postal mail and phone. Public hearings took place on May 9, 2023 with the Community Development Commission and June 8, 2023 with the Austin City Council, to receive feedback and input on the draft plan.

5. Summary of public comments

Community Needs Assessment Feedback

The Community Needs Assessment for the FY 23-24 Action Plan was conducted from March 6, 2023 through April 15, 2023. The City received a total of 14 comments regarding community needs on the *Speak Up Austin* website, with 304 visits to the webpage. A diversity of comments were received, including comments pertaining to affordable housing, homeless assistance, advocacy for efforts to prioritize serving certain demographics, taxes, advocacy for types of programming prioritized and other

topics. A full report of the comments is included in Attachment I B: Public Engagement Summary of this document.

In accordance with the Housing Department's Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), two public hearings were held by the Austin City Council and Community Development Commission for the Community Needs Assessment. No community members offered comments during these public hearings. One reason for the lack of public comment during the public hearing opportunities may have been the timing of the hearings. The Austin City Council holds its almost all of its meetings during business hours on weekdays and many community members may experience difficulty attending during this time, whether virtually or in-person, due to work and/or family-related obligations. While Community Development Commission meetings are held in the evening, a very full agenda on the evening of the scheduled public hearing for the draft Action plan caused the public hearing to begin considerably late into the evening. Actions will be taken next year and in following years to ensure that a public hearing occurs at a time more accessible to many community members.

In addition, comments were received from commissioners, committee members and organizational staff that Housing Department staff consulted with regarding the Action Plan throughout the Community Needs Assessment Period. (Full documentation of these consultations is found in AP-10: Consultation of this document.)

Public Comment on the Draft Action Plan

The public comment period for the draft FY 23-24 Action Plan took place from May 9, 2023 to June 9, 2023. The public comment period was announced through public notices in both English and Spanish-language newspapers and a press release posted on the Housing Department's website and sent out to local and national media. A copy of the draft Action Plan was available both online and in-person at many community centers across the City. During the public comment period 2 comments were received through the draft Action Plan's dedicated *Speak Up Austin* website, with a total of 399 visits to the web page. The following comments were received:

- *"Please always use evidence-based decision-making in awarding contracts. Rather than the current subjective application-scoring mechanisms, instead prioritize affordable housing contracts to entities with proven track records of keeping local at-risk populations stably housed while maintaining years of good standing with Austin Code, HUD, and other regulatory bodies. Just because an agency makes a compelling case for what they intend to do, please give highest credence to those who actually have long-term experience in the multifaceted world of affordable housing."*
- *"As the governing board of the Austin/Travis County Homelessness Response System, the HRS Leadership Council offers the following public comment related to the City of Austin's Housing Departments FY 23-24 Action Plan, specifically the section: AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i) Our most significant concern is regarding the City's funding of Rapid Rehousing. According to the recent Housing Department Community Needs Assessment meeting with the HRS Leadership Council and the shared Action Plan Presentation slides, the Leadership Council has serious*

concerns regarding the underperformance and lack of clear mechanisms for accountability of the City's Rapid Rehousing program. The City had a goal of assisting 1100 individuals through ESG-CV Rapid Rehousing and ONLY 381 individuals were served. In a community where we have at least 5000 individuals experiencing homelessness and many more who have completed a Coordinated Assessment, the city is grossly underperforming in this housing intervention. What performance measures are these programs being measured by? What are the impacts if metrics aren't reached or funds are not spent? Why is the City continuing to fund a housing intervention when contracted agencies aren't meeting goals? Difficulty locating affordable units or units that will accept clients with various barriers is something that can be addressed by the City on a systemic level. We also would like the City to consider increasing the length of time a client can receive funding and support through Rapid Rehousing. Many clients receiving RRH are unable to pay market rent when RRH funding ends, due to clients with disabilities only having income through SSI/SSDI or are in the process of long waiting periods to obtain SSI/SSDI Benefits. Similarly, clients may be unable to obtain employment in Austin that pays a living wage. Regarding the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint supporting the production of 100 PSH units each year, with half of those units housing people experiencing homelessness. PSH by HUD definition, is dedicated to people experiencing homelessness. We are concerned why only half of the PSH unit house people experiencing homelessness? Why are not all 100 units dedicated to people experiencing homelessness? Concerning the City's partnership with "more than 10 different street outreach and mobile navigation programs and ten local emergency shelters," we recommend a more coordinated effort including both geographical coordination and coordination of services offered. There is currently inconsistency of services offered, approaches to engagement, documentation requirements, and coordination of shelter and housing plans. Rather than allowing outreach and mobile navigation teams to coordinate organically, we recommend a more integrated and intentional process. Similarly, with the 10 local emergency shelters, there is currently little emphasis on client vulnerability and prioritization and transparent waiting list processes. Additionally, there is a general lack of accessible information available for people experiencing homelessness. We are aware that www.findhelp.org is a tool for Austinites to locate community resources, however there are significant accessibility issues for those who are living unsheltered without a reliable smart- phone or regular access to computers. We recommend the City find additional ways to create and maintain updated resource guides that are available in various forms, languages, and mediums so unsheltered Austinites can receive the same, up to date information regardless of which outreach team or mobile navigation team they encounter and/or emergency shelter they contact. Regarding Austin's Action Plan to End Homelessness Section- there is a significant lack of crisis services available in Austin Travis County, including emergency shelter, crisis respite beds for mental health, and medical respite beds. Without emergency shelter and long waits for permanent housing, we recommend the City coordinate with appropriate city departments to increase public showers, public restrooms, and adequately fund inclement weather shelters. Under the section "Addressing emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons," please consider changing the language to "people experiencing homelessness." Similarly, anytime "homeless person" is used, please consider changing this language. Please also note that the recently announced emergency shelter at the Marshalling Yard was also not included in this Action Plan. And the plans for the former downtown Salvation Army Shelter building were also not included. Additionally, regarding the use of Coordinated Entry to assist all shelter residents in applying for all possible housing programs, currently several of the shelters do not have trained Coordinated

Assessment assessors on staff or on site. Similarly, CE does not encompass all housing options available in Austin/Travis County. And who is responsible for assuring HMIS documentation and the training of case managers? For agencies contracting with the City, please also consider applying a greater emphasis on salary and benefit requirements for outreach, navigation, shelter, and housing staff to ensure hiring and retention of qualified staff. The Leadership Council has additional concerns about the lack of coordination with Landlord Outreach and Engagement. The Action Plan states that “The City partners with ECHO’s Community Housing Department to support access to low barrier housing units through partnering with housing properties and providing landlord incentives for units dedicated to people experiencing homelessness. This also includes partnering with ECHO who provides housing barrier screening services by offering rent reports to support matching households to services, financial assistance tailored to ensuring households can find units regardless of financial and/or criminal background barriers.” The Homelessness Response System (HRS) Permanent Housing Committee has a workgroup dedicated to Property Engagement. They are currently undergoing a research process, including already completed listening sessions with service providers and community members and examining practices in other comparable continuums of care. The workgroup plans to share their recommendations in the summer of 2023 with the Permanent Housing Committee and then with the HRS Leadership Council. These recommendations can also be shared with the Housing Department to assure consistency between HRS and the Housing Department. Similarly, the Leadership Council has concerns about the City’s efforts to prevent homelessness. According to the Action Plan, “In August of 2019, ECHO began developing the Housing for Healthcare division consisting of 4-5 staff who support system-wide discharge planning and are liaisons with various institutions such as the criminal justice system and the hospital and medical systems. ECHO staff work closely with other systems of care to divert persons from entering homelessness when possible and to increase access to available resources (e.g., crisis beds, coordinated entry assessment). Currently the Housing for Healthcare division consists of only 2 staff; and 1 staff dedicated as a “Legal Systems Manager.” Yet, according to the 2023 PIT count, there are currently 700 people experiencing homelessness in the Travis County jail. It is unclear to LC how these efforts to prevent homelessness are being addressed by the City of Austin.”

Two public hearings were conducted to receive feedback and input on the draft FY 23-24 Action Plan, one by the Community Development Commission on May 9, 2023 and one by the Austin City Council on June 8, 2023. The public hearings are described below.

- At the May 9, 2023 public hearing on the draft FY 23-24 Action Plan before the Community Development Commission, no members of the public testified. One commissioner asked what efforts had been employed to inform the community members of the public hearing opportunity and staff informed the Commission of the variety of efforts utilized to promote awareness of the public hearing opportunity, including public notices published in both English and Spanish-language local newspapers, as well as a press release posted on the Housing Department’s website and sent out to local and national media outlets. Staff highlighted that perhaps an evening meeting is difficult for members of the public to attend and stated staff intention to continue work to strive to improve on community engagement with the Action Plan process in years ahead.

- At the June 8, 2023 Austin City Council meeting, a public hearing was held by the City Council. One member of the public testified and a transcript of their testimony can be found in this document in Attachment I B: Public Engagement Summary. The member of the public who testified did so remotely by calling in to the City Council meeting and Housing Department staff subsequently reached out to the individual to seek to learn more about the individual's concerns and strive to do what can be done to address these concerns both immediately and in the future.

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

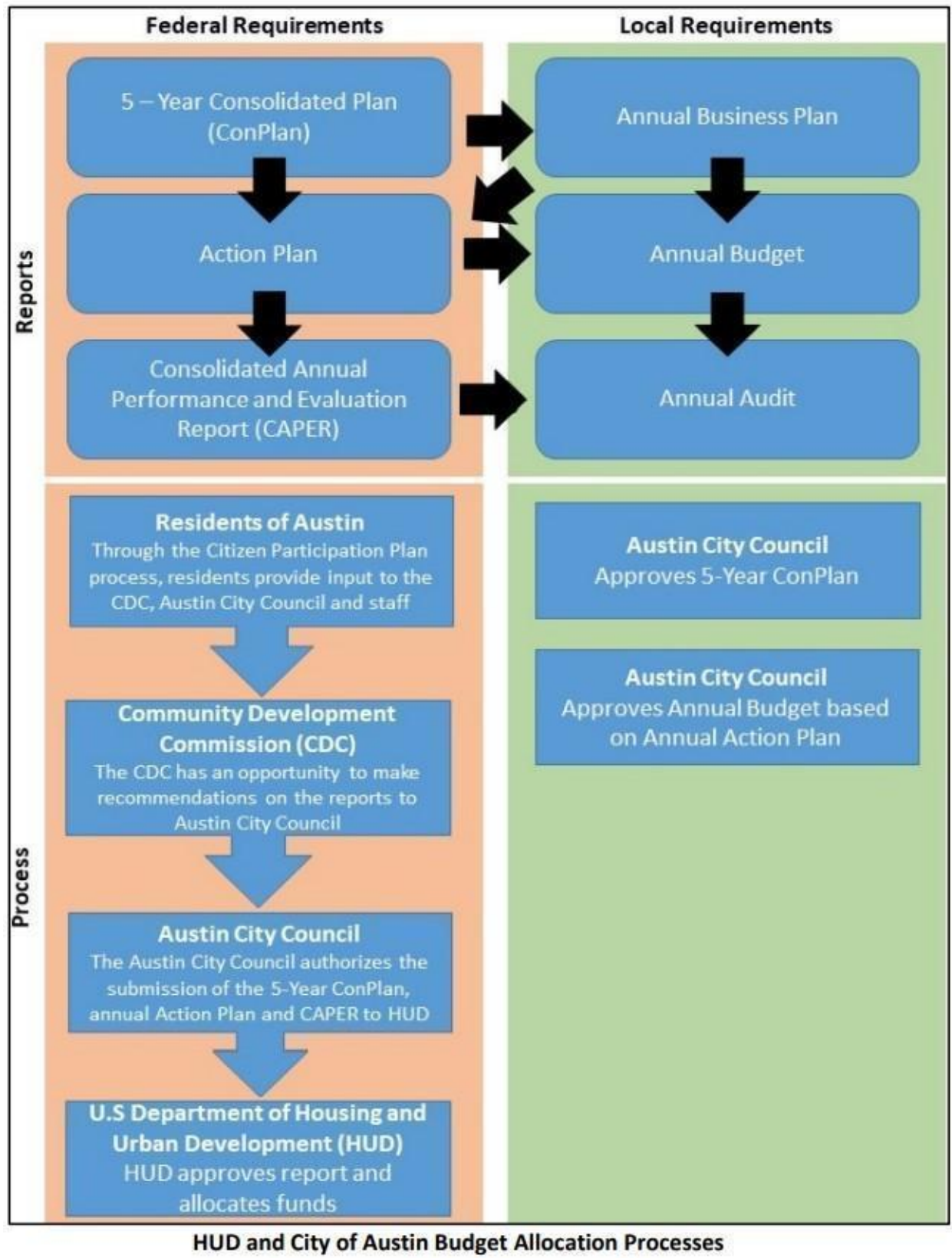
All comments and views received on targeted platforms related to the Action Plan needs assessment were accepted.

7. Summary

The Action Plan is designed to help participating jurisdictions assess their affordable housing and community development needs and market conditions to make data-driven, place-based investment decisions. The consolidated planning process serves as the framework for a community-wide dialogue to identify community needs, resources and priorities for the City's affordable housing, community development, homeless, public services and economic development priorities that align and focus funding from the Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD). The Consolidated Plan is carried out through annual Action Plans, which provide a concise summary of the actions, activities and the specific resources that will be used each year to address the priority needs and specific goals identified by the Consolidated Plan. Grantees report on accomplishments and progress toward Consolidated Plan goals in the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

Entitlement grants provided through HUD are determined by statutory formulas. Throughout the period of the FY 2019 – 2024 Consolidated Plan, City of Austin HOME and HOPWA allocations have consistently increased annually, while ESG allocations have remained roughly static, with slight variations either increasing or decreasing annually under 2%. Meanwhile, throughout the current Consolidated Plan, CDBG allocation increased year-over-year in year two and year three and decreased year-over-year in year four and year five. Taking the total allocations of the four HUD entitlement grants, the City has consistently received a net allocation year-over-year increase each year of the current Consolidated Plan. At the same time, the City has experienced increased costs in providing services. Considering these facts, the City continues to identify and pursue opportunities to collaborate, which are detailed throughout this plan. This includes identifying opportunities to leverage resources through other planning initiatives and maximizing opportunities for interdepartmental collaboration and intergovernmental coordination beyond jurisdictional boundaries. It is also critical that comprehensive, current data is collected to ensure the most efficient program delivery.

Exhibit 2.



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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	AUSTIN	Housing Department

CDBG Administrator	AUSTIN	Housing Department
HOPWA Administrator	AUSTIN	Austin Public Health
HOME Administrator	AUSTIN	Housing Department
ESG Administrator	AUSTIN	Austin Public Health

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The Housing Department, formerly the Housing and Planning Department (HPD), is designated by the Austin City Council as the single point of contact for HUD and is the lead agency for the CDBG, HOME, ESG and HOPWA grant programs. The Housing Department administers the CDBG affordable housing and community development programs and HOME programs. The Housing Department is directly responsible for developing the five-year Consolidated Plan, the annual Action Plan, and the annual end-of-year Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) was created in 1979 as a public, nonprofit corporation organized pursuant to Chapter 394 of the Texas Local Government Code. The Austin City Council serves as the AHFC's Board of Directors. The mission of the AHFC is to generate and implement strategic housing solutions for the benefit of low- and moderate-income households of the City of Austin. Employees of the Housing Department manage the funding and operations of AHFC through an annual service agreement executed between the City and AHFC.

The Austin City Council designates **Austin Public Health (APH)** to administer CDBG Public Services, ESG and HOPWA-programs. APH is a nationally accredited Public Health department and works in partnership with the community to prevent disease, promote health, and protect the well-being of the

community with the vision that everyone in Austin/Travis County will have an optimal quality of life, health and well-being free from racism, poverty and oppression.

Economic Development Department (EDD) administers the Family Business Loan Program (FBLP) funded with Section 108 funds. Section 108 is a loan guarantee provision of the CDBG Program. The Family Business Loan Program and related lending programs are designed to provide a low-cost financing option to Austin-based small businesses seeking to expand and hire that commit to provide employment opportunities to Austin's low- and moderate-income communities.

The **Community Development Commission (CDC)** advises City Council in the development and implementation of programs designed to serve low and moderate-income households and the community at large, with an emphasis on federally funded programs. The CDC also oversees the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program managed by Austin Public Health. CSBG regulations require that the CDC consists of 15 members, including representatives from eight geographic target areas: Colony Park, Dove Springs, East Austin, Montopolis, Rosewood-Zaragosa/Blackland, St. Johns, North Austin and South Austin. The CDC's eight neighborhood representatives are elected through a neighborhood-based process and all 15 are formally appointed by the Austin City Council.

The **Urban Renewal Board (URB)** consists of seven members appointed by the City of Austin Mayor with consent from the Austin City Council. The URB oversees the implementation of, and compliance with, Urban Renewal Plans that are adopted by the Austin City Council. An Urban Renewal Plan's primary purpose is to eliminate slum and blighting influence within a designated area of the City. Council adopted Resolution No. 971119-34 [<http://www.cityofaustin.org/edims/document.cfm?id=49309>] on November 19, 1997, declaring the East 11th and 12th Streets Revitalization Area to be a slum and blighted area and designated this area appropriate for an urban renewal project. Subsequently, Council adopted an Urban Renewal Plan. The City of Austin and the Urban Renewal Agency, in the shared interest of completing the Urban Renewal Project, entered into an agreement that identifies each party's roles and responsibilities for the completion of the revitalization for these two corridors.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

To ensure that priority needs are carried out in the most efficient manner, the Housing Department, Austin Public Health (APH) and the Economic Development Department (EDD) regularly consult with internal and external partners in its administration of affordable housing, economic development, homelessness and public services programs and activities. Partners include Austin Area Comprehensive HIV Planning Council, Austin Energy, Austin Water Utility, the Community Development Commission, the Commission on Aging, the Early Childhood Council and many other groups. Additionally, the City consults with City boards and commissions and external agencies with missions related to affordable housing and community development. APH's Homeless Services Division and leadership from the City Manager's Office are coordinating with national consultants to analyze community strategies and services within the homelessness response system. Contracted partners each bring decades of expertise and a nationwide perspective of best practices, innovative approaches, and data-driven decision making to their work with the City of Austin.

A detailed listing of the agencies and organizations consulted, and that participated in the planning of affordable housing, economic development, homelessness and public services initiatives throughout the year can be found below.

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

The City of Austin provides funding to, and works closely in partnership with, the Austin/Travis County Continuum of Care (CoC), composed of relevant stakeholders of the Austin/Travis County geographic area. Relevant organizations include nonprofit homeless assistance providers, victim service providers, faith-based organizations, governments, businesses, advocates, public housing agencies, school districts, social service providers, mental health agencies, hospitals, universities, affordable housing developers, law enforcement, and organizations that serve veterans, homeless and formerly homeless individuals. Representatives of the relevant stakeholders compose the Homelessness Response System Leadership Council, the CoC Board, tasked with providing strategic direction to the Austin/Travis County community regarding issues that impact persons experiencing homelessness. The City of Austin's Homeless Strategy Officer and an Equity Office staff representative hold a standing seat on the Leadership Council. The Leadership Council has appointed the Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO) as the Collaborative Applicant, HMIS Lead Agency, and Lead Agency of the CoC, to plan and coordinate system efforts.

ECHO executive leadership participates in planning partnerships with psychiatric stakeholders, criminal justice executives and employment specialists led by Central Health, Austin-Travis County Integral Care, Travis County Public Safety and Justice, and Goodwill Industries.

In 2018, the CoC Board and Austin City Council adopted Austin's Action Plan to End Homelessness [<http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=292841>] that outlines specific objectives and strategies needed to end homelessness in the community. City and ECHO staff coordinate regularly regarding issues such as affordable housing developments, access to information about affordable housing, fair housing, and homelessness. The Housing Department coordinates with ECHO to administer a contract with the Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) to provide Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) utilizing HOME funding. This contract assists households experiencing homelessness.

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.

Various departments within the City of Austin coordinate closely with the Continuum of Care to provide and coordinate services to those experiencing homelessness.

The Housing Department works closely with ECHO, the CoC Lead Agency, to develop ways to incentivize the development of housing units that serve people experiencing homelessness. Through the Housing Department's competitive Rental Housing Development Assistance (RHDA) program, which provides funding for nonprofit and for-profit affordable housing developers, the Housing Department provides additional points through the standard scoring criteria for developments that dedicate affordable units to people experiencing homelessness. In order to receive the additional points, the Housing Department requires a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the developer and ECHO. The MOU establishes the number of units, the population to be served, the process for filling the units, the monitoring and reporting criteria, among other items. All the referrals to the RHDA CoC units come from the Austin / Travis County's Coordinated Entry System.

The Housing Department also has a contract with ECHO to administer the locally funded Low-Barrier Permanent Supportive Housing Program. This program enables individuals experiencing homelessness who have multiple barriers to housing (including criminal history, eviction history, behavioral health issues, among other challenges) to access housing units in the private market. ECHO has established relationships with private landlords who own Class B and C properties throughout the City of Austin. Landlords agree to reduce their tenant screening criteria and provide below market rent. ECHO provides the eligible tenants who have access to intensive support services. The Housing Department pays the rent subsidy up to the applicable Fair Market Rent.

Austin Public Health (APH) and Housing Department Staff provide expertise for the development of the annual CoC application through participation on the CoC Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) Independent Review Team. Staff also participate in ongoing CoC stakeholder meetings coordinated by

ECHO, the CoC Lead Agency, including the CoC & ESG Committee, Policy and Practice Committee, CoC Rapid Rehousing Workgroup, and the CoC governing board, Leadership Council. Most of the agencies in the community serving homeless individuals are funded by APH, so APH participates in key Continuum of Care planning groups, and other stakeholder meetings.

During development of the Consolidated Plan and annual Action Plan, and throughout the year, members of APH staff in the Social Services Policy Unit and the Contract Management Unit engage with the members of ECHO to gather information that informs decisions on ESG allocations, performance standards, and evaluation outcomes. ECHO, the Housing Department and APH staff also meet regularly to discuss ways to coordinate City and CoC-funding that serves people experiencing homelessness, including data expectations, outcome measures, and written standards for program interventions.

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

APH and ECHO work together to evaluate outcomes and more closely align CoC and ESG programs. All ESG funded programs enter data into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and accept referrals for rapid rehousing through the Coordinated Entry system administered by ECHO. HMIS staff analyze data and report progress on ending homelessness to APH and other community entities. In addition, ESG-funded programs are required to submit to the City the outcome measure: percent of case-managed households that transition from homelessness into housing. APH and ECHO partner to ensure that all rapid rehousing programs and shelter programs are entering data into HMIS in a manner that allows system-wide and City outcomes to be measured and evaluated.

The City of Austin has taken an active role in supporting a more effective HMIS so that data sourced from the system can inform policy decisions and be used to evaluate program effectiveness. The ESG FY 2023-24 award will include funding for continuation of the Scan Card program at the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (ARCH) - an emergency shelter which is the first point of entry into the homeless social service system for many of Austin's adults experiencing homelessness. The City also contributes local funding to support ECHO staff positions. City staff have taken an active role with ECHO in developing coordinated assessment and improving other components of the continuum.

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

See chart below.

Agency/Group /Organization /Subject Matter Expertise	Agency/Group/ Organization Type	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	How was the agency/group/organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?
African American Resource Advisory Commission (AARAC)	Board/Commission	Civic Leaders Other- Board/Commission	The African American Resource Advisory Commission (AARAC) is charged with advising the Austin City Council on issues relating to the quality of life for the City's African American community and recommends programs designed to alleviate any inequities that may confront African Americans in social, economic and vocational pursuits, including health care; housing, affordable housing, home ownership and homelessness entertainment opportunities for professionals and students, employment; and cultural venues, including museums, theaters, art galleries and music venues. Housing Department staff attended a meeting of the AARAC on Tuesday April 4, 2023 as part of the FY 23-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment in order to receive input on how housing and public service programs can better serve the African American community in the Austin area. A Commissioner expressed interest in Housing Department staff coming out and presenting further in other public meetings across the community such as with non-profits and churches to spread knowledge and awareness in the community about Department of Housing & Urban Development formula grant funded programs offered by the Housing Department and Austin Public Health.

Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission	Civic Leaders Board/Commission	Civic Leaders Other- Housing Affordability Other- Board/Commission	The Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission advises the Austin City Council on issues related to the Asian American Resource Center and provides on-going guidance and support for the City's Asian American quality of life initiatives. As part of the community needs assessment, Housing Department staff gave a briefing on the Action Plan, answered questions and received feedback at the Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission meeting on March 21, 2023. Members and staff engaged in a discussion regarding the need for increased community engagement efforts for Austin's Asian American community, as well as a discussion regarding how aggregate data on the Asian American community may hide an extent of the need that is experienced by lower-income members of the community.
Austin Area Urban League	Civic Leaders	Homelessness Strategy Housing Affordability	The Austin Area Urban League (AAUL) is one of more than 90 affiliates of the National Urban League providing direct services that improve the lives of thousands in the Central Texas region. The AAUL seeks to meet the needs of underserved populations in the Austin/Central Texas region by focusing on programming and services in the areas of education and youth development, workforce and career readiness, health, housing, justice, and advocacy. Housing Department staff met with representatives of the AAUL as part of the FY 23-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment on Monday March 13, 2023 in order to receive input on how the City can coordinate with the work of the AAUL to better reach low income and Black/African American Austinites with housing and public services programs.

Austin Home Repair Coalition (AHRC)	Housing	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs	The Austin Housing Repair Coalition (AHRC) is a collaboration of home repair agencies in the Austin area that provide home repairs and other housing-related assistance. Staff conducted a meeting with AHRC on Tuesday March 14, 2023 to discuss the FY 23-24 Action Plan in order to receive feedback on how the City's home repair programs can be improved in the upcoming fiscal year.
Austin Public Health (APH)	Grantee Department	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy HOPWA Strategy	The Austin City Council designates Austin Public Health (APH) to administer CDBG Public Services, ESG and HOPWA-funded programs. The Housing Department and APH meet quarterly, with 2023's Q1 meeting being held on March 10, 2023 and 2023's Q2 meeting being held on June 9, 2023, to discuss the administration of these programs and meet as needed to collaborate on the development of the Consolidated Plan, Action Plan and Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). The Housing Department and APH plan to collaborate to improve and enhance the overall Consolidated Plan, Action Plan and CAPER execution processes for future fiscal years.
Austin/Travis County Reentry Roundtable	Regional Organization	Housing Needs Assessment Non-homeless Special Needs	The Austin/Travis County Reentry Roundtable is a coalition working to promote a community that supports equity for formerly incarcerated persons and individuals with criminal histories. City staff incorporate Austin/Travis County Reentry Roundtable criteria into the Rental Housing Development Assistance guidelines to help address inequities in housing policy. The Housing Department partners with the Austin/Travis County Reentry Roundtable on a variety of projects and initiatives to increase access to services for formerly incarcerated people. On Monday April 10,

			<p>2023, Housing Department staff attending a virtual meeting of the Austin/Travis County Reentry Roundtable Planning Council to give a presentation on the FY 23-24 Action Plan and discuss how programs funded by formula grants can better serve those re-entering the community after being incarcerated. Members of the group strongly expressed that criminal history look-back periods should be lowered in applicable Housing Department program guidelines.</p>
Building and Strengthening Tenant Action (BASTA)	Services - Housing	<p>Housing Need Assessment</p> <p>Tenants' Rights</p>	<p>The goal of Building and Strengthening Tenant Action (BASTA) is to create sustainable and autonomous tenant associations by cultivating leadership in tenant communities. BASTA provides one-on-one guidance and group training in the following areas: outreach methods, facilitation techniques, negotiation strategy, campaign planning and property research. City staff collaborate with members of BASTA in order to improve programs that address homelessness and low-income housing. City staff met with a representative of BASTA as part of the FY 23-24 Action Plan community needs assessment on Tuesday March 16, 2023 to discuss the FY 23-24 Action Plan and to receive input on how programs funded by the Action Plan can better serve low-income tenants in Austin.</p>

Caritas	Services- Homelessness	Homeless Needs- Chronically Homeless Homeless Needs- Veterans	Caritas is a non-profit service provider that focuses on assisting the homeless community with stable housing, food access, education, employment and veteran's assistance. Housing Department staff met with representatives of Caritas on Friday March 17, 2023 as part of the FY 23-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment with the goal of updating the group on the Action Plan process and of receiving input on how housing and public service programs can better serve the chronically homeless and veterans experiencing homelessness in Austin, TX.
Catholic Charities of Central Texas (CCCTX)	Services- Homelessness	Homeless Needs – Chronically Homeless	Catholic Charities of Central Texas (CCCTX) is a non-profit service provider that provides a variety of services to low-income community members, including counseling services, immigration legal services, veteran services and more. Housing Department staff met with representatives of CCCTX on Wednesday April 5, 2023 as part of the FY 23-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment with the goal of sharing about Action Plan and Housing Department programs, as well as the goal of receiving input on how housing and public service programs can better serve low-income members of the community.

Central Health	Services- Homelessness	Housing Needs Assessment Homeless Needs- Chronically Homeless Homelessness Strategy	Created in 2004 by the voters of Travis County, Central Health is the local public entity that provides access to high-quality care. Central Health works with a network of partners to eliminate health disparities in Travis County. As part of the FY 23-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment Housing Department staff met with Central Health representatives on Friday April 7, 2023. Central Health representatives stressed the need for housing assistance programs for individuals with severe and/or long-term physical health ailments. Given the common clientele that the Housing Department and Central Health serve, staff plans to strive to facilitate increased collaboration between the two entities in the future.
City of Austin Displacement Prevention Division	Agency – Displacement Prevention	Housing Need Assessment	The City of Austin’s Displacement Prevention Division is tasked with developing and leading programming and outreach to prevent the displacement of vulnerable communities. Housing Department staff tasked with the crafting of the FY 23-24 Action Plan met with displacement prevention staff on Friday April 7, 2023 as part of the FY 23-24 Action Plan community needs assessment with the goal of receiving input on how formula grant-funded programs administered by the Housing Department can better contribute to the City’s displacement prevention goals.

City of Austin Staff/ - Emergency Management	Agency – Emergency Management	Housing Need Assessment	Housing Department staff met with City of Austin staff with subject matter expertise in emergency management on Thursday April 13, 2023 as part of the FY 23-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment. Staff explored areas of potential synergy between Housing Department programs and the City of Austin’s emergency management goals. Through discussion, potential untapped collaboration between City of Austin staff with different areas of expertise were identified. Further conversations will be had by staff to identify ways in which the Housing Department can utilize emergency management expertise and collaborate with emergency management staff to enhance the Housing Department programs.
City of Austin Staff - Watershed Protection	Agency - Managing Flood Prone Areas Agency - Management of Public Land or Water Resources	Housing Needs Assessment	The City of Austin operates under The Watershed Protection Strategic Plan which helps the City and the community to understand and address existing flooding, erosion, and water quality problem, in addition to helping the City and the community prepare for future challenges. Housing Department staff met with City of Austin Staff with watershed protection subject matter expertise as part of the FY 23-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment on Wednesday April 12, 2023 in order receive input on the intersection between formula-grant funded programs and the City’s watershed protection goals. Through discussion, considerable untapped synergy was identified between the Housing Department and Watershed Protection Department. Specifically, further conversation will be held regarding the potential for drainage/watershed issues to be serviced by the Housing Department’s programs related to home repair. Conversations will continue throughout FY 22-23 and into

			the beginning of FY 23-24 with the goal of producing new program components for FY 24-25.
Commission on Aging (formerly the Commission on Seniors)	Board/Commission	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy	The Commission on Aging (formerly the Commission on Seniors) advises City Council on issues related to the senior population in the Austin area; evaluates and recommends programs, policies, and practices that create a positive impact and reduce the burden on seniors; determines the needs of seniors in the Austin community and advises council regarding these needs; and promotes the contributions of seniors to the cultural, economic and historical value of Austin. Austin Public Health (APH) provides staffing support to the Commission and regularly consults with the group on issues affecting the quality of life for Austin's older adults. Housing Department and APH staff presented information about the FY 23-24 Action Plan at a meeting of the Commission on Aging on Wednesday April 12, 2023 in order to gain feedback on how federally funded housing programs can better serve the aging population in Austin.
Community Development Commission (CDC)	Board/Commission	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless	The Community Development Commission advises the City Council on the development and implementation of programs designed to assist low and moderate-income Austinites and the community at large with emphasis on

		<p>Homeless Needs - Families with children</p> <p>Non-Homeless Special Needs</p> <p>Economic Development</p> <p>Household Affordability</p>	<p>federally funded programs. The Community Development Commission serves as policy advisors and provides oversight and guidance on federally funded initiatives and programs. The Housing Department provides staffing support to the Commission and regularly consults with the group on issues affecting low and moderate-income Austinites. Housing Department and Austin Public Health staff attended the Tuesday April 11, 2023 CDC meeting to present on and discuss the FY 23-24 Action Plan to gain insight into the needs of low-income Austinites and promote transparency of how federal dollars are spent. A public hearing held as an opportunity for public comment on community needs and the programs administered under the Action Plan was also conducted at the Tuesday April 11, 2023 CDC meeting. Furthermore, a public hearing was also held before the CDC during the draft Action Plan public comment period on May 9, 2023. Finally, Housing Department staff met with the CDC on Tuesday June 13, 2023 to engage in a final discussion regarding the FY 23-24 Action Plan and the CDC unanimously voted to recommend to the City of Austin City Council to approve the final draft of the FY 23-23 Action Plan.</p>
Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission (CTTC)	Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide	Digital Needs of the Community	<p>The Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission (CTTC) advises the Austin City Council on community technology, telecommunications services, new sources of funding for access television projects, new sources of funding for community technology projects, allocation of annual financial support and evaluation of the performance of franchise holders, access television contractors, and other community technology contractors, including</p>

			<p>development of criteria to be used for evaluations, and promotes access to telecommunications services and community technologies. Housing Department staff attended a meeting of the CTTC on Wednesday April 12, 2023 as part of the FY 23-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment in order to receive input on the internet and technology needs of low-income communities, and strategies for bridging the digital divide. The Chair of the Commission expressed a desire for the Housing Department, in future years, to come before the CTTC earlier in the year and within the Action Plan timeline for purposes of presenting on and discussing the upcoming fiscal year's draft Action Plan. The Chair also highlighted that the CTTC and the Housing Department have a shared target community which they aim to serve and that there is great potential for deepened collaboration between the two entities.</p>
Early Childhood Council (ECC)	Board/Commission	<p>Housing Need Assessment</p> <p>Non-Homeless Special Needs</p> <p>Economic Development</p>	<p>The Early Childhood Council (ECC) makes recommendations to City Council for the creation, development and implementation of programs that promote optimal development for young children; and programs and activities that contribute to the continued development of a system of high-quality early care and education and after-school programs for Austin's children. Austin Public Health provides staffing support to the ECC and regularly consults with the group on issues affecting childcare and high-quality early education for Austin families with low income. Housing Department staff attended the Wednesday March 8, 2023 ECC meeting and gave a presentation on the FY 23-24 Action Plan and to receive input on how the formula grant-funded programs can be serve children ages 0-5.</p>

Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO)	Services- Homeless	<p>Housing Need Assessment</p> <p>Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless</p> <p>Homeless Needs - Families with children</p> <p>Homelessness Needs - Veterans</p> <p>Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth</p> <p>Homelessness Strategy</p>	<p>The City of Austin provides funding and works closely in partnership with the Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO), who is the CoC Lead Agency, CoC Collaborative Applicant, and the Lead HMIS Agency for local Continuum of Care (CoC)/homeless system. Leadership from the City and County Health and Human Services Department attend and participate in voting seats during the monthly CoC governing board, called Leadership Council, meetings coordinated by ECHO. City staff also serve on the CoC NOFA Independent Review Team and other coordinated activities serving the homeless system. ECHO is an active contributor to the information in the Consolidated Plan, Action Plan and CAPER regarding homeless needs and strategies. City staff coordinate with ECHO to present at CoC committee and workgroup meetings to engage various stakeholders in annual consultation procedures and are used for system planning and reporting updates as needed. City staff presented information about the FY 23-24 Action Plan at the ECHO Leadership Council meeting on April 3, 2023 to receive input on how federally funded programs can better assist unhoused people.</p>
Google Fiber	Services – Broadband Service Providers	Digital Needs of the Community	<p>Google Fiber is an internet service provider in the Austin area. Google fiber provides free gigabit speed services in 14 housing complexes subsidized by the Housing Authority of the City of Austin, comprising about 1,200 units and serving over 3,600 residents. Housing Department staff met with a representative of Google Fiber as part of the FY 23-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment on Friday March 24, 2023 in order to receive input on the internet and technology needs of low-income communities, and strategies for</p>

			<p>bridging the digital divide. Google Fiber's representatives expressed a desire for Google Fiber to provide an increased level of free broadband services to households in need in Austin. The Google Fiber representative stressed that one barrier to providing free broadband service can be the prohibitive cost of installation and set up in older buildings in Austin and the concept of a public-private partnership to address this barrier was highlighted. In addition, the Google Fiber representative offered the suggestion that the Housing Department develop and enforce program guidelines that prohibit multi-family properties that receive Housing Department funds from enforcing exclusive internet provider requirements upon residents in order to protect residents from being stuck with paying for less-than-optimal internet service.</p>
Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Commission	Civic Leaders Board/Commission	Civic Leaders Other- Housing Affordability Other- Board/Commission	<p>The Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Commission advises the Austin City Council on issues relating to quality of life for the City's Hispanic/Latino community and recommends programs and policies designed to alleviate any inequities that may confront Hispanics and Latinos in social, economic, and vocational pursuits including education, youth services, housing and community development, cultural arts, economic development, health, civic engagement, and transportation. Housing Department staff attended a meeting of the Commission on Tuesday March 28, 2023 as part of the FY 23-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment in order to receive input on how housing and public service programs can better serve Austin's Hispanic/Latino population. A Commissioner prompted discussion by asking if community members living within informal lease arrangements having access to Housing Department programs. Housing</p>

			<p>Department staff have noted this discussion and plan to research possibilities for expanding program eligibility to households living within informal lease arrangements.</p>
HIV Planning Council	Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS	Homelessness Strategy HOPWA Strategy	<p>The HIV Planning Council's main goal is to plan and decide how to distribute the Ryan White Part A grant funds in the community through various services. The goal is to efficiently fund services that meet the multiple care needs of HIV clients with limited resources. As part of the community needs assessment, Housing Department gave an Action Plan briefing, answered questions and received feedback at the HIV Planning Council meeting on Monday March 27, 2023. A particular focus in the presentation was given to programs funded by Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). A Council member shared that the Council has a forthcoming needs assessment study that they will forward to Housing Department staff once it is completed. It was also emphasized by a Council member that housing is a critical component of assisting people with HIV/AIDS with achieving overall stability.</p>
Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA)	Public Housing Authority	Public Housing Needs	<p>The Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) is a partnering agency in the development of the Regional Analysis of Impediments, Housing Market Analysis, and Consolidated Plan. City and HACA staff coordinate regularly regarding issues such as affordable housing developments, access to information about affordable housing, fair housing, and homelessness. As a Public Housing Authority serving the City of Austin, input from and coordination with HACA is valuable to address community needs efficiently. City staff met with HACA representatives on Wednesday March 29, 2023 to update</p>

			HACA on the Action Plan process and discuss how programs funded through the Action Plan can most effectively assist public housing residents.
Integral Care	Services- Homelessness	Homeless Needs- Chronically Homeless Homelessness Strategy	Integral Care is the local mental health authority, and supports adults and children living with mental illness, substance use disorder and intellectual and developmental disabilities in Travis County. Housing Department and Austin Public Health staff met with representatives of Integral Care on Wednesday March 15, 2023 as part of the FY 23-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment, with the goal of receiving input on how housing and public service programs can better serve unhoused and low-income people living with mental illness in the Austin area.
LGBTQ Quality of Life Advisory Commission Housing Work Group	Civic Leaders Board/Commission	Civic Leaders Other- Board/Commission	The LGBTQ Quality of Life Advisory Commission advises the Austin City Council on needs of the LGBTQ community in Austin. As part of the FY 23-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment, Housing Department staff met with members of the Commission's Housing Work group on Thursday April 13, 2023 in order to share about the Action Plan and receive input on how the Housing Department can best serve the needs of the LGBTQ community in Austin. The Housing Work Group commented that they have received input from community members that efforts to serve those living at 30% MFI or below should be prioritized vs. higher income brackets. The Housing Work Group also commented that they would like to see sexual orientation and gender identity demographic data collected and reported on by the Housing Department for the clientele that are served by Department programs. In addition, the Housing Work Group expressed concern for renter's

			rights for the LGBTQ community in Austin. Lastly, the Housing Work Group expressed that education and outreach regarding programs offered by the Housing Department and Austin Public Health may be highly needed for the LGBTQ community in Austin.
LifeWorks Austin	Services- Homelessness Services – Housing	Housing Needs Assessment Homeless Needs- Chronically Homeless Homelessness Strategy	LifeWorks Austin is an advocate for youth and young adults pursuing a life they love and a stable future for themselves and their families. As part of the FY 23-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment, Housing Department staff met with LifeWorks Austin representatives on Tuesday April 11, 2023. Housing department staff presented on the Action Plan and formula-grant funded grants. LifeWorks Austin representatives emphasized the need for Housing Department guidelines to adapt to the realities of the types of identification documentation that many system-impacted youth and young adults have in their possession. LifeWorks Austin stressed that certain identification documentation requirements can be a barrier to community members taking advantage of programs for which they would otherwise be eligible. In addition, Housing Department and LifeWorks research staff identified that collaboration among the research staffs of the respective organizations may produce gains for both organizations. Research staff from both organizations expressed their interest and intent to pursue further collaboration.
Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities	Board/Commission	Services- Persons with Disabilities Other- Board/Commission	The Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities is the advisory body to the Austin City Council and City Manager regarding problems affecting persons with disabilities in the Austin area. The Committee was established to encourage, assist and enable persons with disabilities

			<p>to participate in the social and economic life of the City, achieve maximum personal independence, become gainfully employed and to use and enjoy fully all public and private facilities available within the community. Housing Department staff attended a meeting of the Committee on Friday March 10, 2023 as part of the FY 23-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment in order to receive input on how housing and public service programs can better serve people with disabilities in the Austin area. Members expressed a need for enhanced community engagement conducted in order to educate people with disabilities in Austin about the availability of the full range of programs offered by the Housing Department and Austin Public Health. One Committee member shared about their own home access issues at the mutli-family property at which they reside and asked staff for recommendations regarding from where to seek assistance.</p>
SAFE Alliance	Services- Victims Services- Housing Services- Homelessness	Homelessness Needs- Chronically Homeless Homelessness Needs- Families with Children Homelessness Strategy	<p>The SAFE Alliance is a merger of Austin Children’s Shelter and SafePlace, both long-standing human service agencies in Austin, TX serving the survivors of child abuse, sexual assault and exploitation, and domestic violence. Housing Department staff met with representatives of SAFE Alliance on Friday March 31, 2023 to discuss the FY 23-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment, with the goal of receiving input on how housing and public service programs can better serve victims of domestic violence and people experiencing homelessness in the Austin area. Safe Alliance representatives expressed particular emphasis on the value of the success of the recently approved HOME-ARP grant allocation plan, which includes specific preference/prioritization for certain fund</p>

			categories for those fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking.
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Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

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

No agencies were intentionally excluded from consultation.

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	Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO)	The Continuum of Care (CoC) is the local collective of networks, institutions, and organizations that provide and coordinate services across the homeless response system, supporting people who are at risk of or are experiencing homelessness. The CoC is led by a governing body of stakeholders. The Leadership Council is tasked with the coordination of the response system, and funding and policy decisions. Planning and implementation of action items across the CoC occurs through ongoing and short-term committees, workgroups, and task groups to ensure system collaboration at all service provisions levels. The primary goal of the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program is to end homelessness through the efficient coordination of efforts and resources dedicated to those experiencing homelessness. These goals align with the City of Austin Consolidated Plan which includes two prevention objectives: 1) Assist persons experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of becoming homeless; and 2) Assist persons living with HIV/AIDS to achieve stable housing and increase access to medical care and supportive services. The CoC's governing body also partners with the City to increase equity and leadership opportunities for persons with lived experience of homelessness.
Austin's Action Plan to End Homelessness	Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO)	Austin's Action Plan to End Homelessness calls for a systematic approach to ending homelessness. The plan specifically outlines implementation of five system elements that, combined, will work effectively in ending homelessness for individuals and families, while making the community stronger for all. Those system components are 1) outreach services and shelters, 2) addressing disparities, 3) providing housing and support services, 4) strengthening our response system, and 5) building wide community commitment from both the public and private sector. This Action Plan itself seeks to mobilize public and private resources in order to fill system gaps used

		to end homelessness. Progress is captured through annual reports (e.g., Needs and Gaps Report, Racial Disparities Report) that support progress within the 5 Action Plan components. The action plan is used to strategically coordinate system interventions to end homelessness and ensure that funding sources are aligned to effectively and efficiently meet community needs.
Age Friendly Action Plan	City of Austin Commission on Aging	The City of Austin's Age Friendly Action Plan was published in 2017 and ultimately adopted as an amendment to Imagine Austin [http://www.austintexas.gov/imagineaustin]. The Age Friendly Action (AFA) Plan is made up of eight domains of livability including Outdoor Spaces and Buildings, Transportation, Housing, Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment, Communication and Information, and Community Support and Health. The AFA Plan contains goals and strategies in each domain focused on promoting support, respect, protection, and recognition of the needs of older adults in the Austin community. The plan encourages other City departments to consider the needs of Austin's aging community when developing plans in their respective departments to ensure that Age-Friendly is a natural part of Austin culture.
Imagine Austin	City of Austin	On June 15, 2012, City Council voted unanimously to adopt Imagine Austin, the City's comprehensive plan for Austin's future. The plan includes implementation guidelines and the following priority programs: 1) a compact, connected Austin with improved transportation options; 2) sustainably managed water resources; 3) investments in Austin's workforce, education systems and entrepreneurs; 4) protection of environmentally sensitive areas and integration of nature into the City; 5) investments in Austin's creative economy; 6) household affordability throughout Austin (the Housing Department is lead in implementing the Household Affordability priority program and will continue to partner with other City departments and community entities to guide implementation of Imagine Austin through its strategic plan); 7) creation of a 'Healthy Austin' program; and 8) revision of Austin's land development regulations and processes.

Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint	Housing Department	<p>Council adopted the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint which helps align resources, ensures a unified strategic direction, and facilitates community partnerships to achieve this shared vision. The plan identifies funding mechanisms, potential regulations, and other creative approaches the City of Austin should utilize to achieve housing goals - including the creation of 60,000 affordable units over the current decade for households earning approximately \$60,000 or less per year - in line with Imagine Austin [http://www.austintexas.gov/imagineaustin]. To meet these goals, City Council identified specific affordable housing goals within each Council district and along transit corridors. The Blueprint also calls for at least 75% of new housing to be located within half a mile of Imagine Austin Centers and Corridors. It also sets a goal for 90% of newly built or preserved affordable housing to be located within 3/4 of a mile of transit service. Putting affordable housing near transit corridors is an important component of increasing affordability. The Blueprint identified five community values to guide the process, including: Prevent households from being priced out of Austin; Foster equitable, integrated, and diverse communities; Invest in housing for those most in need; Create new and affordable housing choices for all Austinites in all parts of Austin; and Help Austinites reduce their household costs.</p>
The Austin/Travis County Community Health Plan	Austin Public Health	<p>Austin Public Health (APH), in collaboration with local agencies, manages a comprehensive community health planning initiative titled the Austin/Travis County Community Health Plan (www.austintexas.gov/communityhealthplan), consisting of a Community Health Assessment (CHA) and a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) as a core component of receiving Public Health Department accreditation. In 2022 APH began their third iteration of the CHA/CHIP cycle along with core agencies, including Travis County Health and Human Services, Capital Metro, Central Health, Integral Care, St. David's Foundation, Ascension Seton, Baylor Scott & White Health, The University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School, City of Austin Transportation Department, and The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Public Health Austin Regional Campus. The 2022 CHA has been completed and the process of identifying new priority areas is underway. The 2022 CHA and the subsequent stakeholder's summit showed two principal domains: 1) Mental Health and 2) Social Determinants of Health. In addition, there are few themes that deserve</p>

		attention: housing, education, language access, and cultural competency. It is anticipated that two community forums will be held in July 2023 to gather community inputs before we finalize the new community health area prioritization. CHIP development is projected to begin in August/September 2023 and to be completed for implementation by the end of 2023. All timelines are subject to change. Community service providers throughout the Austin/Travis County area work collectively to address community needs through their annual action plans and regular workgroup meetings.
Opportunity360	Enterprise Community Partners	Opportunity360 allows the City to understand and address community challenges by identifying pathways to greater opportunities using cross-sector data, community engagement and measurement tools. Tools and resources in the platform provide a comprehensive view into a neighborhood's access to basic needs and facilitate a strategic, asset-building approach to community development. The tool is used by the City to determine emerging and high opportunity areas.
Long Range Capital Improvement Strategic Plan	City of Austin	The City of Austin Housing Department coordinates updates of the Long-Range Capital Improvement Program Strategic Plan. The Plan is updated on a two-year cycle in cooperation with the Public Works Department, the City of Austin Budget Office, and capital departments. The plan has a 10-year planning horizon and provides the basis for identifying both ongoing capital needs and strategic opportunities for CIP investment over the long term, including investments in affordable housing. The plan was created to further align the City's CIP investments with the Imagine Austin 30-Year Comprehensive Plan.
Project Connect	Capital Metro, City of Austin (CAMPO)	Project Connect is the vision for the Central Texas high-capacity transit system. Linking activity centers within the fastest growing region in the country, Project Connect aims to connect people, places and opportunities in an easy, efficient way. The vision unites efforts to develop the best solutions for getting around Central Texas and addressing growth challenges.
Analysis of Impediments to	City of Austin and Travis County	AI goals are part of the five-year Consolidated Plan goals. The Regional Analysis of Impediments, or AI, is a planning process for local governments and public housing agencies to take meaningful actions to overcome historic patterns of segregation,

Fair Housing Choice		promote fair housing choice, and foster inclusive communities that are free from discrimination. This study was conducted for the Central Texas Region in 2018 and 2019 as a joint effort among three cities, two counties, and five housing authorities.
2021 CSBG Community Needs Assessment Report	Austin Public Health	<p>Austin Public Health conducts a Community Needs Assessment every three years in accordance with the requirements of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG). The 2021 CSBG Community Needs Assessment Report identified several Strengths and Assets, as well as Challenges, highlighted below.</p> <p><u>Strengths and Assets-</u> 1) Staff bring a wealth of experience and training to their work in the community, 2) Staff work with a broad range of internal and external partners to offer a variety of services to clients and leverage CSBG funds to maximize capacity, 3) Staff consistently receive high marks for the quality customer service they provide to the community, 4) The Employee Retention & Wellness Promotion workgroup encourages Neighborhood Center staff to get healthier and to sustain their wellness goals, 5) In 2022, the Neighborhood Centers met 94% of the CSBG organizational standards, 6) Neighborhood Centers offer a wide range of programs that help low-income individuals and families meet basic needs, increase their self-sufficiency or family stability and take better care of their health. The Neighborhood Centers used Emergency Rental Assistance funds to help eligible people avoid eviction in 2022. 7) The Neighborhood Centers have a team of social workers dedicated to crisis intervention who have helped Austin respond to crises such as the severe weather events of the last several years. 8) Eight members representing the low-income populations of Travis County serve on Austin's Community Development Commission. Each representative is nominated and elected by their community and bring their unique skills and ideas to the work of the Commission. The purpose of the board is to advise the Council in the development and implementation of programs designed to serve the poor and the community at large with an emphasis on federally funded programs. Designed to serve the poor and the community at large with an emphasis on federally funded programs.</p>

		<u>Challenges-</u> 1) In recent years, CSBG funding has been at risk at the federal level although funding has been level since 1974. CSBG currently funds 16 of the 35 staff of the Neighborhood Centers.
2020 PHA Five Year Plan	Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA)	The 5-Year and Annual Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plans provide a ready source for interested parties to locate basic PHA policies, rules, and requirements concerning the PHA's operations, programs, and services. Each PHA Plan informs HUD, families served by the PHA, and members of the public, of the PHA's mission, goals and objectives for serving the needs of low-income, very low-income, and extremely low-income families.
Watershed Protection Strategic Plan	City of Austin Watershed Protection Department	The Watershed Protection Strategic Plan is the guiding blueprint for the Watershed Protection Department (WPD). The Strategic Plan helps WPD understand and address existing flooding, erosion, and water quality problems. It helps WPD tackle urgent challenges like climate change, population growth, and racial inequities. Watershed Protection is preparing to update its strategic plan. The initiative is called Rain to River: A Strategic Plan to Protect Austin's Creeks and Communities and will incorporate many opportunities for community input.
Digital Inclusion Strategy	City of Austin Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs Office (TARA)	The City of Austin vision includes every Austinite having an opportunity to be fully engaged in digital society, accessing and using digital and communications technology. The purpose of the plan is to address access and adoption of digital technology, and to serve as a guiding document for providing digital inclusion opportunities in affecting the City's goals to ensure all Austinites are served.
City of Austin Displacement Mitigation Strategy	Housing Department	The Displacement Mitigation Strategy was adopted into the Strategic Housing Blueprint in 2018 to address Austin's continuing challenge with displacement. The strategy incorporates recommendations from various community studies, reports, and assessments to develop an actionable plan that ensures a short-term impact on displacement. The plan includes 15 displacement mitigation strategies, including incorporating robust tenant protections for all rental properties receiving City support, recalibrating density bonus programs to serve renters at or below 60% MFI, and engaging directly with communities vulnerable to displacement.

Narrative (optional)

The City of Austin works to enhance coordination through interdepartmental, interorganizational, and intergovernmental planning. The City of Austin continues to promote awareness that household affordability and community development challenges are regional, and do not respect geopolitical boundaries. Household affordability and unaddressed community development needs can directly or indirectly affect access to public services, education, health and human services, transportation, environmental sustainability, economic development, community vitality, arts and culture.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

The City continues to receive community feedback via the *SpeakUp Austin* [<https://www.speakupaustin.org/>] web page designed to keep the community informed about the Action Plan process and receive public input. As part of the community needs assessment, representatives from the Housing Department presented on the Action Plan, engaged in discussion and received feedback from various Boards, Committees, and Commissions that represent specific populations of the Austin community. In accordance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), two public hearings were held - one by the Community Development Commission and one by the City Council- to receive input on community needs to inform the draft Action Plan.

The community engagement strategy and a comprehensive list of all public comments received during the community needs assessment and public comment period are featured in Attachment I: Citizen Participation. All comments are considered and accepted in the development of the Action Plan.

The table below displays detailed information about the steps taken to continue the community engagement process, and community member participation during the development of the Action Plan.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	During the community needs assessment period, the <i>Speak Up Austin</i> FY 23-24 Action Plan webpage received 14 comments.	A diversity of comments were submitted, including comments pertaining to affordable housing, homeless assistance, advocacy for efforts to prioritize serving certain demographics, taxes, advocacy regarding priorities in programming and other topics. A full report of the survey responses is included in Attachment IB of this Draft Action Plan.	All comments or views received are accepted.	https://www.publicinpu.com/housingneeds
Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	N/A	The City announced information about opportunities to provide feedback about HUD funding through a bilingual (English and Spanish) press release on the Housing Department website. The press release directed readers to the <i>SpeakUp Austin</i> Community Needs Assessment web page and noted the two public hearings that would be held by the Austin City Council and the Community Development Commission, in addition to providing email, phone and postal mail contact information for the Community Needs Assessment.	All comments or views received are accepted.	https://www.austintexas.gov/news/city-austin-notice-public-hearings-and-community-needs-assessment-fy-2023-24-action-plan

Public Meeting	Non-targeted/Broad community	The meeting was attended by members of the Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission and Housing Department staff and was open to the public.	As part of the Community Needs Assessment, Housing Department staff gave an Action Plan briefing, answered questions and received feedback at the Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission meeting on March 21, 2023. Members and staff engaged in a discussion regarding the need for increased community engagement efforts for Austin's Asian American community, as well as a discussion regarding how aggregate data on the Asian American community may hide the severe need that is experienced by low-income members of the community.	All comments or views received are accepted.	https://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/123_1.htm
Public Meeting	Non-targeted/Broad community	The meeting was attended by members of the Early Childhood Council and Housing Department staff and was open to the public.	As part of the Community Needs Assessment, Housing Department staff gave an Action Plan briefing, answered questions and received feedback at the Early Childhood Council meeting on March 6, 2023. Members asked for follow up on data pertaining only to clientele served ages 0-5.	All comments or views received are accepted.	https://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/25_1.htm
Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	The meeting was attended by members of the Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Resource Advisory Commission and was open to the public.	As part of the Community Needs Assessment, Housing Department staff gave an Action Plan briefing, answered questions and received feedback at the Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Resource Advisory Commission on March 28, 2023. A commissioner asked about the access to Housing Department programs that community members with informal lease	All comments or views received are accepted.	https://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/119_1.htm

			arrangement have under current policy and a discussion was held regarding this topic.		
Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	The meeting was attended by the Austin City Council and Housing Department staff and was open to the public.	A public hearing was held by the Austin City Council on March 23, 2023 to receive feedback on community needs. No members of the public were present to testify at the public hearing. Exploration of the reasons for lack of public comments are included in the Executive Summary section of this document at “5. Summary of Public Comment.”	All comments or views received are accepted.	https://www.austintexas.gov/department/city-council/2022/20220324-reg.htm
Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	The meeting was attended by members of the HIV Planning Council, Housing Department staff and Austin Public Health staff and was open to the public.	As part of the Community Needs Assessment, Housing Department staff gave an Action Plan briefing, answered questions and received feedback at the HIV Planning Council meeting on March 27, 2023. A particular focus in the presentation was given to programs funded by Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids (HOPWA). A Council member shared that the Council has a forthcoming needs assessment study that they will forward to Housing Department staff once it is completed. It was also emphasized that housing is a critical component of assisting people with HIV/AIDS with achieving overall stability.	All comments or views received are accepted.	https://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/8_1.htm
Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	The meeting was attended by ECHO Leadership Council members and Housing	As part of the Community Needs Assessment, Housing Department staff gave an Action Plan briefing, answered questions and received feedback at the ECHO Leadership Council meeting on April 3, 2023.	All comments or views received are accepted.	https://www.austintexas.org/leadership-council-meeting-materials/

		Department staff and was open to the public.	A member of the Council commented on the importance of strictly ensuring that housing developers that benefit from Housing Department programs honor all agreements regarding the production and provision of affordable housing.		
Public Meeting	Non-targeted/Broad community	The meeting was attended by members of the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities and Housing Department staff and was open to the public.	As part of the Community Needs Assessment, Housing Department staff gave an Action Plan briefing, answered questions and received feedback at the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities meeting on March 10, 2023. Members expressed a need for improved community engagement conducted in order to educate people with disabilities in Austin about the availability of the full range of programs offered by the Housing Department and Austin Public Health. One Committee member shared about their own home access issues at the mutli-family property at which they reside and asked staff for recommendations regarding from where to seek assistance.	All comments or views received are accepted.	https://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/11_1.htm
Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	The meeting was attended by members of the Community Development Commission and Housing Department	On April 11, 2023, the Community Development Commission (CDC) received a presentation from staff from both the Housing Department and Austin Public Health regarding federally funded programs. A Commissioner advocated for, in the future,	All comments or views received are accepted.	https://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/20_1.htm

		staff and was open to the public.	staff to avoid scheduling multiple in-depth staff briefings on one CDC agenda.		
Public Meeting	Non-targeted/Broad community	The meeting was attended by members of the Commission on Aging (formerly the Commission on Seniors), Housing Department staff and Austin Public Health staff and was open to the public.	As part of the Community Needs Assessment, staff from both the Housing Department and Austin Public Health gave an Action Plan briefing, answered questions and received feedback at the Commission on Aging meeting on April 12, 2023. A Commissioner highlighted that a high proportion of the homeless in population in Austin are of older age.	All comments or views received are accepted.	https://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/120_1.htm
Public Meeting	Non-targeted/Broad community	The meeting was attended by members of the Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission and Housing Department staff and was open to the public.	As part of the Community Needs Assessment, Housing Department staff gave an Action Plan briefing, answered questions and received feedback at the Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission (CTTC) on April 12, 2023. The Chair of the Commission expressed a desire for the Housing Department, in future years, to come before the CTTC earlier in the year and within the Action Plan timeline for purposes of presenting on and discussing the upcoming fiscal year's draft Action Plan. The Chair also highlighted that the CTTC and the Housing Department have a shared target community which they aim to serve and that there is great potential for deepened collaboration between the two entities.	All comments or views received are accepted.	https://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/10_1.htm

Public Meeting	Non-targeted/Broad community	The meeting was attended by members of the African American Resource Advisory Commission and Housing Department staff and was open to the public.	As part of the Community Needs Assessment, Housing Department staff gave an Action Plan briefing, answered questions and received feedback at the African American Resource Advisory Commission meeting on Monday April 4, 2024. A Commissioner expressed interest in Housing Department staff coming out and presenting further in other public meetings across the community such as with non-profits and churches to spread knowledge and awareness in the community about programs offered by the Housing Department and Austin Public Health.	All comments or views received are accepted.	https://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/3_1.htm
Public Meeting	Non-targeted/Broad community	The meeting was attended by members of the Austin/Travis County Reentry Roundtable Planning Council and Housing Department staff and was open to the public.	As part of the Community Needs Assessment, Housing Department staff gave an Action Plan briefing, answered questions, and received feedback at the Austin/Travis County Reentry Roundtable Planning Council meeting on Monday April 10, 2023. Members of the group strongly expressed that criminal history look-back periods should be lowered in applicable Housing Department program guidelines.	All comments or views received are accepted.	https://www.reentryroundtable.org/planning-council/

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

In addition to funding received from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the City of Austin allocates revenue to the Housing Department or affordable housing and community development activities. HUD's guidance regarding the inclusion of non-federal funding sources in an Annual Action Plan is that non-federal sources are to be included if they are reasonably expected to be made available to address the needs outlined in the plan.

In 2018 and 2022, voters approved two bonds valued at \$250 million and \$350 million, respectively, to support affordable housing programs administered by the City of Austin's Housing Department. This substantial increase in resources has enabled the Housing Department to reprioritize and maximize the use of federal funds. The realignment of resources is also reflective of feedback received from the community during the community needs assessment period conducted for the FY 2019-24 Consolidated Plan.

In March 2021, the Austin City Council authorized the negotiation and execution of an interlocal grant agreement with the Austin Transit Partnership (ATP) for the City to accept funding from ATP to administer and implement Project Connect anti-displacement programs, for the term March 25, 2021 through September 30, 2033, in an amount not to exceed \$300,000,000. These dollars will be used for a number of affordable housing programs and initiatives to prevent displacement of Austin communities of color and low-income residents in Austin.

Additional local funds are noted in the FY 2023-2024 City of Austin budget, which is expected to be approved by the Austin City Council August 2023. See Exhibit 2 for a visual depiction of the federal and local allocation process.

This plan is not intended to confer any legal rights or entitlements on any persons, groups, or entities, including those named as intended recipients of funds or as program beneficiaries. The terms of this Annual Action Plan are subject to amendment, and to the effects of applicable laws, regulations, and ordinances. Statements of numerical goals or outcomes are for the purpose of measuring the success of programs and

policies, and do not impose a legal obligation on the City to achieve the intended results. Actual funding of particular programs and projects identified in this Plan are subject to completion of various further actions, some of which involve discretionary determinations by the City or others. These include HUD approval of this Plan; appropriations by the United States Congress and Austin City Council; reviews and determinations under environmental and related laws; and results of bidding and contracting processes.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of Con Plan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources : \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	Public - Federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	\$7,362,354	\$105,000	\$0	\$7,467,354	\$0	The primary objective of CDBG is the development of viable communities by: Providing decent housing; Providing a suitable living environment; Expanding economic opportunities. Any activity funded with CDBG must meet one of three national objectives: Benefit low- and moderate-income persons; Aid in the prevention of slums or blight; Meet a particular urgent need.

HOME	Public - Federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	\$3,601,868	\$900,000	\$0	\$4,501,868	\$0	The three objectives of the HOME Program are: Expand the supply of decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing to very low- and low-income individuals; Mobilize and strengthen the ability of state and local governments to provide decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing to very low- and low-income individuals; Leverage private sector participation and expand the capacity of nonprofit housing providers.
HOPWA	Public - Federal	Permanent housing in facilities Permanent housing placement Short term or transitional housing facilities STRMU Supportive services TBRA	\$2,670,278	\$0	\$0	\$2,670,278	\$0	The Housing Opportunity for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program was established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to address the specific needs of low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families. HOPWA makes grants to local communities, states, and nonprofit organizations. HOPWA funds provide housing assistance and related supportive services in

								partnership with communities and neighborhoods.
ESG	Public - Federal	Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services	\$658,196	\$0	\$0	\$658,196	\$0	Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program is designed to be the first step in a continuum of assistance to help clients quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness.
Section 108	Public - Federal	Economic Development	\$3,000,000	\$426,116	\$0	\$3,126,116	\$0	Section 108 offers state and local governments the ability to transform a small portion of their CDBG funds into federally guaranteed loans large enough to pursue physical and economic revitalization projects.
Other	Public - Local	Acquisition Homeowner rehab Housing Multifamily rental new construction	N/a- Funding source is local	-	-	-	-	In 2018 and 2022 Austin voters approved \$250 million and \$350 million, respectively, in general obligation bonds for affordable housing. These funds will be utilized for construction, renovation, and improvements to

		Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership						housing for low-income persons and families, acquiring land interest in land and property necessary to do so; and funding affordable housing programs.
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Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

The City will satisfy its matching requirements for HOME funding through General Obligation (G.O.) Bond Funding and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Funds. Austin Public Health matches the ESG funding dollar for dollar with general fund dollars that are allocated to homeless services provided to subrecipients.

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

208.16 Acres on Loyola Lane (Colony Park) - Site of the HUD Community Challenge Planning Grant. The site has been master-planned and zoned as a Planned Unit Development. The City is in negotiations with the selected developer to enter into a formal Master Development Agreement for the development of the site. The site will include long-term affordability on a minimum of 20% of the total residential units constructed.

5.15 Acres on Tillery Street and Henninger Street - a request for proposal solicitation was released in FY3z 2020- 21 following robust public engagement. A preferred proposal and development partner was selected by the AHFC Board of Directors and agreements to develop the property with 66 multifamily rental units reserved for low-, very low-, and extremely low-income households have been executed. The project began construction in FY 2022-23 and is expected to be completed in FY 2023-24.

8.48 Acres on Levander Loop/Gardner Road - a request for proposal solicitation was released in FY 2020-21 following robust public engagement. A preferred proposal and development partner was selected by the AHFC Board of Directors and agreements to develop the property with 198 multifamily rental and 30 duplex ownership units reserved for moderate-, low-, very low-, and extremely low-income households have been executed. The project began construction in FY 2022-23 and is expected to be completed in FY 2023-24.

1.3 Acres at Doris Drive and Hathaway Drive - this property was purchased from Austin Independent School District and is currently in design. The development will include two duplex units that will be offered for rent to households at or below 50% median family income. The development plan also included four single-family homes to be sold to households at or below 80% median family income as part of AHFC's Community Land Trust program. As of April 2023, AHFC is contemplating a re-design to replace the four single-family units with a denser housing product utilizing the Affordability Unlocked Ordinance. AHFC hopes to at least double the number of units. Construction of the units is currently slated to begin in early 2024, which will include the extension of electrical service and water/wastewater service to the project as well as a detention facility.

7.96 acres at Tannehill Lane and Jackie Robinson Street - a request for proposal solicitation was released in FY 2020-21 following robust public engagement. A preferred proposal and development partner was selected by the AHFC Board of Directors. Agreements to develop the property with 156 multifamily rental and 32 duplex ownership units reserved for moderate-, low-, very low-, and extremely low-income households have been executed for the multifamily portion; an agreement for the ownership portion is expected to be executed in the spring of 2023. The multifamily project began construction in FY 2022-23 and is expected to be completed in FY 2023-24. The ownership project is expected to begin

construction in FY 2023-24 and is expected to be completed in FY 2025-26.

3.94 acres at Pecan Park Boulevard - This property was acquired in FY 2020-21 and will be developed with long-term affordable housing.

8.95 acres at West Slaughter Lane - This property was acquired in FY 2020-21 and will be developed with long-term affordable housing.

3.15 acres at Kramer Lane - This property was acquired in FY 2020-21 and will be developed with long-term affordable housing.

8.78 acres at Cullen Lane - This property was acquired in FY 2021-22 and will be developed with long-term affordable housing.

4.93 acres at Menchaca Road - This property was acquired in FY 2021-22 and will be developed with long-term affordable housing.

5.76 acres at Convict Hill Road - This property was acquired in FY 2021-22 and will be developed with long-term affordable housing.

3.00 acres at Manor Road - This property was acquired in FY 2021-22. A request for proposal solicitation was released in FY 2021-22 following robust public engagement. A preferred proposal and development partner was selected by the AHFC Board of Directors and agreements to develop the property with 264 multifamily rental units reserved for low-, very low-, and extremely low-income households are currently being finalized with the property expected to break ground in FY 2023-24.

.097 acres at 3000 Funston- This property has been permitted for the construction of one single-family dwelling. The property will be sold to a household at or below 80% median family income as part of AHFC's Community Land Trust. Construction will commence pending legal proceedings. As of April 2023, the project is still on-hold as the legal proceedings continue.

20 single-family dwellings were purchased from HACA. The dwellings will be fully renovated and sold to households at or below 80% median family income as part of AHFC's Community Land Trust. The renovations will occur in phases with the last of the homes being completed sometime in FY 2021-22. As of April 2022, seven of the single-family dwellings Phase One have been fully renovated and ready to be inhabited. Three more units have been completed as of April 2023. The ten remaining units should be completed by early FY 2023-24.

Pro-Lodge 5 (Rodeway Inn at 2711 South IH-35)- AHFC purchased a Rodeway Inn in May 2020 for \$6.3 million. The 87-room facility is being renovated in phases and is currently being used as a non-congregate shelter for homeless individuals that are part of the City's HEAL program. Phases 1-3 have been completed with Phase 3 including all major renovations to the interior and exterior of the facility.

Phase 4 has seen the permitting reviewing phase completed with construction expected to begin in late FY 22-23. Phase 4 includes Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) updates, creating a usable open space and installing permanent security fencing.

The Candlewood Suites was purchased in August 2021 for \$9.5 million. In June 2022, The City of Austin entered into an agreement with Family Eldercare in the amount of \$3.9 million to renovate the Candlewood Suites into 78 units of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for seniors who have experienced homelessness. The hotel project has been renamed Pecan Gardens and is scheduled to begin lease up in Fall 2023. The project was awarded 50 Project Based Vouchers through HACA in Feb 2022 and will also incorporate 28 Local Housing Vouchers, funded by the Housing Trust Fund. The Texas Bungalows Hotel was purchased in February 2021 for \$6.5 million. In June 2022, The City of Austin entered an agreement with Integral Care in the amount of \$1.6 million to renovate The Texas Bungalows into 60 units of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for adults who have experienced homelessness. The hotel project has been renamed Bungalows at Century Park and is scheduled to begin lease up in Winter 2023 or Spring 2024. Renovations have been delayed due to the foundation needing repair. This work should be completed by Fall 2023. The project was awarded 50 Project Based Vouchers through HACA in March 2021.

Balcones Terrace, a partnership with Foundation Communities, was awarded \$16 million for acquisition in August 2021. Balcones Terrace will include 123 affordable units, with 60 units of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for adults who have experienced homelessness.

5.30 acres at S. Pleasant Valley Road - This property was acquired in FY 2021-22. A request for proposal solicitation was released in FY 2022- 23 following robust public engagement and is still currently open. Once a preferred development partner is selected AHFC will finalize agreements to develop the property with long-term affordable housing, and is expected to begin construction in FY 2023-24.

18.48 acres at Grove Boulevard – This property was acquired in FY 2022-23. AHFC is currently planning public engagement and the release of a solicitation to develop the property with long-term affordable housing in FY 2023-24.

Midtown Flats – AHFC acquired this 40-unit naturally occurring affordable housing development in FY 2021-2022 with the intention of preserving the long-term affordability at this property.

Soco 121 – AHFC acquired this 52-unit expiring Low Income Housing Tax Credit funded development in FY 2022-23 with the intention of maintaining and preserving the long-term affordability at this property

City View at the Park Apartments – AHFC acquired this 70-unit, 55 years and over, expiring Low Income Housing Tax Credit-funded development in FY 2022-23 with the intention of maintaining and preserving the long-term affordability at this property, and with the intention of developing a second phase on excess land on the site. The second phase is anticipated to include 100 units of permanent supportive

housing.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goals for Service Provision
1	Homeless Assistance	2023	2024	Homeless	Throughout the City of Austin	Homeless Assistance	HOME: \$1,048,572 ESG: \$658,196	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance: 120 Households Assisted Rapid Rehousing: 108 Households Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 375 Persons Assisted
2	Special Needs Assistance	2023	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	Throughout the City of Austin	Special Needs Assistance	CDBG: \$810,467 HOPWA: \$2,670,278	CDBG: Child Care Services: 180 Clients Senior Services: 175 Clients Mental Health/Youth Services: 159 Clients

								<p>HOPWA: Homelessness Prevention (Short-term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Assistance): 128 households</p> <p>Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit (Permanent Housing Placement): 30 households</p> <p>Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit (Short Term Supportive Housing): 35 households</p> <p>Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit (Supportive Services): 44 households</p> <p>Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit (Housing Case Management): 140 households</p>
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								<p>Tenant Based Rental Assistance: 35 households</p> <p>Facility Based Housing: 44 households</p>
3	Renter Assistance	2023	2024	Affordable Housing	Throughout the City of Austin	Renter Assistance	CDBG: \$ 478,886	<p>Tenants' Rights Assistance (Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit): 300 Persons Assisted</p> <p>Architectural Barrier Removal-Renter (Rental units rehabilitated): 7 Household Housing Unit</p>
4	Homebuyer Assistance	2023	2024	Affordable Housing	Throughout the City of Austin	Homebuyer Assistance	<p>HOME: \$1,472,830</p> <p>HOME Program Income: \$400,000</p>	Down Payment Assistance (Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers): 25 Households Assisted
5	Homeowner Assistance	2023	2024	Affordable Housing	Throughout the City of Austin	Homeowner Assistance	<p>CDBG: \$3,047,001</p> <p>CDBG Revolving Loan: \$40,000</p>	Architectural Barrier Removal-Owner: 80 Household Housing Unit

							HOME Program Income: \$200,000	Minor Home Repair: 230 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program: 9 Household Housing Unit
6	Housing Development Assistance	2023	2024	Affordable Housing	Throughout the City of Austin	Housing Development Assistance	CDBG: \$1,553,529 CDBG Revolving Loan: \$55,000 HOME CHDO: \$540,280 HOME Program Income: \$218,182	Rental units constructed (Federal): 6 Household Housing units Rental units constructed (CHDO): 4 units Homeowner Housing Added (CHDO): 2
7	Other Community Development	2023	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Throughout the City of Austin	Other Community Development Assistance	HOME (CO): \$180,000 Section 108: \$3,000,000 Section 108 PI: \$126,116	Jobs created/retained: 33 Other (CHDO Operating Expenses + Organizations assisted): 2

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Homeless Assistance
	Goal Description	Persons experiencing homelessness are Austin’s most vulnerable population, and therefore are a high priority for the Consolidated Plan. This decision was made based on feedback from the public process, including stakeholder input from homeless needs providers, public hearings, and the Consolidated Plan survey. Homeless Assistance provides services to persons experiencing homelessness, persons living with HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence, persons experiencing mental illness, unaccompanied youth, persons with chronic substance abuse, and veterans.
2	Goal Name	Special Needs Assistance
	Goal Description	Special Needs activities will assist low to moderate-income Austinites by providing mental health services for at-risk youth, childcare services, and services for seniors. This decision was made based on feedback from the public process, including stakeholder input from homeless and special needs providers, public hearings, and the Consolidated Plan survey.
3	Goal Name	Renter Assistance
	Goal Description	The City of Austin’s update of the 2019 Comprehensive Housing Market Analysis identifies the need for affordable rental housing in Austin. This analysis was echoed in every aspect of the public input process from service providers, government partners, policy makers, and community members. Renter Assistance, therefore, is a high priority for the City. Renter Assistance activities will provide assistance that can make rent more affordable; tenants’ rights services; and financial assistance for necessary rehabilitation to make rental units accessible.
4	Goal Name	Homebuyer Assistance
	Goal Description	The City identified assistance to homebuyers as a high priority in the Consolidated Plan. The 2019 Housing Market Analysis illustrates the difficulty for low to moderate-income households to transition from renting to buying a home with the rising real estate market in Austin. Homebuyer Assistance provides counseling to renters wishing to become homebuyers. This category includes the Down Payment Assistance program, which offers loans to qualifying low and moderate-income homebuyers to help them buy their first home.
5	Goal Name	Homeowner Assistance
	Goal Description	Homeowner Assistance is designed to: preserve the safety and livability of the housing of low-income homeowners, allowing owners to stay in their homes; improve the City’s aging housing stock; and repair homes for existing

		homeowners. These activities were identified as high priorities by stakeholders and community members. Overall, Homeowner Assistance is a high priority in the Consolidated Plan.
6	Goal Name	Housing Development Assistance
	Goal Description	The need for affordable housing for low to moderate-income renters, including special needs populations, and homebuyers, was reflected in the 2019 Housing Market Analysis and public input received from the community. The City's main tool to create affordable housing is through financing to non-profit and for-profit developers. In addition, the City encourages the development of affordable housing through developer incentives. The City has established Housing Development Assistance as a high priority for the Consolidated Plan.
7	Goal Name	Other Community Development
	Goal Description	Other Community Development Assistance includes capacity-building activities for non-profit organizations that are focused on affordable housing development and workforce development, as well as support for small business development.

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

The following chart depicts the income limits for HOME programs by household size in Fiscal Year 2023-2024, as determined by the Housing and Urban Development Department.

FY 23-24 Income Limits	Household Size							
Median Income Limit	1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8 Person
Extremely Low-Income Households (0-30% of MFI)	\$24,550	\$28,050	\$31,550	\$35,050	\$37,900	\$40,700	\$45,420	\$50,560
Very Low—Income (50% of MFI)	\$40,900	\$46,750	\$52,600	\$58,400	\$63,100	\$67,750	\$72,450	\$77,100
Low Income: 80% of MFI	\$65,450	\$74,800	\$84,150	\$93,450	\$100,950	\$108,450	\$155,900	\$123,400

The table below depicts the number of people served by HOME funded programs in FY 21-22 by income level. HOME funded programs include Down Payment Assistance (DPA), Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA), Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program (HRLP), Rental Housing Development Assistance (RHDA), and Ownership Housing Development Assistance (OHDA) programs. Due to increases in fair market rent and home sale values, the City will strive to serve the same or more households in each category in Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

FY 21-22 Households Served by Income Level (HOME-funded programs)	
Extremely Low-Income Households (0-30% MFI)	69
Very Low-Income Households: (31%-50% MFI)	41
Low Income: (51%-80% MFI)	21
<i>Total</i>	131

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The City of Austin's planned projects are based on the City's assessment of community needs as identified in this Consolidated Plan, in related plans and policy documents, and on the ability of funds identified in the Consolidated Plan to be leveraged or combined with other funds to meet the identified needs. To the greatest extent possible, targeted funds will be used while resources with more discretionary latitude will be used to address needs and activities that lack their own targeted funding source. For instance, while the development of affordable housing is a critical issue for Austin, not all Consolidated Plan funds will be used for the creation or preservation of affordable housing.

The City continues to require a high level of data quality, increased outcomes for persons exiting to permanent housing, and a shortened length of stay. National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) is contracting with OrgCode Consulting to work with the shelter administrator to address shelter client workflow, data quality, staffing changes, and housing case management for all shelter clients, and to ensure that all client services are housing-focused with a rapid exit from shelter. In accordance with the Federal Register Notice dated March 7, 2006, outcome measures are established for each activity as follows:

Objectives:

- Create Suitable Living Environment;
- Provide Decent Affordable Housing;
- Create Economic Opportunities

Outcomes:

- Availability/Accessibility
- Affordability
- Sustainability

Additionally, the HEARTH Act, dated May 20, 2009, Division B - Homelessness Reform, established the following outcomes for McKinney-Vento funded Homelessness Assistance programs, including ESG in section 427: Length of Time Persons remain Homeless; Returns to Homelessness from Permanent Housing Destinations; Number of Homeless Persons; Employment and Income Growth for Homeless Persons; Persons First time Homeless; Homelessness Prevention; Successful Housing Placement.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Child Care Services

2	Senior Services
3	Mental Health Services
4	ESG 23 City of Austin
5	HOPWA AIDS Services of Austin
6	HOPWA Project Transitions
7	HOPWA Integral Care
8	HOPWA Ashwell
9	HOPWA Administration
10	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
11	Architectural Barrier Removal (ABR) Program - Renter
12	Tenants' Rights Assistance
13	Down Payment Assistance (DPA)
14	Architectural Barrier Removal (ABR) Program - Owner
15	Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program (HRLP)
16	Minor Home Repair Program
17	GO Repair! Program
18	Rental Housing Development Assistance (RHDA)
19	Ownership Housing Development Assistance (OHDA)
20	CHDO Operating Expense Grants
21	Family Business Loan Program (FBLP)
22	Debt Service
23	HOME Administration
24	CDBG Administration
25	Acquisition and Development

Table 7 - Project Information

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

Allocation priorities are based on the feedback received during the community needs assessment period conducted for the FY 2019-24 Consolidated Plan and the FY 2023-24 Action Plan, the 2019 Housing Market Analysis, and guidance from the City Council. The top affordable housing and community development priorities identified by the community via the Consolidated Plan survey were: availability of affordable housing, services to prevent homelessness, job training and/or job opportunities, mental health care and counseling, and affordable child care. These priorities identified by the community echo the top housing needs identified in the 2019 Housing Market Analysis. See Attachment I for a summary of the public comments received from the FY 2023-24 Action Plan community needs assessment.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

Project Title	Child Care Services
Project ID	1
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Special Needs Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Special Needs Assistance
Description	The City of Austin contracts with childcare providers to increase the supply of and access to affordable, quality childcare for families with low-income, including teen parents so they can attend school; and families who are homeless, near homeless, or have disabled children in need of temporary respite childcare, or need emergency childcare, or have a parent who is participating in a residential substance abuse treatment program. The programs serve children (ages: 0-12 years) from low to moderate median -income families with gross incomes less than 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines who reside within the Austin City limits.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	CDBG: \$485,236
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 180 families
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	Child Care Services will increase the supply of and access to affordable, quality childcare for families with low-income. Social service contracts through APH will provide: 1) direct childcare services for teen parents who are attending school; and 2) direct childcare services through the Early Head Start child development program, including services to families in crisis, including homeless and near-homeless families, and parents enrolled in self-sufficiency programs

Project Title	Senior Services
Project ID	2
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Special Needs Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Special Needs Assistance
Description	The City of Austin contracts with a sub-recipient to provide financial and housing-focused services that promote aging in place and help prevent and protect seniors from becoming victims of abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation. Clients must meet income, age, and residential eligibility requirements.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	CDBG: \$129,052
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 175 clients
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	The Senior Services program provides case management; money management services such as bill-payer; general public benefits enrollment assistance or specialized assistance for SSI/SSDI income; and housing stabilization services including homelessness prevention and housing retention.

Project Title	Mental Health Services
Project ID	3
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Special Needs Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Special Needs Assistance
Description	The Mental Health Services program provides access to holistic, wraparound services and support to youth designated as at-risk, and their families. The program's three components provide varying levels of intervention: school-based intensive wraparound services, community-based wraparound services, and summer camps. The program, in partnership with the youth and their families, addresses the needs and challenges of each youth's situation to improve their functioning in school, the community, and at home.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	CDBG: \$196,179
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 159 clients served
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	Mental Health Services will be provided to at-risk youth and their families. Services and support are customized to the needs of the youth and family and are delivered utilizing a wraparound model. Interventions focus on areas of basic needs, mental health services, educational support and social enrichment. Services include mental and behavioral health, self-sufficiency supports, enrichment services, parental support and education; accessed through designated schools and community centers.

Project Title	ESG 23 City of Austin
Project ID	4
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Homeless Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Homeless Assistance
Description	<p>Shelter Operations and Maintenance: The City has contracted with the Salvation Army to operate a low-barrier shelter for homeless women and women with children, all clients served in the planned shelter for the FY 2023-24 Action Plan have low-to-moderate income and will be at or below 50% of MFI. Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds will be used to provide maintenance and operations for this program. Rapid Rehousing programs: There are currently two ESG-funded rapid rehousing programs connecting homeless individuals referred through Coordinated Entry system with safe and stable housing: The Communicable Disease Unit of Austin Public Health (targeted to people experiencing homelessness with HIV/AIDS); And the Downtown Austin Community Court. HMIS funding will support HMIS-eligible expenses at all ESG-funded programs and the project also includes funding for administration.</p>
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	ESG: \$658,196
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	<p>Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 375</p> <p>Rapid Re-housing: 108</p>
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	<p>The Austin Shelter for Women and Children case management costs: The ASWC will serve individuals with its night sleeping and case management services. All clients will be entered into the Homeless Management Information Systems database.</p> <p>The Rapid Re-Housing program provides housing location, housing stability case management and direct financial assistance to rapidly rehouse people experiencing homelessness who are receiving services</p>

	<p>from ESG-funded programs at the Communicable Disease Unit, and the Downtown Austin Community Court.</p> <p>HMIS funding will support eligible reporting costs for the Austin Shelter for Women and Children.</p> <p>Administration activities will support all of the above.</p>
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Project Title	HOPWA AIDS Services of Austin
Project ID	5
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Special Needs Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Special Needs Assistance
Description	The City of Austin contracts with AIDS Services of Austin to deliver services for the HOPWA program. The goal of the HOPWA program is to prevent homelessness and to support independent living of persons living with HIV/AIDS.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	HOPWA: \$1,018,881
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	<p>Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit (Permanent Housing Placement): 25</p> <p>Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit (Housing Case Management): 140</p> <p>Tenant Based Rental Assistance/Rapid Rehousing: 35</p> <p>Homelessness Prevention (Short-term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Assistance): 80</p>
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	AIDS Services of Austin will provide Housing Case Management, Tenant Based Rental Assistance, Permanent Housing Placement Services, and Short-Term Rent, Mortgage and Utility Assistance.

Project Title	HOPWA Project Transitions
Project ID	6
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Special Needs Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Special Needs Assistance
Description	The City of Austin contracts with Project Transitions to deliver services for the HOPWA program. The goal of the HOPWA program is to prevent homelessness and to support independent living of persons living with HIV/AIDS. With the opening of the new facility-based housing, Project Transitions will no longer utilize master leasing, but instead offer facility based housing along with wraparound services.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	HOPWA: \$1,358,508
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Facility Based Housing: 44 Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit (Supportive Services): 44
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	Project Transitions will provide Facility-Based Housing and Supportive Services.

Project Title	HOPWA Integral Care ATCIC
Project ID	7
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Special Needs Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Special Needs Assistance
Description	The City of Austin will contract with Integral Care to deliver services for the HOPWA program. The goal of the HOPWA program is to prevent homelessness and to support independent living of persons living with HIV/AIDS.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	HOPWA: \$153,203
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	<p>Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit (Permanent Housing Placement): 5</p> <p>Public Service Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit (Short Term Supportive Housing): 35</p> <p>Homelessness Prevention (Short-term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Assistance): 30</p>
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	Integral Care will provide Permanent Housing Placement, Short Term Supportive Housing, and Short-term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Assistance.

Project Title	HOPWA ASHwell
Project ID	8
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Special Needs Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Special Needs Assistance
Description	The City of Austin will contract with ASHwell to deliver services for the HOPWA program. The goal of the HOPWA program is to prevent homelessness and to support independent living of persons living with HIV/AIDS.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	HOPWA: \$59,578
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Homelessness Prevention (Short-term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Assistance): 18
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	ASHWell will provide Short-term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Assistance.

Project Title	HOPWA Administration
Project ID	9
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Special Needs Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Special Needs Assistance
Description	Funds provide administrative costs for programs.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	HOPWA: \$80,108
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A- Funds provide administrative costs for programs.
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	Administration of federal programs.

Project Title	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance
Project ID	10
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Homeless Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Homeless Assistance
Description	<p>The Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program provides rental-housing subsidies to eligible individuals and families experiencing homelessness.</p> <p>The Housing and Planning Department oversees the Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA), a local Public Housing Authority, as the subrecipient of HOME TBRA funds, and works with ECHO (TX-503 Continuum of Care Lead Agency) to use the funding source as a Permanent Housing program (RRH) by braiding with other unrestricted local funds. This allows the HOME TBRA program to serve households experiencing literal homelessness who have been identified through the local Coordinated Entry (CE) system and to track program outcomes in the local HMIS database. HACA administers the TBRA subsidies for the program. Through the CE process, ECHO sends eligible program referrals to service providers with agencies who have established a Moratorium of Understanding to leverage existing funds for supportive services, allowing the creation of a RRH program. Current direct service providers, such as Caritas of Austin and The Salvation Army, work together to ensure that at least 95 households move into permanent housing and are served through the program annually.</p>
Target Date	09/30/23
Expected Resources	HOME: \$1,048,572
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Tenant-based rental assistance/Rapid Rehousing: 120 Households
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin

Planned Activities	The Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) will oversee the TBRA program and will contract with The Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) to administer the program.
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Project Title	Architectural Barrier Removal (ABR) Program - Renter
Project ID	11
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Renter Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Renter Assistance
Description	The Architectural Barrier Removal (ABR) program for renters modifies or retrofits the living quarters of eligible, low-income elderly and disabled renters. ABR increases the accessibility of the residences through the removal of architectural barriers in their homes. ABR modifications will allow clients to remain in their homes and increase self-sufficiency.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	CDBG: \$185,000
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Rental units rehabilitated: 7 Household Housing Units.
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	Physical improvements in rental housing units that are limited to improvements that remove the material and architectural barriers that restrict mobility and accessibility, and that are part of the structure and permanently fixed such as wheelchair ramps, handrails and more.

Project Title	Tenants' Rights Assistance
Project ID	12
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Renter Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Renter Assistance
Description	Tenants' Rights Assistance provides services to tenants residing within Austin City limits. Objectives of this program include: 1) provide direct counseling and technical assistance to low-income renters regarding tenant/landlord issues; 2) provide public education and information through workshops and public forums on landlord/tenant relationships and educate renters on their rights as well as their responsibilities under the law; and 3) identify fair housing complaints that can be investigated and may assist in resolving, reducing or minimizing discriminatory housing practices.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	CDBG: \$293,886
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 300 Persons assisted
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	This program will provide counseling, public information, and assistance to help the community identify fair housing complaints. The program also furthers fair housing in the elimination of discrimination, including the present effects of past discrimination, and the elimination of de facto residential segregation.

Project Title	Down Payment Assistance (DPA)
Project ID	13
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Homebuyer Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Homebuyer Assistance
Description	The purpose of the Down Payment Assistance (DPA) program is to assist low- and moderate-income first-time homebuyers by providing them with down payment and closing cost assistance. The program increases housing opportunities to eligible households. Eligible income is at or below 80% of MFI.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	HOME: \$1,472,830 HOME Program Income: \$400,000
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 25 Households Assisted
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	The DPA program provides a Standard DPA in the form of a 0% interest, deferred-forgivable loan in an amount no less than \$1,000 and up to a maximum amount of \$14,999, with a minimum affordability period of five years. Shared Equity DPA provides funding of no less than \$15,000 and up to a maximum amount of \$40,000, with a minimum affordability of 10 years. The loan will be forgiven at 10 years, and the borrower will still be responsible for paying a percentage of equity gained that is equal to the percentage of the Housing Department's portion of the original sales price will be added to the payoff balance. The loan is forgiven after 10 years and the shared equity is forgiven after 10 years. A lien will be placed on the property to ensure repayment. Shared equity loans include three components: shared equity, a purchase option, and right of first refusal.

Project Title	Architectural Barrier Removal (ABR) Program - Owner
Project ID	14
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Homeowner Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Homeowner Assistance
Description	The Architectural Barrier Removal (ABR) program for owners- The ABR program for owners modifies or retrofits the living quarters of eligible, low-income elderly and disabled homeowners. The program increases the accessibility of the residences through the removal of architectural barriers to mobility. ABR modifications allow clients to remain in their homes and increase self-sufficiency. No more than \$20,000 per home per year can be provided to a single home through the program. Eligible income is at or below 80% of MFI.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	CDBG: \$1,510,000
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 80 Unduplicated Household Housing Units.
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	The ABR program for homeowners funds physical improvements in housing units; funded activities are limited to improvements that remove architectural barriers that restrict mobility and accessibility, and that are part of the structure and permanently affixed, such as wheelchair ramps, handrails and more.

Project Title	Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program (HRLP)
Project ID	15
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Homeowner Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Homeowner Assistance
Description	The purpose of the Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program (HRLP) is to assist low- and moderate-income homeowners with bringing their homes up to building code standards, with repairs to the foundation, roof, plumbing, HVAC system, electrical system, and other major interior and exterior repairs. The property must be located within the City limits of Austin. The program provides financial assistance to address substandard housing conditions that exist on a homeowner's property. The result is that decent, safe and sanitary housing is restored. Eligible income is at or below 80% of MFI.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	CDBG: \$637,001 CDBG Revolving Loan: \$40,000 HOME Program Income: \$200,000
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 9 Household Housing Units will be serviced.
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	The HRLP assists low-income homeowners in the form of a 0% interest, deferred-forgivable loan, in an amount not less than \$7,500 and up to a maximum of \$75,000 for rehabilitation, and \$110,000, for historical preservation. If it is determined that it is economically infeasible to rehabilitate a property, reconstruction is necessary. For reconstruction, assistance is provided up to a maximum amount of \$350,000 or 125% loan-to-value based on the after-reconstruction appraised market value. A twenty (20) year lien will be placed on properties

	reconstructed. There will be a shared equity, purchase option, and right of first refusal component to the lien.
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Project Title	Minor Home Repair Program
Project ID	16
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Homeowner Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Homeowner Assistance
Description	The Minor Home Repair Program makes repairs to alleviate life-threatening living conditions, and health and safety hazards for low- to moderate-income homeowners. Households residing within Austin City limits and with incomes at or below 80% of MFI are eligible. Eligible households can receive up to \$7,500 for home repairs per year.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	CDBG: \$900,000
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 230 Household Housing Units will be serviced.
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	The program provides minor home rehabilitation activities related to maintaining a healthy, safe, affordable and sustainable housing stock for low- to moderate-income homeowners. Eligible program services include electrical, plumbing, roof, heating/cooling systems, structural carpentry, and other interior and exterior minor home repairs

Project Title	GO Repair! Program
Project ID	17
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Homeowner Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Homeowner Assistance
Description	The GO Repair! program addresses substandard housing conditions for low- and moderate-income homeowners residing within Austin City limits. The program provides financial assistance to make repairs that will eliminate health and safety hazards and/or provide improved accessibility.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	General Obligation Bond
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A- fund source is local
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	The program will provide up to \$20,000 per home for repairs.

Project Title	Rental Housing Development Assistance (RHDA)
Project ID	18
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Housing Development Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Housing Development Assistance
Description	<p>The Rental Housing Development Assistance (RHDA) program provides opportunities to create and retain affordable rental units for low- and moderate-income households, and low-income persons with special needs. RHDA provides below-market-rate financing to nonprofit and for-profit developers for the acquisition, new construction, or rehabilitation of affordable rental housing. RHDA serves households at or below 50% of MFI with a target of serving households at or below 30% of MFI. The City of Austin currently has four certified CHDOs developing rental housing through the use of HOME CHDO funds- Blackland Community Development Corporation, Accessible Housing Austin, Blackshear Neighborhood Development Corporation and Guadalupe Neighborhood Development Corporation (GNDC).</p>
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	<p>CDBG: \$1,553,529</p> <p>HOME CHDO: \$270,140</p> <p>HOME Program Income: \$218,182</p>
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	<p>Rental units constructed:</p> <p>Federal Funds: 6</p> <p>Other (CHDO): 4</p>
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	<p>RHDA will increase the supply of affordable rental units for income-eligible households. Units created will be restricted to households with incomes at or below 50% MFI. Depending on the project, the units may be for one or more of several underserved populations: seniors,</p>

	children, persons with disabilities, and people experiencing chronic homelessness, including veterans experiencing chronic homelessness.
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Project Title	Ownership Housing Development Assistance (OHDA)
Project ID	19
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Housing Development Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Housing Development Assistance
Description	The Ownership Housing Development Assistance (OHDA) program works with lenders, and nonprofit and for-profit developers to leverage City and federal funds to increase homeownership opportunities for low- to moderate-income buyers. Activities include: 1) the acquisition and development of land; 2) the acquisition and rehabilitation of residential structures; 3) the acquisition of new or existing housing units; and 4) the construction of new housing, all for sale to income-eligible households at or below 80% of MFI.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	CDBG Revolving Loan: \$55,000 HOME CHDO: \$270,140
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Other (CHDO): 2
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	OHDA will increase the supply of affordable homeownership units for income-eligible households. OHDA activities using HOME funds that provide direct financial assistance to homebuyers will use the "recapture" method combined with a shared equity model. This ensures that HOME funds are returned for other HOME-eligible activities. For OHDA activities using HOME funds that provide funding to a developer, the "resale" method will be used to ensure affordability throughout the affordability period.

Project Title	CHDO Operating Expense Grants
Project ID	20
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Other Community Development Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Other Community Development Assistance
Description	The Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO) Operating Expenses Grant program provides financial support to eligible, City-certified CHDOs actively involved in housing production or expected to begin production within 24 months. Under the terms of the grant, CHDOs must access CHDO set-aside funds to produce affordable housing for the community. Funding can only be used for the organization's operating expenses and cannot be used on project-related expenses.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	HOME (CO): \$180,000
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Other: 2
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	<p>CHDO Operating Expenses Grants are used to supplement a CHDO's operating funds. HOME regulations prohibit the use of these funds on project-related costs, and therefore, no families will directly benefit from this activity.</p> <p>Eligible CHDOs will receive financial assistance to support their operations as affordable housing providers. Financial support to CHDOs allows them to maintain or increase their capacity to create affordable rental and homeownership units.</p>

Project Title	Family Business Loan Program (FBLP)
Project ID	21
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Other Community Development Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Other Community Development Assistance
Description	The FBLP is a public-private partnership between the City of Austin, U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) certified community lenders, and private banks.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	Section 108: \$3,000,000 Section 108 Program Income: \$126,116
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Jobs created/retained: 33
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	The Family Business Loan Program (FBLP) makes low-interest loans to qualified Austin small business owners who are ready to expand their businesses and create jobs.

Project Title	Debt Service
Project ID	22
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Other Community Development Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Other Community Development Assistance
Description	East 11th and 12th Street Debt Service: The city secured a \$9,035,000 HUD Section 108 Loan Guarantee to implement the East 11th and 12th Streets revitalization project. A portion of these funds were used by the City of Austin for acquisition, relocation, demolition and other revitalization expenses on East 11th and 12th Street. Funds were also loaned to the Austin Revitalization Authority (ARA) for the construction of the Street-Jones and Snell Buildings on E 11th Street. The debt service will be paid from small business loan repayments through 2026.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	Section 108 PI: \$300,000
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A- Funding reflects estimated program income
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	Debt Servicing for Revitalization

Project Title	HOME Administration
Project ID	23
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Homebuyer Assistance Homeowner Assistance Housing Development Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Homebuyer Assistance Homeowner Assistance Housing Development Assistance
Description	Funds provide administrative costs for programs. HOME Entitlement: \$3,601,868 Program Income: \$900,000 Total: \$4,501,868 Allowable 10% HOME Admin Cap = \$450,186.80 Administrative Expense: \$360,168 = < 10% HOME Admin Cap
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	HOME: \$360,168
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A-Funds provide administrative costs for programs
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	Funds provide administrative costs for federal programs

Project Title	CDBG Administration
Project ID	24
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Special Needs Assistance Renter Assistance Homeowner Assistance Housing Development Assistance Other Community Development
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Special Needs Assistance Renter Assistance Homeowner Assistance Housing Development Assistance Other Community Development
Description	Funds provide administrative costs for programs. CDBG Entitlement: \$7,362,354 Allowable 20% CDBG Admin Cap = \$1,472,470.80
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	CDBG: \$1,472,470.80
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A-Funds provide administrative costs for programs
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	Funds provide administrative costs for federal programs

Project Title	AHFC Acquisition and Development
Project ID	25
Target Areas	Throughout the City of Austin
Annual Goals Supported	Housing Development Assistance
Priority Need(s) Addressed	Housing Development Assistance
Description	Low and moderate-income households will be served through the Acquisition and Development Program.
Target Date	09/30/24
Expected Resources	General Obligation Bonds
Estimate the number and types of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A- fund source is local
Location Description	Throughout the City of Austin
Planned Activities	The Housing and Planning Department will serve at least five low- and/or moderate-income households by providing rental and/or ownership opportunities through AHFC acquisition and development of affordable rental units and/or Community Land Trust units.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

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

The City of Austin does not currently direct its investments in specific target areas.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Throughout the City of Austin	100

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The City of Austin does not currently direct its investments in specific geographic areas.

Discussion

While the City of Austin does not currently target investments to specific geographic areas, it considers the geographic dispersion of affordable housing to be a core value in the investment of affordable housing-related activities with federal and local funds. The City supports providing affordable housing in areas outside of low-income neighborhoods, thereby reducing racial and ethnic segregation, deconcentrating poverty, and providing for more economic opportunities for low-income households. The City's Housing Department provides funding preference through a scoring matrix system which awards points to projects that assist in the dispersion of affordable housing stock throughout the community, to focus on areas in Austin where there is a shortage of affordable housing. As a result of this focus, the Housing Department has achieved greater geographic dispersion in the units it has funded in recent years.

In 2019, Council adopted geographic affordable housing goals by both Council District and by 2016 Mobility Bond Corridors. These goals have resulted in revisions to program guidelines and other city policies to ensure affordable housing is created throughout Austin as articulated by the community in both the Housing Blueprint and Imagine Austin, the City's Comprehensive Plan.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

Affordable housing is a critical priority for the City of Austin. The need for affordable housing for extremely low and moderate-income renters, special needs populations, and homebuyers is evident in the 2019 Housing Market Analysis and in public input received from the community. Feedback received during the FY 2023-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment period makes clear that this is still a prioritized need in Austin. Housing affordability in Austin has continued to decline among many segments of the population but particularly among very low-income households making between 30% and 50% MFI, and extremely low-income households making between 0% and 30% MFI. Many service providers cited the lack of affordable housing as having a ripple effect, negatively impacting the ability to provide a stable foundation of opportunity for the clients they serve.

The Action Plan must specify goals for the number of homeless, non-homeless, and special needs households to be provided with affordable housing within the program year. The plan must also indicate the number of affordable housing units that will be provided by program type, including rental assistance, production of new units, rehabilitation of existing units, or acquisition of existing units. For the purpose of this section, the term “affordable housing” is defined in the HOME regulations at 24 CFR 92.252 for rental housing and 24 CFR 92.254 for homeownership.

The goals in the following tables reflect federally funded projects that do not include the provision of emergency shelter, transitional shelter, or social services and that meet the definition of households provided affordable housing units within the program year.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	120
Non-Homeless	46
Special-Needs	317
Total	483

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	120
The Production of New Units	12

Rehab of Existing Units	326
Acquisition of Existing Units	25
Total	483

Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

The following is a breakdown of the values featured in Table 9– One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

Homeless	
Tenant Based Rental Assistance- Homeless Assistance (HOME)	120
Subtotal	120
Non-Homeless	
Rental Housing Developer Assistance (CDBG & HOME)	10
Ownership Housing Development Assistance (CDBG & HOME)	2
Home Rehabilitation Loan Program (CDBG & HOME)	9
Down Payment Assistance (HOME)	25
Subtotal	46
Special Needs	
Minor Home Repair (CDBG)	230
Architectural Barrier Program - Rental (CDBG)	7
Architectural Barrier Program - Owner (CDBG)	80
Subtotal	317
Grand Total	483

The following is a breakdown of the values featured in Table 10– One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Rental Assistance	
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (HOME)	120
Subtotal	120
Production of New Units	
Rental Housing Developer Assistance (CDBG & HOME)	10
Ownership Housing Development Assistance (CDBG & HOME)	2
Subtotal	12
Rehab of Existing Units	

Architectural Barrier Program - Rental (CDBG)	7
Architectural Barrier Program - Owner (CDBG)	80
Home Rehabilitation Loan Program (CDBG & HOME)	9
Minor Home Repair (CDBG)	230
Subtotal	326
Acquisition of Existing Units	
Down Payment Assistance (HOME)	25
Subtotal	25
Grand Total	483

Discussion

Long-term Affordability

The Housing Department and Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) use a shared equity model to allow income-eligible homebuyers and homeowners to obtain substantial mortgage assistance or housing reconstruction services, in exchange for provisions that preserve affordability in Austin by recapturing funds to assist another subsequent low to moderate-income buyer to purchase the home.

The City has prioritized resources for its long-term affordability program through expanding AHFC'S portfolio of Community Land Trust homes (CLT). A Community Land Trust (CLT) preserves public investment in affordability, allowing preservation into perpetuity. The CLT retains ownership of the land, while the homeowner owns the home. The CLT limits the sales price and requires subsequent buyers be income eligible. CLT homeowners receive a predetermined share of the appreciation when the unit is re-sold. This model provides opportunities for low to moderate-income households to buy the home at an affordable price. The Austin Community Land Trust (ACLT) was designed with policies to further the City's obligation to affirmatively further fair housing and includes a method to prioritize applicants affected by gentrification and displacement. ACLT will implement a lottery and application process for the available homes through the website, ACLT-Homes.org. ACLT-Home.org is the online platform to educate the community on the Austin Community Land Trust, how to apply, and how to move through the home-buying process. ACLT currently has 15 homes occupied and 28 homes for sale throughout FY 21-22 and 22-23.

AHFC receives a 100% property tax exemption on all land it owns. AHFC may partner with affordable housing developers through purchase of land and a long-term leasehold deed of trust held by AHFC. The benefit of AHFC's property tax exemption helps sustain the project viability and affordability. This structure is typically used when the affordable housing development meets several key criteria, among them: location on/near a transit-oriented development or transit corridor, proximity to critical services and amenities, placement in a high-opportunity area and a commitment to serve low-income households.

Preservation of Affordable Housing

The Housing Department regularly examines the loss of existing affordable housing stock in the community and recently joined the Texas Affordable Housing Preservation Coalition. The Housing Department will develop and share data to strengthen coordination and increase opportunities for preservation in high opportunity areas (places with access to amenities or community attributes that can increase economic mobility for their residents). Additional strategies to preserve affordable housing include:

- Maximize partnerships to promote programs and services, and preserve affordable housing

stock

- Explore educational and outreach initiatives to ensure low-income households have avenues through education to remain in affordable housing
- Pursue strategies to bring forward resources and to increase long-term, permanent affordability
- Develop data regarding the condition of Austin's housing units, including unit counts for subsidized properties

The Housing Department is working to produce a comprehensive strategy to preserve affordability by coordinating with local partners to identify and preserve affordable housing.

Geographic Dispersion

The City balances investment in gentrifying areas with the need for creating affordable housing in high opportunity areas - a strategy recommended in *Uprooted: Residential Displacement in Austin's Gentrifying Neighborhoods & What Can be Done About It*. Investment in affordable housing in areas outside of low-income neighborhoods is being prioritized, with the goal of reducing racial and ethnic segregation, deconcentrating poverty and providing economic opportunities for low-income households.

The City offers development incentives which provide waivers to site development regulations in exchange for affordable housing. The majority of these policies apply to geographic areas including high opportunity areas.

Other Initiatives

In 2017, the Austin City Council adopted the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint, a ten-year community plan to align resources, ensure a unified strategic direction, and facilitate community partnerships to reach the City's affordable housing goals. The Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint set a goal of creating 135,000 housing units by 2028, with housing available at each level of income distributed across the council districts. [The Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint Scorecard for 2020](#), produced by HousingWorks Austin, demonstrates the City's progress in meeting various goals set in the plan.

The City continues working towards meeting the following goals established in the Strategic Housing Blueprint, using both federal and local funding, by 2028. The following progress is outlined in the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint Scorecard for 2020.

- 20,000 Housing Units Affordable to 30% MFI and Below - 28 units affordable to households earning at or below 30% MFI were produced in 2020, 90 fewer than the 118 built in 2019. The 28 units built in 2020 brings the three-year total number of units affordable to households earning at or below 30% MFI produced to 238.
- 25,000 Housing Units Affordable to 31-60% MFI and Below - 911 housing units affordable to households earning between 31-60% MFI were produced in 2020, 1,780 fewer than those built in 2019. A total of 4,884 units affordable to households making between 31-60% MFI have been

constructed over the past three years.

- 15,000 Housing Units affordable to 61-80% MFI and below- 1,283 housing units affordable to households earning between 61-80% MFI constructed in 2020. Over the past three years, 1,888 units affordable to households earning 61-80% MFI have been constructed.

In 2019, Council adopted geographic affordable housing goals by Council District and by 2016 Mobility Bond Corridors. These goals have informed revisions to program guidelines to ensure affordable housing is created.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The City of Austin is served by two Public Housing Authorities (PHAs): The Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) and the Housing Authority of Travis County (HATC). These agencies work independently of the City of Austin and Travis County, but share updates on progress through regular meetings with City staff.

HACA is a partnering agency in the development of the Regional Analysis of Impediments, Housing Market Analysis, and Consolidated Plan.

HACA administers the City's tenant based rental assistance (TBRA) program. Currently, the TBRA program provides vouchers for households experiencing homelessness, with referrals taken from the Coordinated Assessment system. The program blends HOME TBRA housing coupons and supportive services through General Fund activities, known locally as the Armadillo Avenue Program, and has enabled households experiencing homelessness to access Permanent Housing. The TBRA program will serve all the City of Austin addresses including those in both the City's full purpose and extra-territorial jurisdictions.

Considering the great need for affordable housing to house the homeless, in FY 23-24, HACA will enter into an agreement for Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) Contracts with ten properties to provide permanent supportive housing to people experiencing homelessness in the City of Austin. The ten properties comprise projects recommended to receive housing choice voucher (HCV) project-based vouchers (PBV) and Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) housing choice project-based vouchers based on a request for proposal. Foundation Communities' Burleson Studios will receive 30 regular PBVs and 20 VASH PBVs. Foundation Communities' Skyline Terrace will receive 10 regular PBV units. The Cairn Point project by Caritas of Austin and the Vecino Group will receive 30 regular PBVs and 20 VASH PBVs. SAFE Alliance was awarded regular PBVs at two projects – 30 at The Lancaster, and 25 at The Sasha. Lifeworks' The Works at Tillery will receive 25 PBVs. Family Eldercare's Real Gardens will receive 25 regular PBVs and 10 VASH PBVs. The Rozz with SGI Ventures received 25 regular PBVs and 15 VASH PBVs. Ten VASH PBVs were awarded to the Austin Housing Finance Corporation's Country Inn hotel Conversion project. Finally, Elizabeth Properties' Kensington Apartments will receive 25 VASH PBVs. Committing these new 200 PBVs and 100 VASH PBVs reflect HACA's dedication to expanding supportive housing and services to vulnerable homeless individuals and those experiencing chronic homelessness. HUD regulations and HACA's HCV Administrative Plan allows HACA to project-base up to 20 percent of its allocated vouchers plus an additional 10% above the 20% limit to units designated to serve the homeless or veterans. The 200 PBV and 100 VASH PBVs, coupled with the existing 441 PBVs, reflects a total of 741 PBVs or 12.3% of HACA's overall voucher allocation.

HACA's PHA Annual and Five-Year Plan provides comprehensive information on actions that HACA has planned or considered for implementation in the next year to address the need for low-income

subsidized housing.

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

In FY 2023-24, HACA is introducing a revamped homeownership program. The new HACA Homeownership Program engages and supports HACA resident families (Housing Choice Voucher participants as well as our residents in Project Based Rental Assistance properties) as they seek to purchase their first home. Support is provided to help families understand and navigate HACA's homeownership opportunities. These include:

Prospect Heights at Rosewood: Through HACA's partnership with Habitat for Humanity, homeownership opportunities will be available to twelve HACA resident families at the newly redeveloped Pathways at Rosewood Courts. By 2025, HACA expects twelve townhome style homes to be built at Rosewood for sale to qualified residents and their families.

Down Payment Assistance Program: HACA's down payment assistance program will contribute up to \$10,000 towards closing costs and/or the down payment to qualified applicants when they purchase a Rosewood home. Assistance is provided in the form of a deferred second mortgage with no monthly payments and forgiven once program requirements are fulfilled.

Eligibility requirements for these programs include:

- First time homebuyer (or have not owned a home in the past three years)
- HACA resident in good standing
- U.S. Citizen or Legal Permanent Resident
- Income from stable employment over the last two years
- Credit and income requirements based on household size

The HACA homeownership team also supports families in connecting them to community partners for assistance with credit counseling, financial education, and helping connect with and navigate other first time home buying programs. Prospect Heights at Rosewood is currently under construction and the projected completion date is in 2025.

HACA continues to support the coordination of Resident Councils at each of the 18 low-income subsidized housing properties. All property residents are considered members of their Resident Council and are encouraged to participate in meetings and decision-making at their properties. The opportunity to become leaders at their properties, voice concerns about program operations, and advocate for necessary changes often serves as a springboard for households to become further involved in the

community and plan specific goals for achieving economic and housing self-sufficiency.

Housing Authority of Travis County (HATC)

HATC administers the Continuum of Care Grant (homeless), Housing Choice Voucher (HCV); Mainstream Voucher Program; Emergency Housing Vouchers (ARPA); Project Based Rental Assistance Program (PBRA); Manor Town Apartment Homes; and Carson Creek Duplexes. The largest of these programs is the Housing Choices Vouchers serving 680 units. HATC receives a Continuum of Care (COC) Grant for 74 units to provide assistance for homeless individuals and families in the Austin Travis County Metropolitan area. HATC is a collaborative participant in the Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) community to assist in developing a financial model for a multi-jurisdictional solution to fund PSH in Austin. To further assist housing the homeless population in the county, HATC adopted a homeless preference for the waiting list and subsequently entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with ECHO for direct referral to the HCV waiting list from coordinated entry. This preference allows the most vulnerable homeless participants to receive housing without needing to wait for the waiting list to open.

In June 2021, HATC was awarded 34 Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) through The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The EHV vouchers are provided to help assist individuals and families who are one of the following: homeless; at risk for homelessness; fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking; or recently homeless. HATC entered into MOUs with two partnering agencies within the community to ensure households receive wrap around services to address each family's individual needs.

In 2021, HATC was selected by HUD for admission to Cohort 1: Overall Impact of Moving to Work Flexibility of the Moving to Work (MTW) Demonstration Program. The MTW designation provides HATC the opportunity to design and test innovative, locally designed housing and self-sufficiency strategies. The redesign of the HCV program must meet three statutory objectives which include: reduce cost and achieve greater cost effectiveness in federal expenditures; promote self-sufficiency; and increase housing choice for participants.

The City of Austin is committed to continuing its support of partnerships and efforts that will improve public housing and resident initiatives and will continue coordinating with both HACA and HATC in FY 2023-24 to inform public housing residents of affordable housing programs and opportunities.

On March 7, 2019, AHFC-approved a \$1 million loan to HATC for the rehabilitation of one of its public housing properties, Eastern Oaks. The 30-unit multifamily property was built in 1982 and was in need of substantial rehabilitation. AHFC provided \$1,000,000 in local Housing Trust Fund dollars, as part of HATC's \$3.25 million rehabilitation project. All 30 units will be affordable to households at or below 30% MFI for 99 years.

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

participate in homeownership [SB1]

The City of Austin collaborates closely with local PHA officials to ensure that City housing programs are responsive and linked to the needs of public housing households. As previously noted, each of HACA's 18 low-income subsidized housing properties maintains a Resident Council designed to directly involve individuals in their community's management and decision-making process. Participation in community management empowers households to become further involved in their communities, and to plan specific goals for achieving economic and housing self-sufficiency.

The Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) continues to move families toward self-sufficiency. HACA's down payment assistance program provides qualified families participating in the Project Based Rental Assistance properties or Housing Choice Voucher programs with a \$10,000 forgivable loan to be applied towards the down payment on a new or existing home. If the applicant meets all program criteria for the first five years, then the loan is forgiven. Through HACA's subsidiary, Austin Affordable Housing Corporation (AAHC), HACA's Six Star program provides another alternative for those who are ready to move out of public housing but have not met all the criteria to purchase a home. The Six-Star program allows households to reside at one of AAHC's apartment homes at a rate lower than the fair market rental rate. The rent amount increases slightly over the course of the three-year program, until the fair market rent is reached. The Six Star program allows participants to continue to learn financial management skills and work toward goals that will support sustainable economic and housing self-sufficiency and ultimately homeownership.

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

Neither the Travis County Housing Authority nor the Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) is designated as troubled.

Discussion

See the sections above.

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

Introduction

In December 2020, the City hired the Homelessness Strategy Officer to coordinate between public housing providers, mental health, and service agencies who address homelessness prevention and housing. The City of Austin Homelessness Strategy Office provides a coordinated implementation of responses to homelessness across City departments.

The City coordinates the administration of the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding with local and state funding of homeless services. ESG funding serves adult single women and women with children with emergency shelter, and the single adult homeless population with rapid rehousing services. User licenses and eligible equipment for the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and administration for the program are also provided with grant funding. The Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO) is the lead planning entity on homeless issues in Austin/Travis County. As the Collaborative Applicant and HMIS Lead Agency, ECHO completes Austin's Continuum of Care (CoC) NOFA Collaborative Application and annual reports. ECHO also coordinates the annual Point in Time (PIT) Count, as well as the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The City allocates general fund dollars to support ECHO staff and programs. ECHO manages the Coordinated Entry System (CE)—a standardized intake process. The CE system simplifies the client referral process for Permanent Housing and ESG funded programs. ECHO follows the Continuum of Care CE Written Standards.

The Downtown Austin Community Court (DACC) works to address the quality-of-life issues of all residents in downtown Austin through swift sentencing of public order offenders. DACC's Case Management provides long-term services to individuals experiencing homelessness. Austin Public Health (APH) currently oversees DACC's ESG-funded rapid rehousing program (RRH). Through RRH, DACC serves the homeless through basic needs provision, financial assistance, housing relocation and stabilization assistance, and support services so clients can stay in permanent housing.

The City has provided subsidies for the creation of 1,500+ permanent supportive housing (PSH) units since 2017. Between 2017 and 2023 the City of Austin has created 472 PSH units through tenant-based and project-based subsidies. There is expected to be an additional 300+ PSH site-based units and 15 Continuum of Care units (i.e., reserved for referral from the CoC) leasing up before the end of 2023. An additional estimated 960 units of PSH and 21 Continuum of Care units are in development and are expected to lease up by the end of 2026. The City also has a dedicated staff member to work closely with ECHO in promoting this PSH goal.

The Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint also supports the production of 100 PSH units each year, with half of those units housing people experiencing homelessness. In order for Austin to address homelessness, all programs across the system strive to achieve performance benchmarks; programs target resources to households that would become homeless if assistance were not provided; and

persons in transitional housing rapidly exit into permanent housing within 12 months.

In 2020, the City began the hotel conversion strategy to help reach the goal of generating PSH units. The Housing Department worked with the Office of Real Estate Services (ORES) to acquire existing hotel properties to convert to PSH. The first of the acquisitions was the 85 room Rodeway Inn at 2711 S. I-35. The hotel, now known as Pro-lodge 5, was acquired in April 2020, renovated to allow for use as a protective lodge during the pandemic, and began to house individuals at risk for contracting COVID-19 in July of 2020.

The Candlewood Suites was purchased in August 2021 for \$9.5 million. In June 2022, The City of Austin entered into an agreement with Family Eldercare in the amount of \$3.9 million to renovate the Candlewood Suites into 78 units of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for seniors who have experienced homelessness. The hotel project has been renamed Pecan Gardens and is scheduled to begin lease up in Fall 2023. The project was awarded 50 Project Based Vouchers through HACA in Feb 2022 and will also incorporate 28 Local Housing Vouchers, funded by the Housing Trust Fund.

The Texas Bungalows Hotel was purchased in February 2021 for \$6.5 million. In June 2022, The City of Austin entered an agreement with Integral Care in the amount of \$1.6 million to renovate The Texas Bungalows into 60 units of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for adults who have experienced homelessness. The hotel project has been renamed Bungalows at Century Park and is scheduled to begin lease up in Winter 2023 or Spring 2024. Renovations have been delayed due to the foundation needing repair. This work should be completed by Fall 2023. The project was awarded 50 Project Based Vouchers through HACA in March 2021.

Balcones Terrace, a partnership with Foundation Communities, was awarded \$16 million for acquisition in August 2021. Balcones Terrace will include 123 affordable units, with 60 units of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for adults who have experienced homelessness.

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

In order to identify and engage with people experiencing homelessness in the Austin/Travis County area, the City partners with more than ten different street outreach teams and mobile navigation programs and ten local emergency shelters. Coordination with these partners occurs through the CoC's Coordinated Entry System (CE) and the shared Homeless Management Information (HMIS) database.

Street Outreach teams, Navigation Center staff, and Emergency Shelter staff are trained to administer the CE assessment to add clients to the shared community By-Name-List to prioritize the most vulnerable clients for housing. One of these street outreach teams is the City-funded Homeless Outreach Street Team (HOST), an interdisciplinary outreach collaborative composed of representatives from law enforcement, mental health, and the court system, and dedicated to engaging the highest-

need clients in the downtown area. Housing resources are prioritized based upon vulnerability, and the CoC has developed a CE system that uses Street Outreach teams to proactively document eligibility and keep households engaged while accessing services. The CoC provides assessment staff on a supplemental and temporary basis to close assessment need gaps while partners are developing internal assessment capacity.

Many outreach and shelter programs prioritize hard-to-reach populations such as unsheltered families, chronically homeless veterans, unaccompanied youth, persons with HIV/AIDS, refugees/asylees, and clients with mental health needs. Austin also coordinates with diverse community partners to identify homeless individuals, such as libraries, community centers, schools, clinics, hospitals, law enforcement, and the local mental health authority. When necessary, Street Outreach teams complete the CE assessment directly in the field using mobile technology, and they can request help from other Street Outreach teams if an area of high need is identified. These teams meet monthly at a CoC-wide coordination meeting to discuss coverage areas, frequency, emerging practices and concerns, and individual cases.

Austin's Action Plan to End Homelessness

[<http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=292841>] has identified several objectives regarding outreach and shelter. They include: 1) Outreach programs engage all persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness and connect them to crisis services as well as to stable housing, 2) All persons in unsheltered situations can access crisis services and can end their homelessness, and 3) Persons in unsheltered situations can meet their basic daily survival needs (i.e. a comfortable and safe place to be during the day including services to end their homelessness, access to showers and bathrooms during the day, and access to 24 hour storage space).

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Austin Public Health (APH) funds the Salvation Army to operate a low-barrier shelter for homeless adult women and women with children using ESG and general fund dollars. The City also funds other shelters, transitional housing and homeless services. All clients served in the Austin Shelter for Women and Children have low- to moderate-income and are at or below 50% of MFI. Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds are used to provide maintenance and operations for this program.

In addition to the emergency shelter services directly funded by ESG, the City and CoC have collaborated to create common strategies and systems to document unmet emergency shelter needs and to expedite the exit from emergency shelter to housing. These strategies include:

- Using the Coordinated Entry System (CE) to assist all shelter residents in applying for all possible housing programs
- Leading shelter transformation toward the housing-focused model
- Increasing documentation of exit data in HMIS for all projects, including emergency shelters

where there are high rates of missing exit destination information

- Monitoring project performance by housing outcomes
- Partnering with landlords for prompt access to units that become available
- Training case managers to implement best practices that promote housing attainment and retention

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

The City of Austin's Downtown Austin Community Court, Austin Public Health's Communicable Disease Unit, and the finalized Rapid Rehousing awardee of the current Request for Proposal will all administer ESG Rapid Rehousing funds in coordination to move homeless individuals from the streets and shelters into permanent housing. This program brings together housing location, financial assistance, and housing stability case management, and leverages other funding sources like the General Fund dollars, to bring housing resources to unhoused people.

In conjunction with the CoC, the City uses two primary strategies to get clients into housing as quickly as possible: Rapid identification and assessment through the Coordinated Entry System (CE); Rapid matching of RRH households with service-enriched housing programs (driven by active household choice in determining which combination of options is best suited to meet clients' needs).

The CE system creates a by-name list of homeless families using HMIS data, including date first homeless, and this information is used to affirmatively target households for engagement and housing. The CoC has adopted Written Standards for Service Delivery, including the Coordinated Entry Written Standards, which establish consistent prioritization and referral to permanent housing interventions as well as service delivery across intervention types. The CoC and City of Austin staff work closely to ensure the finalization of community service delivery standards. These standards expanded housing location efforts using a Housing First approach to minimize time spent homeless. Upon housing, these programs utilize nationally recognized best practices to ensure that households with higher needs receive more intensive services to stabilize them. The CoC has established formal partnerships for needs such as mental health, substance use, HIV/AIDS, veteran services, SSI/SSDI SOAR applications, employment training, and medical care (through MAP, a locally funded indigent health program). Staff also market services such as subsidized childcare (through the local Workforce Solutions system), education services, SNAP, TANF, WIC, subsidized housing waitlists, and Medicaid.

Austin's Action Plan to End Homelessness proposes 72 actions across five strategies – Outreach and Shelter, Housing and Services, Addressing Disparities, System Effectiveness, and Community

Commitment. The Plan recognizes that Austin's high occupancy and high cost rental market are challenging when locating affordable, low barrier units. Housing objectives include for persons experiencing homelessness having immediate access to existing rental housing units that are affordable, low barrier, and geographically dispersed including high opportunity areas; all persons who have exited homelessness can maintain housing stability; persons experiencing homelessness have access to recovery services, mental healthcare and other healthcare services and increase access sustainable employment for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

The City partners closely with ECHO's Community Housing Department to support access to low barrier housing units through partnering with housing properties and providing landlord incentives for units dedicated to people experiencing homelessness. This also includes partnering with ECHO who provides housing barrier screening services by offering rent reports to support matching households to services, financial assistance tailored to ensuring households can find units regardless of financial and/or criminal background barriers.

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

The Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO) coordinates the Continuum of Care funded projects and submits the annual application to HUD. ECHO works with the Reentry Roundtable, Travis County Criminal Justice, Integral Care's Behavioral Health Advisory Committee, ATCIC leadership and other community planning organizations. ECHO also convenes ongoing conversations addressing discharge planning from hospitals, treatment facilities, and jails to assist persons leaving mental/physical health facilities to locate support services and housing, and persons with mental/physical health challenges leaving other institutions to do the same. Central Health, the local healthcare taxing district has identified Permanent Supportive Housing as a top 10 strategy for improving mental health in Travis County. ECHO staff participate in the Austin Travis County Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice Advisory Committee and have a voting seat.

In August of 2019, ECHO began developing the Housing for Healthcare division consisting of 4-5 staff who support system-wide discharge planning and are liaisons with various institutions such as the criminal justice system and the hospital and medical systems. ECHO staff work closely with other systems of care to divert persons from entering homelessness when possible and to increase access to available resources (e.g., crisis beds, coordinated entry assessment). In addition, ECHO is one of the local SOAR Leads which has been vital in supporting access to housing resources through increased income and benefits.

The City of Austin Emergency Solutions Grant funds are not allocated to homelessness prevention.

Outreach and shelter staff utilize diversion strategies to find alternative housing options in order to prevent entries into homelessness and shelters. Hospital patients are offered and referred to transitional housing programs and/or respite beds. APH uses City general fund dollars for a centralized homelessness prevention program called Best Single Source Plus, which provides financial assistance and case management to families who are at-risk of homelessness due to acute housing crisis or chronic risk factors. The City of Austin funds a Fiscal Agent, Caritas of Austin, to oversee the funding collaboration which includes 12 agencies who provide financial assistance as a Housing Prevention program, targeting populations at highest risk of homelessness, including individuals with HIV/AIDS, families with minor children, elderly households, and transition-aged youth.

As part of the joint work through the CoC, Austin/Travis County was also selected in 2017 as one of the first ten communities to participate in the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project, a newly funded initiative from HUD intended to test new and innovative housing interventions targeting unaccompanied, transition-aged youth experiencing homelessness. Austin/Travis County was awarded an initial, two-year, renewable grant of \$5.2 million in programmatic funding, and a portion of this grant has been assigned to a “Deeper Diversion” program intended to prevent youth from entering homelessness from the Foster Care/Department of Family and Protective Services System, the Juvenile Justice system, and the Austin Independent School District system. During the FY19 CoC NOFA Competition, YHDP projects were transitioned into the CoC program funding competition for the first time since being awarded during the FY17 Round 1 YHDP Competition. All 3 youth dedicated projects were awarded as CoC-funded renewals and work in conjunction with each other to provide a diverse range of interventions to prevent and end youth homelessness. YHDP recipient agency, LifeWorks, closely works with schools, foster care, CPS, and juvenile justice to coordinate discharge planning to divert and prevent youth from entering homelessness and offering PH interventions to successfully exit youth into permanent housing solutions. These services are coordinated through partnerships with each of the respective agencies, and services comprise a combination of individualized case management, minimal financial assistance, and family-based mediation and counseling services.

The community is dedicated to ending youth homelessness through achieving functional zero for this population. The COVID-10 pandemic has forced the community to reassess its goal end date and providers are confident ending youth homelessness will be achieved.

Discussion

Please see the above sections.

AP-70 HOPWA Goals– 91.220 (I)(3)

One-year goals for the number of households to be provided housing through the use of HOPWA for:	
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family	122
Tenant-based rental assistance	35
Supportive Services	44
Housing Case Management	140
Facility Based Housing	44
Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	30
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	19
Total	434

AP-75 Barriers to Affordable Housing – 91.220(j)

The City of Austin has many initiatives to remove the barriers to affordable housing examined as part of the 2019 regional Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI). The impediments identified in the AI are summarized below.

City and County capacity to address fair housing challenges is limited. The rapidly growing housing crisis throughout the region is taxing public resources, as governments and housing authorities implement programs and policies that address housing needs.

Harm caused by segregation is manifested in disproportionate housing needs and differences in economic opportunity. Past actions that denied housing opportunities and perpetuated segregation have limited opportunities for members of protected classes. Differences in poverty rates are highest in areas where early policies limited where people of different races and ethnicities could live. African American and Hispanic families in these areas have poverty rates averaging 17% greater than Non-Hispanic White and Asian families. The homeownership gap between Black and Non-Hispanic White households is close to 20% in many jurisdictions. There is also a significant overrepresentation of Black and Hispanic families within the population experiencing homelessness, compared to the Austin general population.

Affordable rental options in the region are increasingly scarce. Local population growth has raised demand for rental housing, pushing up rental costs and limiting areas where low-income households can afford to live. This perpetuates the limited economic opportunity that began with segregation. For Housing Choice Voucher holders, state law prohibits jurisdictions from including Source of Income as a protected class. Voucher holders have fewer options for using their vouchers than they did 5 years ago, and landlords have no requirement or incentive to accept voucher holders. Housing choice is increasingly limited for voucher holders, many of whom are persons of color. Even fewer options exist for households that are dependent on public transportation or need housing in specific areas to access jobs, schools, and services. These households often include very low-income households, refugees, and individuals with disabilities.

Strict rental policies further limit options. The requirement to have income 3x the rent for rental units has a disproportionate effect on persons with disabilities whose incomes are primarily Social Security and Disability Insurance, as well as renters who receive income from unearned sources such as child support. Criminal look-back periods that do not consider the severity of a crime or the time period in which it was committed disproportionately impact persons of color and persons in recovery. State law does not allow renters to claim legal unearned income as eligible for the 3x rent income threshold.

Past policies and practices have contributed to limited access to mortgage loans and limited economic opportunities for homebuyers of color. Implemented by financial institutions, these policies resulted in the refusal or reluctance to lend in lower income neighborhoods populated largely by people of color. Denial rates for Black/African American applicants, Hispanic applicants, and other non-Asian minorities

are significantly higher than for Non-Hispanic White applicants and Asian applicants.

State regulations affecting zoning and land use limit housing choice. State regulations prohibit or limit the power of counties and cities to implement zoning and inclusionary zoning that could increase the supply of affordable housing. Some local units of government have vague regulations regarding treatment of group homes that prevent higher densities that could facilitate affordable housing options.

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

The Housing Department administers programs to incentivize the creation of income-restricted affordable housing citywide, guided by the Strategic Housing Blueprint. The Housing Department also reviews proposed rules and regulations for their impact on housing affordability through Affordability Impact Statements and works with other departments to minimize or avoid negative impacts.

City initiatives to address affordable housing challenges include:

- Increase capacity through regional coordination and new City offices focused on displacement prevention and civil rights;
- Substantial technical, legal, and financial support for tenants vulnerable to displacement;
- Increasing awareness of City resources, including affirmatively marketing programs;
- Preservation and expansion of affordable rental and homeownership options through a variety of measures, including purchasing and converting motels to permanent supportive housing, direct financial support for developments, and building the capacity of local organizations;
- Reducing housing barriers and increasing tenant protections for City-supported rental properties;
- Local code revisions, despite legal setbacks; and
- Improved public transportation access with linked affordable housing and anti-displacement plans and resources.

Discussion:

Continuation of Discussion of Barriers to Affordable Housing

- Educational inequities persist in the region. African American children are significantly overrepresented in schools that did not meet educational standards, and Hispanic children have the largest disparities in school quality across K-12 schools. Neighborhood-driven school district boundaries that do not accommodate open choice drive up housing prices in areas with schools that met or exceeded educational standards.

- Public transportation access has not kept pace with growth. In addition to lack of affordable housing,

lack of public transportation was the most common barrier to economic opportunity mentioned by participants in AI outreach. Contributing factors include insufficient resources to address demand for better transportation in outlying areas and the decline in affordable housing options in job-rich areas. The lack of transportation options affects all Austinites who must commute, but especially people who cannot drive or afford to own a car—people with disabilities and refugees—as well as low-income households living in outlying areas.

Actions to Address Impediments

The City of Austin is addressing the impediments identified in the 2019 AI through a variety of measures. This section organizes completed, planned, and in-progress initiatives by the impediments summarized in AP-75.

Increase City and County capacity to address fair housing challenges

- Regional coordination to address barriers. The City and its regional partners established the Central Texas Regional Fair Housing working group to address affordable housing barriers at a regional scale. The working group is composed of staff from each of the ten entities represented in the 2019 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. It hopes to consult with area experts on housing equity and economic opportunity, K-12 educational leaders, local and regional transit providers, and public works staff. The group faced many challenges creating cohesion, especially because many of the municipalities have small staff with limited ability to participate. Additionally, momentum came to a halt when the COVID-19 pandemic became an immediate priority for all entities. The group initially aimed to convene quarterly and develop a group charter and 5-year work plan. Some of that work has been completed. However, it will take leadership to resume the work. Resources may also be necessary to ensure that the work is re-prioritized for all municipalities.

- Organizational focus on displacement prevention. In 2020, the City of Austin created the Office of Displacement Prevention and hired its first Community Displacement Prevention Officer to specifically focus on preventing the displacement of communities of color and low-income Austinites. The Community Displacement Prevention Officer oversees the strategic development, coordination, and administration of programs and policies to 1) advance a rigorous response to gentrification and 2) prevent the displacement of communities of color and low-income residents, both in coordination with community stakeholders. Over the last three years, the Displacement Prevention team has grown to a team of 11 and manages an annual budget in excess of \$30 million, partnering with community organizations to provide a range of services including the following:

- **I Belong in Austin:** Emergency rental assistance, negotiated settlements, moving, storage and relocation (\$7,800,000)
- **Eviction Representation:** Legal and mediation services for tenants at risk of or experiencing eviction (\$220,000)
- **Tenant Relocation Services & Affordable Housing Locator Assistance:** Relocation, moving and storage for

tenants experiencing displacement from redevelopment (\$700,000)

- **Tenant's Rights Assistance Program:** Tenant counseling (\$298,938)
- **Displacement Prevention Navigator Program:** Navigators will serve as connectors, guides, and ambassadors for City and partner resources and programs that promote housing stability (\$360,000)
- **Capacity Building & Technical Assistance Contracts:** A new program designed to assist nonprofit organizations that received Project Connect funding so that they are successful deploying funds, submitting reports, and establishing appropriate data reporting metrics, as well as other needs identified through our consultant led assessment. (\$300,000)
- **Project Connect Community Initiated Solutions (CIS):** Tenant Stabilization, Expansion of homeownership and other anti-displacement services (\$20,000,000)

- New resources to address housing discrimination. The City of Austin created the Office of Civil Rights and hired its first Civil Rights Officer. The office's many functions include receiving and responding to housing discrimination complaints. In March 2022, the Office of Civil Rights was assigned to lead a stakeholder engagement process with housing advocates and landlord associations, with the goal of developing policies responsive to two Council resolutions to allow tenant organizing and create a right to cure policy for tenants. In October 2022, following the stakeholder engagement process, The Austin City Council adopted two ordinances amending City Code Chapter 14-4 to require landlords to provide a 'notice of proposed eviction' at least seven days before issuing a notice to vacate, and allow tenants to establish or participate in a tenant organization without retaliation from the landlord.

- Local coordination around displacement prevention. Housing collaborates with a group of community-based organizations, housing advocates, and community development corporations that seeks to prevent displacement throughout the city.

Mitigate lasting and continuing harm caused by segregation: disproportionate housing needs and differences in economic opportunity

- Housing for people experiencing homelessness. The city continues to invest in permanent supportive housing as part of a community-wide approach to end homelessness. More information about the investments can be found in [AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220\(i\)](#)

- Support for tenants vulnerable to displacement. The City funds organizations in providing eviction representation, tenant/landlord mediation services, tenant organizing and engagement, and legal and other assistance to tenants facing eviction or displacement. The City also issued \$77 million in emergency rental assistance from 2020-22. Resources were increased during the Covid-19 pandemic in response to skyrocketing local need and increased federal funds.

- Preference Policy. See description under Expand homeownership opportunities, below.

- Project Connect anti-displacement funding. In 2020, Austin voters approved \$7 billion for Project Connect, a generational investment in light rail, subway, and bus rapid transit, along with \$300 million for anti-displacement projects. The Housing Department is administering the anti-displacement investments, which will focus on preventing displacement in vulnerable areas near transit lines. In

2022, Housing and the AHFC announced the implementation plan for the first \$65 million of investments. This plan includes \$23 million for Land Acquisition, \$21 million for Housing Development and \$20 million for other anti-displacement strategies that resulted in the creation of funding for Community Initiated Solutions.

As of 2023, the following investments have been made by AHFC for Land Acquisition:

- Midtown Flats, 615 W. St. John's, \$63,852.17
- City View at the Park, 2000 Woodward St., 78741- \$2,600,000.00
- SOCO, 121, 121 Woodward St., \$4,720,000.00
- The Housing Department created the Anti-Displacement Community Acquisition Program and to date the following acquisition has been acquired by Austin Revitalization Authority:
 - Garcreek Acquisition, 8402 Garcreek Circle 78724, \$458,000
 - An additional \$8 million was made available, by Council, to not-for-profit affordable housing developers.

The following investments have been made by AHFC for Real Estate Development:

- Highland Studios, 5900 Airport Blvd, 78752 - \$816,331.00
- Libertad Austin @ Gardner, 900 Gardner Road, 78702 - \$4,500,000.00
- Parker Apartments, 2105 Parker Lane 78741 - \$5,563,669.00
- Pathways @ Rosewood Courts, 2001 Rosewood Ave. 78702 - \$9,200,000.00
- Loyola, 5301 Loyola Lane 78723, \$920,000.00

On September 29, 2022, the AHFC board approved the recommended funding for 14 community organizations for Project Connect Community Initiated Solutions. Housing staff held meetings with all awarded organizations to establish the preliminary terms for each award. Organizations have received their contracts for review and negotiation. It is anticipated that all contracts will be finalized by the end of the third quarter of 2023.

- Affirmative marketing of programs and resources. Housing has adopted a comprehensive approach to deliver information and direct services to those in the community who are most at risk of displacement, have accessibility issues, and face other inequitable barriers. The department uses plain language and accessibility standards, direct mail and delivered print materials, expanding partnerships with local organizations to distribute materials in multiple languages to their clientele, mobile advertising in specific neighborhoods, digital/local radio/print advertising in targeted publications, public bus signage, social media ads and direct posts, TV interviews and produced videos in multiple languages, and targeted email campaigns. Other efforts have included the adoption of an equitable community engagement compensation policy, more frequent use of live interpreters and using GIS-based geo-demographic data to identify priority communities with multiple displacement risk factors. The Housing Department is launching the Displacement Prevention Navigator pilot program. This program aims to help homeowners and renters stay in their homes by hiring a team of community members as Navigators who will connect residents in two pilot neighborhoods with available housing resources. Navigators will be paid \$25 per hour and work 10-15 hours a week to help their neighbors identify and prioritize housing resources, apply for programs, and track submitted applications. Navigators will be

trained in Summer 2023, with community outreach and assistance beginning in Fall 2023.

Expand and preserve affordable rental options

- Build community developer capacity. The Housing Department awarded capacity-building grants to 13 community development corporations from local funds. This grant positioned organizations to increase affordable housing supply in the short term and prevent displacement in the long term. Additionally, AHFC recently retained the assistance of Housing Works and Capital Impact Partners to facilitate a four-month program that will provide developers with training, technical assistance, mentorship, networking, and potential pathways for financing. Applications are being accepted from April 24-May 19, 2023, for the Austin Small Developer Training program, which seeks to assist developers who have been historically excluded or overlooked.
- Support for new and existing affordable rental units. The 2021 Strategic Housing Blueprint Scorecard shows the Housing Department has made progress on key Strategic Housing Blueprint goals such as new housing near areas targeted for growth in the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan and for the preservation of subsidized affordable housing units. However, greater progress is necessary to reach the desired benchmarks for all goals by 2028.
- Incentives for creating affordable rental housing. The Housing Department administers fee waivers and density bonus programs to incentivize the creation of income-restricted affordable housing citywide. For example, the SMART Housing program provides permit fee waivers for development permits in exchange for dedicated on-site units affordable to households earning 80% of median family income.
- Extend affordability periods. The Housing Department is proactively monitoring affordable properties at risk of losing affordability and seeking to extend their affordability periods through purchase or additional incentives. Successful efforts to preserve affordable housing have far exceeded the 2021 annual Blueprint goal of 1,000 affordable units preserved by over 50%. In fact, the 1,550 units preserved in 2021 were the most preserved in a single year since the Blueprint was adopted.
- Central listing of affordable units. The Housing Department continues to work with vendors to maintain the Affordable Housing Search Tool (AHOST) which launched in November 2020. This tool offers a searchable map and listing of income-restricted affordable rental housing in Austin; users can enter household income and size to view units for which they are eligible.

Modify and mitigate strict rental policies

- Reduced housing barriers for people reentering society. In June 2020, City Council approved a resolution to lower the maximum criminal look-back periods. Rental Housing Development Assistance Program guidelines now include recommendations for minimum standards for criminal background screening provided by the Austin/Travis County Reentry Roundtable. The Housing Department facilitated a stakeholder engagement process to educate partnering developers about the new

guidelines.

- Robust tenant protections. Robust tenant protections have been incorporated into all rental properties receiving City support through the Rental Housing Development Assistance Program.

Expand homeownership opportunities

- Preference Policy for households with ties to Austin. The Preference Policy prioritizes income-qualified households that are appropriately sized to the unit and/or have ties to Austin for new City-subsidized units. The Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) uses the Preference Policy for properties sold through the Austin Community Land Trust.

- Support for new affordable homeownership units. The 2021 Strategic Housing Blueprint Scorecard shows the Housing Department has made progress on key Strategic Housing Blueprint goals such as new housing near areas targeted for growth in the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan and for the preservation of subsidized affordable housing units through programs such as the Ownership Housing Development Assistance Program. However, greater progress is necessary to reach the desired benchmarks for all goals by 2028.

- Increased developer capacity. Applications were accepted from April 24-May 19, 2023, for the Austin Small Developer Training program, which seeks to assist developers who have been historically excluded or overlooked.

Develop zoning alternatives that comply with state-level prohibitions

- Local code revisions. The City has been working on iterations of a comprehensive Land Development Code revision for 7 years. The revision sought to implement housing goals outlined in the Strategic Housing Blueprint, including incentivizing development of income-restricted affordable housing across the city, expanding housing choice, and reducing housing access barriers; and to encourage the development of complete mixed-income communities with quality transit access to jobs and services. In 2020 and 2022, rulings from a district judge and the appellate court voided past City Council actions regarding the code revision. City Council has subsequently initiated targeted code amendments to address the housing shortage in Austin, and has directed staff to propose amendments to the existing land development code to increase housing supply and affordability.

Improving public transportation access

- Major transit investments. The City has partnered with the Capital Metro Transit Authority and Austin Transit Partnership on Project Connect, which will expand and improve the public transportation network for the Central Texas region. Project Connect's light rail, subway, and bus system will be completed over multiple decades to improve transit access to jobs, health care, and education. See Mitigate lasting and continuing harm caused by segregation, above, for more information on related

displacement prevention efforts.

- Equitable transit-oriented development (ETOD). The City, Capital Metro, and Austin Transit Partnership are collaborating on equitable transit-oriented development (ETOD) plans for 98 stations along commuter rail, light rail, and bus rapid transit lines. The ETOD Policy Plan is the guiding development framework that was accepted by Austin City Council on March 9th, 2023, to usher future growth in Project Connect station areas. The ETOD Policy Plan includes a policy toolkit, a menu of future options that can be implemented to help Austin achieve our 6 ETOD goals. Policy tools will be implemented systemwide in the form of updates to the city's land development code and *Imagine Austin* Comprehensive Plan, as well as in station-area specific geographies using the station area vision planning process. The ETOD station area vision plans and related policy toolkit will seek to increase affordable housing opportunities near stations. For FY 23-24, the city anticipates the initiation of station area vision planning for 13 stations of the 98 stations in the Project Connect system.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

Federal regulations require that participating jurisdictions include in their annual Action Plans how they will use Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant funds in conjunction with other HUD funding and local resources in order to improve the lives of low and moderate-income households. Federally mandated guidelines are outlined below, along with a brief description of a best practice, or an initiative underway or planned to begin in FY 2023-24 to meet the specific directive.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

Affordable housing remains an underserved need within the City of Austin. The 2019 Housing Market Analysis showed a gap of approximately 36,000 affordable housing units for renter households making less than \$25,000 annually. To assist in closing that gap, the City will continue to prioritize resources to affordable housing projects. Through the City of Austin's Housing Development Assistance (HDA) programs, the Housing Department has partnered with various nonprofit and for-profit developers to increase and preserve the supply of affordable rental and homeownership opportunities that will benefit low- and moderate-income households. In 2018 and 2022, Austin voters approved \$250 million and \$350 million, respectively, in affordable housing bonds. Approximately half of the total of the 2018 bonds have been directed toward the HDA programs. As this is a competitive process, developers are incentivized to provide deeper affordability levels and more affordable units that will help to meet the identified needs.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) are nonprofit housing providers whose organizational mission includes the development of affordable housing for low and moderate-income households. The City works closely with CHDOs to help them meet their housing development goals and provides them with CHDO Operating Expenses Grants to increase organizational capacity.

The Housing Department administers a range of home repair programs, including Architectural Barrier Removal (ABR) - Rental and Owner, Minor Home Repair Program, Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program (HRLP), and the G.O. Repair! Program. The Minor Home Repair program provides up to \$5,000 in home repair assistance and is administered by the Austin Area Urban League. The G.O. Repair! Program is funded with general obligation bonds and provides up to \$20,000 in home repair assistance. This program is administered by the City's non-profit partners who comprise the Austin Housing Repair Coalition (AHRC). The remaining programs, ABR Owner, ABR Renter, and HRLP, are administered by AHFC staff. All home repair programs serve households at or below 80% MFI.

Additionally, as part of the City's comprehensive response to the February 2021 Texas Severe Winter Storm, the Housing Department (at the time known as the Housing and Planning Department or "HPD") launched an Emergency Home Repair initiative, effective March 1, 2021, to address widespread damage to Austinites' homes. Administered by Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC), this initiative will be

funded through a variety of public and private sources, including Austin Water, General Obligation Bonds, and a grant from Bank of America. The Housing Department and AHFC staff are responsible for application intake, eligibility review, and referral. Austin Housing Repair Coalition (AHRC) carries out approved repairs. Up to \$10,000 in funding is provided directly to the non-profit after all approved work has been completed as agreed upon by the non-profit staff, the homeowner, and the contractor. Eligible participants include homeowners within the City's full purpose jurisdiction, with household incomes at or below 80% Median Family Income (MFI). Participants must have experienced damage to their primary residence as a result of the Winter Storm, causing harm to the life, health, or safety of the occupants. Participants cannot receive duplicate benefits through FEMA or insurance proceeds. Eligible repairs include repair or replacement of: Wall/Floor removal; Sewer lines; Gas lines; Water lines and/or water damage; Roof; Electrical System; HVAC units; Plumbing fixtures – including sink pipes and toilets damaged by frozen conditions; Mold remediation. The Housing Department also collaborates with Austin Energy, Austin Water Utility and the City's Code Compliance department to offer comprehensive services promoting healthier homes. All of these City departments participate in the AHRC and are actively in cross-departmental collaboration.

The Housing Department is actively working to preserve affordability. The Housing Department coordinates with local partners, including Affordable Central Texas (ACT), to identify and preserve affordable housing. ACT is a 501(c)(3) organization that manages a social impact private equity fund for investment in middle-income housing affordability. ACT's mission is to purchase and preserve multifamily properties for the Austin workforce, including teachers, first responders, medical professionals and others vital to day-to-day livability. According to ACT, in 2018, they acquired 3 properties totaling nearly 800 units of naturally occurring (unrestricted) affordable housing. Households in ACT's properties average less than 80% MFI. The Housing Department is working with ACT to determine whether the Housing Department could subsidize deeper affordability in future acquisition transactions. Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) has acquired three existing multifamily apartments in FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 totaling 162 units and will maintain and preserve the long-term affordability of these properties.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City of Austin does not have a lead-based paint program. However, the City addresses lead abatement through multiple programs and funding sources, including the Housing Department's home repair programs and rehabilitations funded through the Housing Department's Rental Housing Development Assistance program. Eligible Austinites that reside in a home that was built prior to 1978 will have their homes tested for the presence of lead-based paint and remediated, if necessary, as part of the scope of work for each program.

The City of Austin remediates lead-based hazards in low to moderate-income homes and addresses other household health and safety hazards such as mold, carbon monoxide, fire, tripping hazards and pest management. This more holistic approach to remediating household hazards allows community members to remain in their homes and benefit from a healthier environment. The City will continue

testing properties built before 1978 for lead-based paint.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

All programs administered by the City of Austin aim to address critical needs of eligible households, including those in poverty, through housing, community development, and public services designed to increase their opportunities for self-sufficiency. HOPWA, ESG, and CDBG activities in particular assist households that fall under the special populations category outlined in the FY 2019-24 Consolidated Plan.

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Activities: Austin Public Health (APH) administers all HOPWA activities for the City of Austin. These programs provide housing assistance for income-eligible persons living with HIV/AIDS, and their families. The goals of these programs are to prevent homelessness and to support independent, self-sufficient living among persons living with HIV/AIDS. These programs ensure clients have improved housing stability, which has been shown to improve retention in primary medical care and other supportive services.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Activities: Austin Public Health administers all ESG activities for the City of Austin. These programs are designed to be the first step in a continuum of assistance to help clients quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness. ESG funds are also used to assist with the operational costs of the shelter facility, and for the administration of the grant.

CDBG Public Service Activities: In FY 2023-24, Austin Public Health will continue administering the City's public services contracts for Child Care, Mental Health Services, and Senior Services that are funded with CDBG funds. Public services offer supportive services to households with low to moderate median family incomes and gross incomes up to 200% of Federal Poverty Income Guidelines. Child Care Services provide direct childcare services for teen parents who are attending school and direct childcare services through the Early Head Start child development program, including services to families in crisis, including homeless and near-homeless families, and parents enrolled in self-sufficiency programs. Mental Health Services provides access to holistic, wraparound services and support to youth designated as at-risk and their families. Senior Services offers services that prevent and protect seniors from becoming victims of abuse, neglect, and/or financial exploitation. An additional service to be offered through public services contracts and administered by the Housing Department will focus on advocacy to prevent and deter housing discrimination, tenant-landlord education and information, and housing repair and rehabilitation.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The Housing Department administers housing, community, and economic development programs, which require interdepartmental coordination.

The City's Homeless Services Division is led by a Chief Homeless Services Officer who coordinates with

City leadership, other departments, community-based organizations and private partners to address homelessness. The Homeless Services Division collaborates with stakeholders to implement cross-system coordination of funding, services, and programs to serve persons at risk of and currently experiencing homelessness.

The City contracts with the Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) to develop affordable rental and homeownership opportunities, and housing rehabilitation. Austin Public Health (APH) provides housing support and related support services to Austinites living with HIV/AIDS through the use of HOPWA grant funds. APH also assists clients in regaining stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis using Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds. The Economic Development Department fosters small business expansions in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods to stimulate job creation through the Family Business Loan Program (FBLP).

Initiatives and programs that require interdepartmental coordination and that will be underway in FY 2023-24: East 11th and 12th Streets Revitalization; Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, Household Affordability Priority Program; Implementation of Strategic Housing Blueprint.

Development Incentive Programs: Various programs provide incentives for the inclusion of affordable housing or community/economic development.

S.M.A.R.T. Housing Program: The S.M.A.R.T. Housing program is a development incentive program that provides fee-waivers for development permits in exchange for units to be dedicated on-site at reasonably-priced levels. The program requires that reasonably-priced units be affordable to households earning 80% median family income. The amount of waived fees is dependent on the percentage of reasonably-priced units that are set aside. Certification in the S.M.A.R.T. Housing program is also a prerequisite for affordable housing developments that apply for the city's housing development assistance programs, such as the Rental Housing Development Assistance and Ownership Housing Development Assistance programs.

Redevelopment of Publicly Owned Land: Colony Park Sustainable Communities Initiative; Agreements between the City and developers that include affordable housing as a community benefit; AHFC Land Acquisition and Disposition Program; AHFC Community Land Trust and long-term Affordability Program.

Home Repair and Other Initiatives: Austin Energy developed a referral tool for weatherization that will enable both the Housing Department and Austin Energy to coordinate leads and referrals for home repair services targeted to low and moderate-income households. Austin Water Utility provides funding for plumbing repairs and Private Lateral repairs for low and moderate-income homeowners. The Housing Department administers the Private Lateral grant program, utilizing funding from Austin Water Utility. The Housing Department layered Austin Water Utility's funding for plumbing repairs onto the G.O. Repair program. Code Compliance utilizes a referral system to address homes needing substantial and costly repairs. APH, ECHO and other key agencies collaborate on activities that support the

Community Plan to End Homelessness.

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

The Housing Department will continue to work closely with the following organizations to overcome gaps and enhance coordination efforts: African American Resource Advisory Commission (AARAC), Community Development Commission (CDC), Community Advancement Network (CAN), Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs), Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO), Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA), Housing Authority of Travis County (HATC), HousingWorks, and the Urban Renewal Agency, as well as other key stakeholders and organizations. The Housing Department will also remain engaged with housing finance agencies, the National Association of Local Housing Finance Agencies (NALHFA) and the Texas Association of Local Housing Finance Agency (TALHFA), to connect with other agencies whose missions address critical housing needs.

In FY 2023-24, the Housing Department will continue to strive towards the goal outlined in the Strategic Housing Blueprint to locate 25% of new income-restricted affordable housing within High Opportunity Areas. These areas provide residents with comparatively greater economic security, housing stability, mobility options, educational opportunities, and improved health and wellbeing. The City of Austin utilizes the methodology developed by the Enterprise Opportunity 360 Index to analyze opportunity within Austin. The Housing Department and the Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) analyze the proposed location of each application for housing development assistance funding and give additional weight to proposals within High Opportunity Areas. The Housing Department will continue to conduct opportunity mapping and evaluation to support community goals as well as the creation of affordable housing in all parts of Austin.

Discussion:

Section 108 Loan Guarantee/Family Business Loan Program (FBLP)

The purpose of the Family Business Loan Program (FBLP) is to make low-interest loans to qualified Austin small business owners who are ready to expand their business and create jobs. The FBLP is a public-private partnership between the City of Austin, U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) certified community lenders, and private banks. The City's portion of the funding is provided by a U.S.

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Section 108 loan guarantee. Related lending programs includes the April 8, 2020 approval (HUD) of the Austin Economic Injury Bridge Loan Program (AEIBLP), designed to provide short-term "bridge" financing for Austin small businesses applying to receive permanent financing through federal disaster assistance (due to Covid-19) programs including but not limited to SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) and the U.S. Treasury Paychecks Protection Program. The AEIBLP program ended on May 7th, 2020 with a total of 19 loans approved and funded for a total dollar amount of \$645,000.00.

During FY 2012, the City of Austin Economic Development Department (EDD) developed the FBLP program guidelines, and the guidelines were approved by HUD, the Texas Attorney General's Office, and the Austin City Council. The Austin City Council and Texas Attorney General's Office also approved acceptance of a \$3 million Section 108 HUD loan guarantee to provide funding for the FBLP. In 2017 EDD accepted the remaining \$5 million of a \$8 million HUD Section 108 loan request from 2011. This funding in addition to the re-programming of \$3 million formerly the Neighborhood Commercial Management Program (NCMP) administered by the Housing Department brings the total FBLP funding to \$11 million.

EDD made extensive efforts to inform businesses about the FBLP during FY 2012. EDD staff has met with individual business owners, and presentations were given to the Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Capital City African American Chamber of Commerce, and the Austin Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. FBLP presentations were also provided to the City of Austin's Community Development Commission, the African American Resource Commission, and to eleven neighborhood and community associations that represent East Austin.

EDD received Council approval for the first FBLP loan in May 2013, which created 12 new low- to moderate-income jobs in the Plaza Saltillo neighborhood. Since 2013, EDD has funded 24 loans totaling approximately \$5.9 million, and leveraged over \$30 million in private lender financing and can report 266 newly created or retained full-time equivalent jobs benefiting low-to-moderate-income persons (LTMI). Minority and women owned businesses comprise a majority (71%) of these loans. EDD has expanded the program City-wide to better serve all 10 Council districts and will continue to reach out to underserved communities in the Austin area.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

The following information is included in response to the annual Action Plan review checklist provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Additional program-related information can be found in *Appendix II*.

Monitoring

The goal of the City of Austin's monitoring process is to assess subrecipient/contractor performance in the areas of program, financial and administrative compliance with applicable federal, state and municipal regulations, and current program guidelines. The City of Austin's monitoring plan consists of active contract monitoring and long-term monitoring for closed projects. For more information about

the City of Austin's Monitoring Plan, please see *Attachment II C*.

20% CDBG Administrative Cap

- CDBG Entitlement: \$7,362,354
- Allowable 20% CDBG Admin=Cap = \$1,472,470.80

15% CDBG Public Service Cap

- CDBG Entitlement: \$7,362,354
- Allowable 15% CDBG Public Service Cap = \$1,104,353.10

10% HOME Administrative Cap

- ⌘ HOME Entitlement: \$3,601,868
- ⌘ Program Income: \$900,000
- ⌘ Total: \$4,501,868
- ⌘ Allowable 10% HOME Admin Cap = \$450,186.80
- ⌘ Administrative Expense: \$360,168 = < 10% Home Admin Cap

15% CHDO Set Aside

- HOME Entitlement: \$3,601,868
- CHDO Set Aside: \$540,280 = 15% CHDO Set Aside

3% HOPWA Administrative Cap

- ⌘ HOPWA Entitlement: \$2,670,278
- ⌘ Allowable 3% HOPWA Admin Cap: \$80,108
- ⌘ Administrative Expense: \$80,108 = 3%

7.5% ESG Administrative Cap

- ESG Entitlement: \$658,196
- Allowable 7.5% ESG Admin Cap: \$49,364.70
- Administrative Expense: \$31,000 = < 7.5% ESG Administrative Cap

Selection of Project Sponsors

Austin Public Health has contracted with two agencies -- AIDS Services of Austin (ASA) and Project Transitions (PT) -- since 1995. These two agencies have been the sole respondents to Notifications of Funding Availability (NOFA) for HOPWA services. They also were selected to provide these services via a Request for Applications (RFA) process and have been the subrecipients since August of 2002. These agencies carry out activities independently or collaboratively with other housing case management providers in the area and have a history of satisfactory service performance and delivery. In FY 23-24,

the City will also allocate HOPWA funding to Integral Care and ASHwell to carry out homelessness prevention and housing supportive services.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)
Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(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	\$7,000
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.	\$126,116
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:	\$133,116

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.	70.00%

**HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)
Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(2)**

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

The City does not anticipate utilizing any other forms of investment beyond those identified in Section 92.205.

Down Payment Assistance Program- is funded using HOME funds. The process for soliciting and funding applications is done on a first-come, first-serve basis. Detailed information can be obtained on the Housing Department website, mailed upon request, and made available through the trained/approved lender. The Lender must submit an application for assistance on behalf of the potential homebuyer once the Lender has approved the applicant for a loan.

Applicants under the Program must meet the following requirements:

- Must be loan approved through a participating Lender
- U.S. Citizen
- First time homebuyer
- Obtain a Homebuyer Education Certificate
- Total household income must not exceed 80% of the Median Family Income (MFI)
- Debt to income ratio must not exceed 45%
- The property may not exceed the maximum HOME value limits
- Must purchase and occupy the property as his/her principal residence
- Property must be located within the City limits of Austin
- Property must meet Uniform Physical Condition Standards (UPCS) prior to loan closing

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:

To view the City's Resale and Recapture Policy, please see Attachment II A.

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:

Cities receiving HOME Investment Partnership Funds are required to comply with a designated affordability period. The affordability period of any project is contingent upon the amount-per-unit subsidy received and may be five, ten, or fifteen years long. Participating jurisdictions are required to utilize the recapture or resale provisions to ensure continued affordability and the wise stewardship of federal funds. The following Housing Department programs use HOME funds to assist homebuyers, developers, or homeowners; thus, recapture and resale provisions are incorporated in program guidelines: Down Payment Assistance (DPA), Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program (HRLP), and the Ownership Housing Development Assistance (OHDA).

Resale

In cases where HOME funding was provided to the developer but not directly to the homebuyer, the resale method is used. The affordability period is enforced through a Restrictive Covenant signed by the homebuyer at closing and is recorded in the County Clerk's Official Public Records. The Restrictive Covenant details the length of the affordability period and the specific resale requirements that must be satisfied should the owner wish to sell the property prior to the end of the affordability period. Both recapture and resale options have distinct advantages; the decision regarding which option to use is a matter of weighing factors such as trends in the marketplace, the availability of homeownership opportunities for lower-income households in the community, and the homebuyer program's local objectives.

Recapture

Under a recapture provision, the HOME financial assistance generally must be repaid. This option allows the seller to sell to any willing buyer at any price; participating jurisdictions can decide what proportion of net proceeds from the sale, if any, will go to the homebuyer and what proceeds will go to the participating jurisdiction. Once the HOME funds are repaid, the property is no longer subject to any HOME restrictions. The funds may then be used for any other HOME-eligible activity.

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:

The City has no plans to utilize HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily

housing rehabilitated with HOME funds.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
Reference 91.220(I)(4)

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)

Please see ESG Program Standards attached in Attachment II B.

2. If the Continuum of Care has established a centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.

The Austin/Travis County Continuum of Care, composed of representatives of agencies and individuals dedicated to ending homelessness as well as individuals with lived experience of homelessness have adopted the Coordinated Entry Written Standards, which guides the local centralized assessment system. ECHO, the collaborative applicant and HMIS lead of the CoC, have been charged by the CoC to facilitate and operate the CE system. The system was first opened in November of 2014, and the CoC Leadership Council, the CoC Board, adopted updated Coordinated Entry Written Standards in April 2019 that meet all CE requirements established by HUD CPD Notice -17-01 and 24 CFR 578. All CoC and ESG programs participate in this system, in compliance with the 2012 CoC Program interim rule (24 CFR 578) and the 2011 Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) interim rule (24 CFR 576).

The CE system consolidates and simplifies the process by which clients can request ESG and COC assistance, as well as additional community resources which have voluntarily agreed to the same minimum standards and practices.

In order to affirmatively engage clients in the greatest need with the CE system, the CoC has developed an integrated Outreach, Navigation, and Emergency Shelter system that actively engages and assesses individuals in the greatest need, then proactively documents eligibility and keeps households engaged. Street Outreach teams, Navigation Center staff, and Emergency Shelter staff are trained to administer the CE assessment to add clients to the community By Name List for referral to permanent housing programs. The CoC provides assessment staff on a supplemental and temporary basis to close assessment need gaps, while partners develop internal assessment capacity. Certain CoC providers prioritize permanent housing resources based upon the vulnerabilities captured by this common vulnerability and eligibility assessment system.

To further ensure the system reaches people least likely to apply unassisted, dedicated walk-in locations are co-located with complementary services such as career services, family medical services, and drop-in day resources. The CoC also publishes a public web portal which includes a direct contact section where clients or community members can request a phone appointment or a personalized location appointment. Many of the street outreach and community partner organizations are specifically dedicated to hard-to-reach populations such as unsheltered families,

chronically homeless veterans, unaccompanied youth, HIV/AIDS, refugees/asylees, and individuals with mental health challenges.

3. Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).

The funding previously used by Front Steps for their Rapid Rehousing program is currently up for RFP and the Shelter and HMIS awards will be up for RFP for the 2023/2024 program period. The process for an RFP includes APH creating a unique solicitation website for each RFP, which is listed in the Open Funding Competitions section of the APH Social Services Competitions website. The RFP will be advertised in the local paper for two consecutive weeks - one day per week. A notarized affidavit of publication from the newspaper(s) is included in the official RFP file. APH maintains a current and potential vendors email list with over 650 entries and APH follows grant requirements for notification to the community. The application is open for six to eight weeks.

Pre-bid meetings are held to answer questions from potential applicants and the Q&A documents generated from those meetings are posted on the APH Competitions website. Agencies that submit applications, and who are deemed eligible to apply for funding via a standardized threshold review document, will have their applications scored by an evaluation committee that includes internal APH staff with expertise in the issue area being solicited as well as external issue area experts when needed. The evaluation committee members must provide a signed Non-Disclosure and Conflict of Interest Agreement that includes an attestation that the evaluation member has no conflict of interest with any of the bidders. Evaluators are provided an orientation training and are then provided with proposals to be reviewed.

The evaluation committee rates Proposals, provides strengths and weaknesses for each rated section and for the overall Proposal, and recommends one or more applicants for the funding award (may require multiple meetings to complete the evaluation process). Each evaluation team member reviews each Proposal adhering to the rules and guidelines set by the RFP official contact. The team submits their scoring in a manner specified and the official contact for the RFP convenes a consensus meeting with evaluators to share their ratings as well as come to a consensus about the strengths and weaknesses of each Proposal. The solicitation program officer calculates a score for each Proposal based on the ratings of the evaluation team. The applicants receiving the highest scores, or who meet criteria above a specific score threshold will be recommended for funding.

See the ESG Subawards table at the end of this section for details on all programs. Please see the attached ESG Program Standards for the Grant Subaward Process.

4. If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions

regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.

The CoC Board maintains 2 seats dedicated to individuals with lived expertise of homelessness. City of Austin Homeless Strategy Officer staff and Austin Public Health Staff work closely with the CoC as required in 24 CFR 576.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

All City of Austin homeless contracts have the following performance measures:

- Number of unduplicated clients served.
- Number of households provided homeless services that transition from homelessness into housing. In addition, all ESG recipients must provide demographic information to reflect the IDIS report screens.
- Average number of days from program entry to exit from homelessness into housing. Please also see attached ESG Program Standards in Attachment II B.

ESG Sub-awards

FY 23-24 Programs

Agency	Program	New Contract, Renewal, or Competitive Process
The Salvation Army	Low-barrier Homeless Shelter	New Contract
APH Communicable Disease Unit	Rapid Rehousing	Renewal
Downtown Austin Community Court	Rapid Rehousing	Renewal
APH	Administration	N/A

Discussion

NOTICE OF REPROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

The Housing Department proposes to reprogram the following CDBG funds through the FY2022-23 Action plan process according to the guidelines established in the City of Austin Citizen Participation Plan. Exhibit 1 outlines the reprogramming of these funds.

Exhibit 1 CDBG

Amount	From	To
984,307	Administration	Community Development
1,866,598	Community Development	Community Development
2,612,479	Housing	Community Development

5,463,384

NOTE: Amounts are based on current estimates and actual funds reprogramed will be supported by September 30, 2023 year end balances.

Discussion

Maximum Sales Price for HOME-Assisted Homeownership Units.

For services funded by the HOME Investment Partnerships grant, such as the Down Payment Assistance Program, federal regulation restricts the maximum allowable purchase price of homeownership units to 95% of the area median purchase price for single family housing. This sets an upper limit for the allowable price of housing assisted with HOME funds. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) outlines the process for cities and other jurisdictions to determine this maximum purchase price based on the area's median area purchase price for single family housing in 24 CFR 92.254(a)(2)(iii). The following paragraphs outline how the home sale price dataset provided to HUD by the City of Austin for the purpose of determine the maximum home sale price for FY 23-24 fulfills the requirements listed in 24 CFR 92.254.

Through the FY 21-22 Action Plan process, the City successfully petitioned for the maximum sale price for homeownership units assisted with HOME funds to be increased from \$318,000 (maximum sale price determined by HUD for Austin-Round Rock Metropolitan Statistical Area), to \$565,250. This updated sale price was based on a dataset listing the location and closing sale price for all single-family homes sold in the City of Austin from May 1st, 2021, to May 31st, 2021, provided by the Austin Board of Realtors. For FY 22-23, a new maximum sale price was calculated using data provided by the Austin Board of Realtors for all single-family homes sold in the City of Austin from March 1st, 2022 to March 31, 2022. The dataset included 1,221 home sales. Based on the sale price data, the median sale price was \$647,426, putting 95% of the median sale price at \$615,054.70. Thus, the maximum median sale price for HOME-assisted home purchases for FY 22-23 was \$615,054.70.

Utilizing the same methodology that was employed in FY 22-23 to determine maximum sale price for homeownership units assisted with HOME funds for FY 23-24, the City received data from the Austin Board of Realtors for all single-family homes sole in Austin from March 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023. The dataset included 923 home sales. Based on the sale price data, the median sale price was \$553,000, putting 95% of the median sale price at \$525,350. Thus, the maximum home sale price for FY 23-24 will be \$525,350.00 More information is provided in Attachment II E of this document.

For Fiscal Year 2023-24, the City of Austin will use the sale price of \$525,350.00 as the limit for the allowable price of housing assisted with HOME funds.

Attachment I A: Citizen Participation Plan

CITY OF AUSTIN
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

A. PURPOSE

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The CPP applies to six areas of planning for the use of affordable housing, community and economic development made possible through HUD funding:

- 1) Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH);
- 2) The Consolidated Plan;
- 3) The Annual Action Plan;
- 4) The Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER);
- 5) Substantial amendments to a Consolidated Plan and/or Annual Action Plan; and
- 6) Amendments to the CPP.

The City of Austin's program/fiscal year begins October 1 and ends September 30. In order to receive entitlement grant funding, HUD requires jurisdictions to submit a Consolidated Plan every five years. This plan is a comprehensive strategic plan for community planning and development activities. The Annual Action Plan serves as the City's application for these HUD grant programs. Federal law also requires that community members have opportunities to review and comment on the local jurisdiction's plans to allocate these funds.

The purpose of programs that are covered by this CPP is to improve the Austin community by providing: decent housing, a suitable living environment, and growing economic opportunities – all principally for low- and moderate- income households (as defined in Section A).

This document outlines how members of the Austin community may participate in the six planning areas listed above. General requirements for all or most activities are described in detail in Section E of the CPP.

B. HUD PROGRAMS

The City of Austin receives four entitlement grants from HUD, to help address the City's affordable housing, community and economic development needs. The four grant programs are described below:

1. ***Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG):*** Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383) created the CDBG program. It was reauthorized in 1990 as part of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act. The primary objective of the CDBG program is to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic development opportunities for persons of low- and moderate income. The City develops locally defined programs and funding priorities for CDBG, but activities must address one or more of the national objectives of the CDBG program. The three national objectives are: (1) to benefit low- and moderate- income persons; (2) to aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; and/or (3) to meet other urgent community development needs. The City of Austin's

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2. **HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME):** =\ U - #
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3. **Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG):** u -o8 h o "
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4. **Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA):** =\ h†
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C. LEAD and RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES

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D. PLANNING ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

ACTIVITY 1 – ASSESSMENT OF FAIR HOUSING

Stakeholder Consultation and Outreach.

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Publishing Data

Public Hearing

Public Display and Comment Period

authorities, neighborhood centers, at NHCD's office, and on the NHCD web site (www.austintexas.gov/housing). In addition, upon request, federal reports will be provided in a form accessible to persons with disabilities.

5. **Comments Received on the Draft Assessment of Fair Housing.** Comments will be accepted by the City contact person, or a designee, during the 30-day public comment period. The City will consider any comments or views received in writing, or orally during public hearings. A summary of these comments or views, and a summary of any comments or views not accepted and the reasons why, will be attached to the final AFH for submission to HUD.
6. **Submission to HUD.** All written or oral testimony will be considered in preparation of the final AFH. The AFH will be submitted to HUD 270 days before the Consolidated Plan is due.
7. **Revisions to AFH.** A HUD-accepted AFH must be revised and submitted to HUD for review when either of the following situations occurs:
 - a. A material change occurs. A material change is one that both;
 - i) impacts the circumstances in the City which may include natural disasters, significant demographic changes, new significant contributing factors, and civil rights findings and,
 - ii) causes alterations to the AFH's analyses, contributing factors, priorities, and/or goals.
 - b. The City receives a written notification from HUD specifying a material change.

Whenever a revision to the Assessment of Fair Housing is proposed, the revision will be available for public comment for a period of thirty (30) days before submission to HUD. A revision to the Assessment of Fair Housing will not be implemented until the conclusion of the 30-day public comment period. A summary of all comments or views received in writing, or orally during the comment period will be attached to the revision upon submission to HUD.

ACTIVITY 2 – CONSOLIDATED PLAN. The City of Austin's Consolidated Plan is developed through a collaborative process whereby the community establishes a unified vision for Austin's affordable housing, and community and economic development initiatives.

Community member participation is an essential component in the development of the Consolidated Plan, including amending the plan as well as reporting on program performance. Consultations, public hearings, community meetings, surveys and opportunities to provide written comment are all a part of the strategy to obtain community member input. The City will make special efforts to solicit the views of community members who reside in the designated CDBG-priority neighborhoods of Austin, and to encourage the participation of all community members including minorities, the non-English speaking population, and persons with disabilities. Actions for public participation in the Consolidated Plan follow:

1. **Consultations with Other Community Institutions.** In developing the Consolidated Plan, the City will consult with public and private agencies, both for-profit and non-profits that either provide or have direct impact on the broad range of housing, health, and social services needed by Austin residents. Consultations may take place through meetings, task forces or committees, or other means with which to coordinate information and facilitate communication. The purpose of these meetings is to gather information and data on the community and economic development needs of the community. The City will seek specific input to identify the needs of persons experiencing

homelessness, persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families, persons with disabilities and other special populations.

2. ***Utilize Quantitative and Qualitative Data on Community Needs.*** City staff shall review relevant data and conduct necessary evaluation and analysis to provide an accurate assessment of community needs and priorities on which to base strategic recommendations.
3. ***Initial Public Hearings.*** There will be a minimum of two public hearings at the beginning stages of the development of the Consolidated Plan before the Community Development Commission (D) in order to gather information on community needs from community members. The CDC are policy advisers to the City who are either appointed by the City Council or elected at the neighborhood-level to represent low-income households. There will be two more hearings sponsored by organizations working with low- and moderate-income populations. An additional hearing will be held before the City Council. Based on public testimony received, the CDC will make recommendations to City Council on the community needs.
4. ***Written Comments.*** Based on public input and quantitative analysis, City staff will prepare a draft Consolidated Plan, which includes proposed allocations of first-year funding. A period of 30 calendar days will be provided to receive written comments on the draft Consolidated Plan. The draft plan will be made available at public libraries, public housing authorities, neighborhood centers, at NHCD's office, and on the NHCD web site (www.austintexas.gov/housing). In addition, upon request, federal reports will be provided in a form accessible to persons with disabilities.
5. ***Draft Consolidated Plan Public Hearings.*** There will be a public hearing held before the City Council to receive oral public comments on the draft. An additional hearing will be held before the Community Development Commission (CDC). These hearings will be scheduled during the 30- day written comment period on the draft plan. The CDC will be given the opportunity to make recommendations to Council on the draft Consolidated Plan/Action Plan.
6. ***Final Action on the Consolidated Plan.*** All written or oral testimony provided will be considered in preparing the final Consolidated Plan. A summary of testimony received, and the City's reasons for accepting or not accepting the comments must be included in the final document. The City Council will consider these comments, CDC recommendations, and the recommendations of the City Manager before taking final action on the Consolidated Plan. Final action by the City Council will occur no sooner than fifteen calendar days following the second City Council public hearing on the draft plan. When approved by City Council, the Consolidated Plan will be submitted to HUD.

ACTIVITY 3 – ONE-YEAR ACTION PLAN. Each year the City must submit an annual Action Plan to HUD, reporting on how that year’s funding allocation for the four HUD entitlement grants will be used to achieve the goals outlined in the Consolidated Plan.

1. City staff will gather input from community members and from community consultations to prepare the draft Action Plan and report progress on the Fair Housing Action Plan. There shall be two public hearings: one before the Community Development Commission (CDC) and one before the City Council to receive community member input on the community needs, including funding allocations.
2. City staff will gather public input and statistical data to prepare the draft Action Plan. A draft Action Plan will be available for 30 days for public comment after reasonable notice to the public is given.
3. During this comment period, the CDC and the City Council shall conduct two additional public hearings to receive public comments on the draft Action Plan and Consolidated Plan, if it is during a Consolidated Planning year.
4. The CDC will be given the opportunity to make recommendations to the City Council prior to its final action.
5. Final action by the City Council will occur no sooner than fifteen calendar days following the second Council public hearing on the draft Action Plan.
6. When approved by City Council, the Action Plan will be submitted to HUD.

ACTIVITY 4 – SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS TO CONSOLIDATED/ACTION PLAN. Recognizing that changes during the year may be necessary to the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan after approval, the Citizen Participation Plan allows for “substantial amendments” to plans. These “substantial amendments” apply only to changes in CDBG funding allocations. Changes in funding allocation for other HUD grant programs received by the City of Austin – HOME, ESG, and HOPWA – are not required to secure public review and comment. The CPP defines a substantial amendment as:

- A proposed use of CDBG funds that does not address a need identified in the governing Consolidated Plan or annual Action Plan; or
- A change in the use of CDBG funds from one eligible program to another. The eligible programs defined in the City of Austin’s investment plan either fall into the category of “Housing” or “Community Development.”
- A cumulative change in the use of CDBG funds from an eligible activity to another eligible activity that decreases an activity’s funding by 10% or more OR increases an activity’s funding by 10% or more during fiscal year. An activity is defined as a high priority need identified in the Consolidated Plan that is eligible for funding in the Action Plan.

In the event that there are substantial amendments to the governing Consolidated Plan or annual Action Plan:

1. The City will draft the amendment and publish a brief summary of the proposed substantial amendment(s) and identify where the amendment(s) may be viewed
2. After reasonable notice, there will be a 30-day written public comment period
3. During the 30-day comment period, the City Council shall receive oral comments in public hearings.
4. The CDC will be given the opportunity to make recommendations to City Council prior to its final action.
5. Upon approval by Council, the substantial amendment will be posted in the official City Council minutes and available online and in the City Clerk's office. Final action by the City Council will occur no sooner than fifteen calendar days next following the second Council public hearing on the draft plan.

Disaster Response and Recovery Funds

In the event of a declared city-wide, state-wide or national emergency (as proclaimed by the Mayor, Governor, or President of the United States), it may be necessary for the City to apply for new emergency grant funding from HUD, such as CDBG-Disaster Recovery grants, or any other grants issued to jurisdictions in the event of a disaster which requires an urgent response to address the needs of the community. In order to expedite the distribution of emergency funding during a disaster response situation the City Council, City Manager, or HUD may determine it is necessary to waive certain substantial amendment provisions described in Section D, Activity 4 or certain General Requirements Provisions described in Section E. Any such waiver is subject to the requirements of the respective emergency funding appropriation.

HUD's criteria used to qualify local "urgent needs" e.g., events of "particular urgency" because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community for which other funding is not available can be found at 24 CFR 570.483(d). To comply with the national objective of meeting community development needs having a particular urgency, and that a project will alleviate existing conditions which:

1. Pose a serious and immediate threat to the health and welfare of the community;
2. Are of recent origin or recently became critical within 18 months preceding the certification by the grantee;
3. Are unable to be financed by the City on its own; and
4. Other funding resources are not available to completely carry out the activity.

In the event of a disaster that requires a response to address local urgent needs, the City will:

1. Notify HUD at least five (5) days before implementing changes or amendments to the Consolidated Plan and/or Action Plan; and
2. Make reasonable efforts to provide the public opportunity to comment on changes and amendments to the Consolidated Plan and/or Action Plan.

These actions do not require the City to comply with all of the substantial amendment provisions related to the citizen participation requirements described in Section D, Activity 4 or all of the General Requirements Provisions described in Section E.

HUD Waiver Process

Upon determination of good cause, HUD has the authority to waive certain regulatory provisions of the CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA programs subject to statutory limits. The City reserves the right to submit waiver notifications to HUD when expedited assistance is offered through programs covered by the Consolidated Plan. Following completion of a waiver process as determined by HUD, the City may carry through actions as prescribed by the approved waiver determinations authorized by HUD.

ACTIVITY 5 – CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT (CAPER).

The City is required to submit annually by December 30 a CAPER to HUD that describes the City's progress in meeting the goals in the Consolidated Plan.

1. City staff prepares the draft CAPER.
2. After reasonable notice is provided, the CAPER is available for 15 days for written public comment.
3. The final CAPER and public comments will be submitted to HUD.
4. The CAPER and public comments will be presented at a CDC meeting.

ACTIVITY 6 – AMENDMENTS TO CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN. The City will review the Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) at least every 5 years for potential enhancement or modification; this review will occur as a component of the Consolidated Planning process. In the event that changes to the CPP are necessary, City staff shall draft them.

1. After reasonable notice, these will be available to the public for 15 days for written comment.
2. The CDC and City Council shall each hold a public hearing to receive oral public comments on the proposed change.
3. The CDC will be given the opportunity to make recommendations to City Council prior to its final action.
4. Upon approval by City Council, the substantial amendment will be posted in the official City Council minutes and available online on the NHCD web site (www.austintexas.gov/housing) and in the City Clerk's office.

E. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. The City of Austin does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities.

In the event of a disaster which requires an urgent response to address the needs of the community as described in the Disaster Recovery and Response section, the City will make reasonable efforts to provide the public opportunity to comment on federal reports.

1. **Public Hearings.** Public hearings before the Austin City Council, the Community Development Commission (CDC), and other appropriate community organizations will be advertised in accordance with the guidelines outlined in the notification section below. The purpose of public hearings is to provide an opportunity for community members, public agencies, and other interested parties to provide input on the City of Austin's affordable housing, community and economic development needs. Public hearings will be held in locations accessible to low- and moderate- income residents and persons with disabilities. Spanish translation and interpretation for individuals with hearing impairments will be provided upon request.
2. **Public Meetings.** Public meetings of the Austin City Council, Community Development Commission (CDC), and other boards and commissions overseeing HUD-funded programs provide opportunities for community member participation and comment on a continuous basis. Public meeting notices are posted at the Office of the City Clerk at least three days (72 hours), prior to the meeting date, in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. Public meetings are held in locations accessible to persons with disabilities. Spanish translation and interpretation for individuals with hearing impairments will be provided upon request.

Notification. The Neighborhood Housing and Community Development (NHCD) Department will provide the community advance notice of public hearings and/or public comment periods. The notice will be provided at least two weeks prior to the public hearing date and the start date of comment periods.

Related to the CPP specified federal documents, NHCD will provide public notifications by utilizing City of Austin publications and media (television, print, electronic) that will maximize use of City resources and reach an increased number of Austin residents by direct mail. Related to federal publications referenced above, NHCD will notify the public about public hearings, comment periods, public meetings, and additional opportunities for public feedback through communications outlets that are designed to increase public participation and generate quantifiable feedback/results. NHCD will utilize the following notification mechanisms as available: City of Austin utility bill inserts; City of Austin website; and Channel 6, the municipally owned cable channel. In addition, NHCD will use other available media (print, electronic, television) to promote public feedback opportunities. Notifications will be published in English and Spanish.

NHCD will coordinate with the Community Development Commission, Urban Renewal Agency, other governmental agencies, public housing authorities, key stakeholders, and the general public during the development of the Assessment of Fair Housing, Consolidated Plan and an annual Action Plan.

3. **Document Access.** Copies of all planning documents, including the following federal reports: City's Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), Assessment of Fair Housing, Consolidated Plan, annual Action Plan, and the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), will be available to the public upon request. Community members will have the opportunity to review and comment on applicable federal reports in draft form prior to final adoption by the Austin City Council. These documents will be made available at public libraries, public housing

authorities, certain neighborhood centers, at the NHCD office, and on the NHCD website (www.austintexas.gov/housing). In addition, upon request, federal reports will be provided in a form accessible to persons with disabilities.

4. **Access to Records.** The City will provide community members, public agencies, and other interested parties reasonable and timely access to information and records relating to the Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), Assessment of Fair Housing, Consolidated Plan, annual Action Plan, and CAPER, and the City's use of assistance under the four entitlement grant programs, as stated in the Texas Public Information Act and the Freedom of Information Act.
5. **Technical Assistance.** The City will provide technical assistance upon request and to the extent resources are available to groups or individuals that need assistance in preparing funding proposals, provided that the level of technical assistance does not constitute a violation of federal or local rules or regulations. The provision of technical assistance does not involve re-assignment of City staff to the proposed project or group, or the use of City equipment, nor does technical assistance guarantee an award of funds.

F. COMMUNITY MEMBERS' COMPLAINTS

Written complaints related to NHCD's programs and activities funded through entitlement grant funding may be directed to the Neighborhood Housing and Community Development (NHCD) Department. A timely, written, and substantive response to the complainant will be prepared within 15 working days of receipt of the complaint by NHCD. If a response cannot be prepared within the 15-day period, the complainant will be notified of the approximate date a response will be provided. Written complaints must include the complainant's name, address, and zip code. A daytime telephone number should also be included in the event further information or clarification is needed. Complaints should be addressed as follows:

Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Department
Attn: Director
City of Austin
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, Texas 78767

If the response is not sufficient, an appeal may be directed to the City Manager, and a written response will be provided within 30 days. An appeal should be addressed as follows:

City Manager's Office
Attn: City Manager
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, Texas 78767

G. CITY OF AUSTIN'S RESIDENTIAL ANTI-DISPLACEMENT AND RELOCATION ASSISTANCE PLAN

The City of Austin does not anticipate any displacement to occur as a result of any HUD-funded activities. All programs will be carried out in such a manner as to safeguard that no displacement occurs. However, in the event that a project involving displacement is mandated in order to address a concern for the general public's health and welfare, the City of Austin will take the following steps:

1. A public hearing will be held to allow interested community members an opportunity to comment on the proposed project and voice any concerns regarding possible relocation. Notice of the public hearing/meeting will be made as per the procedure noted in Section E - General Requirements section of the Citizen Participation Plan.
2. In the event that a project involving displacement is pursued, the City of Austin will contact each person/household/business in the project area and/or hold public meetings, depending on the project size; inform persons of the project and their rights under the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, and respond to any questions or concerns.
3. Relocation assistance will be provided in adherence with the City's Project Relocation Plan and the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended.

The City's Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan may be viewed in NHCD's Action Plan submitted annually to HUD. The document is available online at www.austintexas.gov/housing.

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. For assistance, please call 512-974-3100; TTY users' route through Relay Texas at 711.

Attachment I B: Public Engagement Summary

City of Austin Community Engagement Strategy and Process for FY 2023-2024 Action Plan

The City of Austin sought broad public input for recommendations for utilizing U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding for FY 2023-2024 formula grant funding. Community input about needs, potential service gaps, and priorities was received during the community needs assessment outlined below. This public input helped to inform funding decisions regarding FY 2022-23 formula grant funding.

Community Needs Assessment Period

Public Notices soliciting input and providing information about the various ways to provide feedback were publicized in English and Spanish through the Housing Department website, as well as newsletters included in City of Austin utility billing statements.

Opportunities to Provide Input and Feedback for the crafting of the first draft of the FY 23-24 Action Plan were provided through the SpeakUp Austin website from March 6 - April 15, 2023; and via email, phone and postal mail. The Housing Department also delivered presentations to the following Boards, Commissions, and organizations at public meetings, most of which where people can sign up to speak and all of which the public can attend, including:

- Early Childhood Council
- Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Resource Advisory Commission
- HIV Planning Council
- ECHO Leadership Council
- Asian American Quality of Life Advisory Commission
- African American Resource Advisory Commission
- Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities
- Commission on Aging (formerly the Commission on Seniors)
- Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission
- Community Development Commission
- Austin/Travis County Reentry Roundtable

Public Hearings were conducted before the Austin City Council on March 23, 2023 and the Community Development Commission on April 11, 2023 to receive public input on community needs for the City's Action Plan for FY 2023-2024.

Summary of Community Needs Assessment Public Comments. A diversity of comments were received, including comments pertaining to affordable housing, homeless assistance, advocacy for prioritization of service for people in certain demographic categories, advocacy for prioritization of certain types of programming, taxes and other topics. A full inventory of comments received during the Community Needs Assessment period are found in this document in Attachment I B: Public Engagement Summary.

Public Comment Period

Public Notices soliciting input and providing information about the various ways to provide feedback were publicized in English and Spanish through the Housing Department website, through an English-language public notice published in the *Austin American Statesman*, through a Spanish-language public notice published in *El Mundo* and press release in English and Spanish sent out to local and national media outlets.

Opportunities to Provide Input on Feedback on the draft FY 23-24 Action Plan were available through the SpeakUp Austin website from May 9, 2023 - June 9, 2023, as well as via email, phone and postal mail.

Public Hearings were conducted before the Community Development Commission on May 9, 2023 and before the Austin City Council on June 8, 2023 to receive public comment for the draft FY 23-24 Action Plan.

Summary of Public Comment Period Public Comments. A dense public comment was submitted by the ECHO (Ending Community Homelessness Coalition) addressing a variety of topics. In, an anonymous comment was left regarding evidence-based decision making in decisions regarding awarding of contracts. Finally, a comment registered concern with the FY 23-24 Action Plan process. A full inventory of the comments received during the public comment period are found in this document in Attachment I B: Public Engagement Summary

Community Needs Assessment Outreach and Comments

[Home](#)[About](#)[Housing & Displacement Prevention](#)[Zoning & Urban Design](#)[Inclusive Planning & Program Delivery](#)[Policy, Plans, & Data](#)[Resource Library](#)

CITY OF AUSTIN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release Date: Mar. 06, 2023

Austin, TX – The City of Austin announces public hearings and a Community Needs Assessment to receive input on the City’s spending priorities for the upcoming round of federal funding for housing programs, to be allocated via the FY 2023 -2024 Action Plan.

[La versión en español sigue a continuación](#)

Public Input

Austinites that wish to comment on how the City should spend dollars related to housing and public services may do so beginning Monday, March 6, 2023, through Saturday, April 15, 2023. Feedback collected through this process from individuals and agencies on what needs should be addressed in the FY23-24 Action Plan will be considered by staff as part of the planning process.

[Visit the Action Plan SpeakUp Austin webpage \(https://publicinput.com/housingneeds\)](https://publicinput.com/housingneeds) to contribute feedback on what housing programs should be funded in the upcoming year.

The action plan describes community needs, resources, and priorities for the City’s affordable housing, community development, homelessness services, public services, and economic development activities. These activities are funded primarily through four grant programs received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD): Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA).

The public's input on the community needs and service gaps is instrumental in setting priorities for FY 23-23 federal funding. Following the Community Needs Assessment, the draft Action Plan will be released for public review and comment from Tuesday, May 2, 2023, through Friday, June 9, 2023. Additional public hearings will be held to receive comments on the draft Action Plan.

Public Hearing Before the Community Development Commission (CDC)

The public is invited to provide input during the meeting of the Community Development Commission (CDC) scheduled for Tuesday, April 11, 2023. Meeting details and instructions for providing public comment during the virtual public hearing can be found on the meeting agenda on the **Community Development Commission website** (<https://www.austintexas.gov/content/community-development-commission>). Community members must sign up by noon the day before the meeting to provide public comment.

Public Hearing Before the Austin City Council

The public is invited to provide input during the meeting of the Austin City Council scheduled for Thursday, March 23, 2023. Meeting instructions for providing public comment during the public hearing can be found on the meeting agenda on the **City Council Meeting Information Center website** (https://austintexas.gov/department/city-council/council/council_meeting_info_center.htm). Community members must sign up by noon the day before the meeting to provide public comment.

Submit by Postal Mail:

Written comments may be submitted through Saturday, April 15, 2023. Please include a name, address, and phone number:

Housing and Planning Department
Attn: City of Austin FY 2022-23 draft Action Plan
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, Texas 78767

Submit by Phone:

Dial **512-974-3100 (tel:1-512-974-3100)**, Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Submit by Email:

HPD@austintexas.gov (mailto:HPD@austintexas.gov?subject=City%20of%20Austin%20FY%202022-23%20Draft%20Action%20Plan)

Subject: City of Austin FY 2022-23 draft Action Plan

Aviso de audiencias públicas y Evaluación de las Necesidades de la Comunidad de la Ciudad de Austin para el Plan de Acción del año fiscal 2023-24

Austin, TX – La Ciudad de Austin anuncia audiencias públicas y una Evaluación de las Necesidades de la Comunidad para recibir comentarios sobre las prioridades de gastos de la Ciudad para la próxima ronda de financiamiento federal para los programas de vivienda, el cual será asignado a través del Plan de Acción del año fiscal 23-24. Los residentes de Austin que deseen opinar sobre cómo la Ciudad debe gastar los fondos relacionados con vivienda y servicios públicos pueden hacerlo a partir del lunes 6 de marzo hasta el sábado 15 de abril de 2023. Como parte del proceso de planificación, el personal tomará en cuenta los comentarios provistos por las personas y agencias sobre cuáles necesidades deben abordarse en el Plan de Acción del año fiscal 23-24.

Visite la página web de SpeakUp Austin (<https://publicinput.com/housingneeds>) sobre el Plan de Acción para contribuir con sus comentarios sobre los programas de vivienda que deben financiarse el próximo año.

El plan de acción describe las necesidades, recursos y prioridades de la comunidad para las actividades de vivienda económica, desarrollo comunitario, servicios para las personas sin hogar, servicios públicos y desarrollo económico de la Ciudad. Estas actividades están financiadas principalmente a través de programas de subvenciones del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de EE. UU. (HUD, por sus siglas en inglés): Subvención en Bloque para Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG), Sociedades de Inversiones para el Hogar (HOME), Subvención para Refugios de Emergencia (ESG) y Oportunidades de Vivienda para las Personas con SIDA (HOPWA).

Los comentarios del público sobre los vacíos en las necesidades y los servicios de la comunidad son cruciales para establecer las prioridades para los fondos federales del año fiscal 2023-24. Luego de la Evaluación de las Necesidades de la Comunidad, se publicará la versión preliminar del Plan de Acción para que las personas lo revisen y comenten a partir del martes 2 de mayo de 2023 hasta el viernes 9 de junio de 2023. Se realizarán audiencias públicas adicionales para recibir comentarios sobre la versión preliminar del Plan de Acción.

Audiencia pública ante la Comisión de Desarrollo Comunitario (CDC)

Se invita al público a compartir sus comentarios durante la reunión de la Comisión de Desarrollo Comunitario (CDC) programada para el 11 de abril de 2023. Los detalles de la reunión y las instrucciones para proveer los comentarios del público durante la audiencia pública virtual se encuentran en la agenda de la reunión en el **sitio web de la Comisión de Desarrollo Comunitario** (<https://austintexas.gov/content/community-development-commission>). Los miembros de la comunidad deben registrarse antes del mediodía del día antes de la reunión para poder proveer comentarios públicos.

Audiencia pública ante el Concejo Municipal de Austin

Se invita al público a proveer comentarios durante la reunión del Concejo Municipal de Austin programada para el 23 de marzo de 2023. Las instrucciones de la reunión para proveer comentarios públicos durante la audiencia pública virtual se encuentran en la agenda de la reunión.

en el [sitio web del Centro de Información sobre Reuniones del Concejo Municipal \(https://austintexas.gov/department/city-council/council/council_meeting_info_center.htm\)](https://austintexas.gov/department/city-council/council/council_meeting_info_center.htm). Los miembros de la comunidad deben registrarse antes del mediodía del día antes de la reunión para poder proveer comentarios públicos.

Envío de comentarios por correo postal:

Se pueden presentar comentarios escritos hasta sábado 15 de abril de 2023. Por favor incluya un nombre, dirección y número de teléfono:

Housing and Planning Department
Attn: City of Austin FY 2023-24 draft Action Plan
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, Texas 78767

Envío de comentarios por teléfono:

Llame al **512-974-3100 (tel:1-512-974-3100)**, de lunes a viernes de 8:00 a.m. a 5:00 p.m.

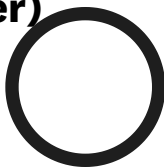
Envío de comentarios por correo electrónico:

HPD@austintexas.gov (<mailto:HPD@austintexas.gov>?)
[subject=Versi%C3%B3n%20preliminar%20del%20Plan%20de%20Acci%C3%B3n%20para%20el%20a%C3%B1o%20fiscal%202022-23%20de%20la%20Ciudad%20de%20Austin](mailto:HPD@austintexas.gov?subject=Versi%C3%B3n%20preliminar%20del%20Plan%20de%20Acci%C3%B3n%20para%20el%20a%C3%B1o%20fiscal%202022-23%20de%20la%20Ciudad%20de%20Austin)

Asunto: Versión preliminar del Plan de Acción para el año fiscal 2023-24 de la Ciudad de Austin

Share

(<https://www.addtoany.com/share?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.austintexas.gov/news/city-austin-notice-public-hearings-and-community-needs-assessment-fy-2023-24-action-plan&title=City%20of%20Austin%20Notice%20of%20Public%20Hearings%20and%20Community%20Needs%20Assessment%20for%20FY%202023-24%20Action%20Plan>)
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[Site Map \(/sitemap\)](#)

[Public Records \(https://services.austintexas.gov/edims/search.cfm\)](https://services.austintexas.gov/edims/search.cfm)

[City Council Message Board \(https://austincouncilforum.org/\)](https://austincouncilforum.org/)

[Visit Austin \(https://www.austintexas.org/\)](https://www.austintexas.org/)

[City Directory \(/contact-us\)](#)

[Jobs \(https://www.austincityjobs.org/\)](https://www.austincityjobs.org/)

[Legal Notices \(/page/legal-notice\)](#)

[Privacy Policy \(/page/privacy-policy\)](#)



Austin Energy Regional Science Festival 2023

Founded in 1956, the Science Festival celebrated its 67th anniversary this year — the first live event after two years of online fairs. A total of 2,188 students from 193 schools entered 1,789 science projects in the Austin Energy Regional Science Festival, representing 18 Central Texas school districts in eight counties, as well as private, charter and home schools. First- and second-place category winners advance to the Texas Science and Engineering Fair in College Station in March. Seven “Best of Fair” projects advance to the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair to be held in Dallas, TX.

The Austin Peace Academy, a private middle school, and Vista Ridge High School, from the Leander Independent School District, won Sweepstakes Awards.

The Sweepstakes Award is presented to the school in the junior division (middle schools) and senior division (high schools) earning the most points in the 18 science categories at the festival. The Austin Peace Academy won Sweepstakes for the third time in a row, outperforming 30 other middle schools. Vista Ridge outperformed 23 other high schools for their 15th Sweepstakes award since 2006.

The regional science festival is Austin Energy’s largest

sponsored annual community event, helping promote science, technology, engineering and math education.

The Austin Science Education Foundation, which assists Austin Energy in conducting the fair, gratefully acknowledges the support from all the Science Festival underwriters, including Gold Sponsors 3M and Synopsys, Inc. Additionally, the foundation wants to thank the more than 400 judges and 200 volunteers who make this event possible.

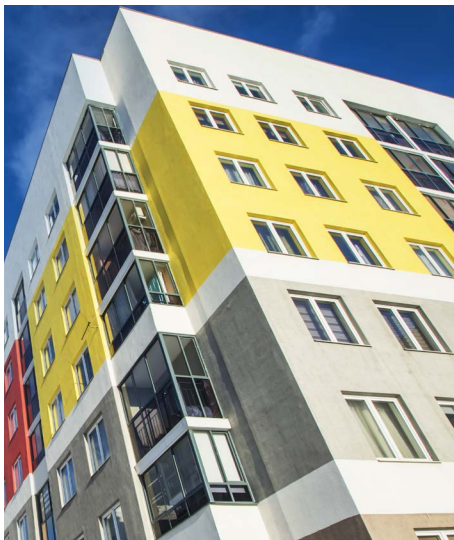
Visit sciencefest.org for a complete listing of awards as well as a list of sponsors.



Vista Ridge High School



Austin Peace Academy



Let your voice be heard about the needs of Austin residents

The City of Austin is collecting input on community needs to set spending priorities for housing and public service programs in the Annual Action Plan. The City of Austin’s Annual Action Plan covers how we will use federal funds for housing and public service programs and sets goals to better assist underserved communities.

The City of Austin provides programs and services to support affordable housing, low- and moderate-income households, persons with disabilities, seniors and youth. Your input will inform investment decisions to meet the needs of our community.

The City will collect feedback on the needs of the community from March 6 to April 15. This year’s draft Action Plan for FY 2023-2024 will be available for review and feedback from May 2 to June 9.

For more information, call **512-974-3100** or visit publicinput.com/housingneeds to tell us what you think. Your feedback by April 15 will help us shape the plan, and your feedback from May 2 to June 9 will help us better define community needs.

Keeping it green

From Walnut Creek to the rolling terrain of the Texas Hill Country, there's a lot to love about Austin's green spaces. You can celebrate those green spaces with many City departments at Earth Day ATX 2023 — April 22 from noon to 6 p.m. at Huston-Tillotson University. Keeping it green, though, can happen all year long. Here are a few ideas for you:

Austin Water conservation tips

- » Water your lawn only on your assigned day and times.
- » Take shorter showers. If you take a bath, fill the tub half full.
- » Install faucet aerators and low-flow showerheads.
- » Visit austinwater.org to take advantage of Austin Water's water efficiency rebates, tools and programs.
- » Join the My ATX Water Customer Portal to view water use data and get Austin Water alerts. More at myatxwater.org.

Enjoy more savings

An energy efficient home is better for the environment and can help you save money year-round. Explore rebates and resources to make your home more comfortable and energy efficient. Start today at austinenenergy.com/go/tips.

Choose 100% renewable energy

If you want 100% renewable energy, Austin Energy offers GreenChoice®. It is the longest-running voluntary renewable energy program in Texas. 2022 GreenChoice® customer impact translates into:

- » Powering 88,339 homes with wind energy instead of fossil fuels.
- » Removing the same amount of carbon dioxide from the air as 829,959 acres of U.S. forests.
- » Removing carbon emissions equal to 151,111 gasoline-powered passenger vehicles.

Learn more at austinenenergy.com/go/greenchoice.

Swap out single-use plastics

To celebrate Earth Day, minimize waste by swapping single-use plastics for reusable options. Ditch the plastic produce sacks for washable cotton or mesh options with drawstrings. Canvas bags are the go-to to cut back on single-use grocery bag stockpiles. Your plastic bag surplus can be returned to retail stores for recycling, repurposed as bathroom trash bags or to pack fragile items for shipping. Find simple plastic swaps to reduce your waste at austintexas.gov/plastic.

Join the EVolution

Austin Energy can help you plug into cleaner transportation. Easy to use, easy to maintain and easy to charge. Electric vehicles are fun to drive and can save you some money while helping the environment. Visit Austin Energy's EV Buyer's Guide to explore new and used electric vehicles in Austin. Check out ev.austinenenergy.com.



Rain to River plan is coming together



With a year's worth of community feedback around water-related "highs and lows," the Watershed Protection Department (WPD) is

creating Rain to River, a strategic plan to guide the department's work for the next ten years.

WPD prioritized reaching out to communities that have historically been left out of City planning processes, including people of color, low-income communities and other groups likely to experience negative quality of life outcomes in Austin to gather input from the full diversity of the Austin community. Take a look at raintoriveratx.com to see how WPD is using your feedback.



LIFEGUARDAUSTIN.COM

NOW HIRING LIFEGUARDS

APPLY TODAY!



STARTING AT \$20 PER HOUR

AUSTIN PARKS & RECREATION

The Austin Parks and Recreation Department is now hiring lifeguards ages 15 and older for the summer swim season! Schedules are flexible and pay starts at **\$20 per hour**. Benefits include a **\$400 training stipend**, free bus pass, and paid sick leave. Visit lifeguardaustin.com.

Para obtener una copia en español de esta publicación, visite coautilities.com/go/utilitynews.

Customer Service Phone: 512-494-9400

24-Hour Power Outage Reporting: 512-322-9100 | 24-Hour Emergency Water Service: 512-972-1000

East Austin Utility Customer Service Center (Walk-in Center): 2800 Webberville Rd.

North Austin Utility Customer Service Center (Walk-in Center): 8716 Research Blvd., Ste. 115

South Austin Utility Customer Service Center (Walk-in Center): 1901 W. William Cannon Drive, Ste. 100

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Festival regional de Ciencias de Austin Energy 2023

El Festival de Ciencias, fundado en 1956, celebró su 67.º aniversario este año, el primer evento en vivo después de dos años de ferias virtuales. Un total de 2.188 estudiantes de 193 escuelas presentaron 1.789 proyectos de ciencias en el Festival regional de Ciencias de Austin Energy, representando a 18 distritos escolares del centro de Texas en ocho condados, además de escuelas privadas, autónomas y locales. Los ganadores de las categorías en primer y segundo lugar pasan a la Feria de Ciencias e Ingeniería de Texas en College Station en marzo. Siete proyectos "Mejor de la Feria" pasan a la Feria internacional de Ciencias e Ingeniería de Regeneron que se llevará a cabo en Dallas, TX.

Austin Peace Academy, una escuela secundaria privada, y la escuela preparatoria Vista Ridge High School del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Leander ganaron premios de reconocimiento.

El premio de reconocimiento se entrega a la escuela en la división junior (escuelas secundarias) y en la división senior (escuelas preparatorias) que obtiene la mayor cantidad de puntos en las 18 categorías de ciencias en el festival. Austin Peace Academy ganó este premio por tercera vez consecutiva, superando a otras 30 escuelas secundarias. Vista Ridge superó a otras 23 escuelas preparatorias y obtuvo así su quinceavo premio desde 2006.

El festival regional de ciencias es el evento comunitario anual más grande que patrocina Austin Energy, que de este modo ayuda a fomentar la educación en ciencias, tecnología, ingeniería y matemáticas.

Austin Science Education Foundation, que colabora con Austin Energy en la organización de la feria, agradece el apoyo de todos los patrocinadores del Festival de Ciencias, incluso los patrocinadores oro 3M y Synopsys, Inc. Además, la fundación quiere agradecerles a los más de 400 jueces y 200 voluntarios que posibilitaron este evento.

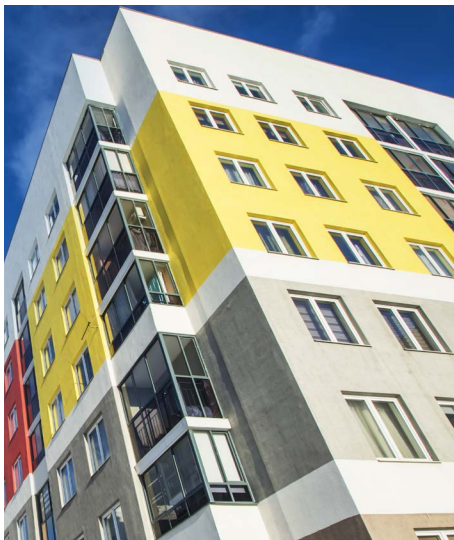
Visite sciencefest.org para conocer la lista completa de premios además de una lista de los patrocinadores.



Vista Ridge High School



Austin Peace Academy



Expresa su opinión sobre las necesidades de los residentes de Austin

La Ciudad de Austin está reuniendo aportes sobre necesidades comunitarias para establecer prioridades de gastos para los programas de vivienda y servicio público en el Plan de Acción Anual. El Plan de Acción Anual de la Ciudad de Austin trata cómo utilizaremos los fondos federales para los programas de vivienda y servicio público y fija metas para ayudar mejor a las comunidades subatendidas.

La Ciudad de Austin provee programas y servicios para apoyar la vivienda accesible, a grupos familiares con ingresos bajos y moderados, personas con discapacidades, adultos mayores y jóvenes. Su aporte informará las decisiones de inversión para cubrir las necesidades de nuestra comunidad.

La Ciudad reunirá comentarios sobre las necesidades de la comunidad desde el 6 de marzo hasta el 15 de abril. El Plan de Acción preliminar de este año para el año fiscal 2023-2024 estará disponible para analizarlo y comentar desde el 2 de mayo hasta el 9 de junio.

Si desea más información, llame al **512-974-3100** o visite publicinput.com/housingneeds para contarnos su opinión. Sus comentarios hasta el 15 de abril nos ayudarán a armar el plan y sus comentarios del 2 de mayo al 9 de junio nos ayudarán a definir mejor las necesidades comunitarias.

Respetemos los espacios verdes

Desde el arroyo Walnut hasta el ondulante terreno de Texas Hill Country, tenemos muchísimos espacios verdes para querer en Austin. Puede celebrar estos espacios verdes con muchos departamentos de la Ciudad en el Día de la Tierra ATX 2023, el 22 de abril desde el mediodía hasta las 6 p.m. en Huston-Tillotson University. Igual podemos respetarlos todo el año. Aquí hay algunas ideas para usted:

Consejos de conservación de Austin Water

- » Riegue su césped únicamente en su día y horarios asignados.
- » Tome duchas más cortas. Si toma un baño, llene la tina hasta la mitad.
- » Instale aireadores de grifos y regaderas de poco caudal.
- » Visite austinwater.org para aprovechar los descuentos, las herramientas y los programas sobre eficiencia hídrica de Austin Water.
- » Súmese al Portal del cliente My ATX Water para ver los datos del uso del agua y recibir alertas de Austin Water. Más en myatxwater.org.

Disfrute de más ahorros

Una casa con eficiencia energética es mejor para el medio ambiente y puede ayudarlo a ahorrar dinero todo el año. Explore los descuentos y recursos para que su casa sea más cómoda y tenga mayor eficiencia energética. Empezar ya en austinenenergy.com/go/tips.

Opte por energía 100% renovable

Si quiere energía 100% renovable, Austin Energy ofrece GreenChoice®. Es el programa voluntario de energía renovable más prolongado de Texas. El impacto de los clientes de GreenChoice® en 2022 se traduce en:

- » Suministro eléctrico a 88.339 casas con energía eólica en lugar de combustibles fósiles.
- » Eliminación de la misma cantidad de dióxido de carbono del aire que 829.959 acres de bosques estadounidenses.
- » Eliminación de emisiones de carbono equivalentes a 151.111 vehículos de pasajeros que funcionan a gasolina.

Conozca más en austinenenergy.com/go/greenchoice.

Deje los plásticos de un solo uso

Para celebrar el Día de la Tierra, minimice el desperdicio cambiando plásticos de un solo uso por opciones reutilizables. Deje de usar las bolsas plásticas de frutas y vegetales y adopte opciones lavables de algodón o malla con cierre de cordel. Las bolsas de tela son la opción indicada para reducir el acopio de bolsas de supermercado de un solo uso. Puede regresar el exceso de sus bolsas de plástico a los comercios minoristas para el reciclaje, darles otro propósito como bolsas de basura del baño o embalar objetos frágiles para envíos. Consulte intercambios sencillos de plástico para reducir su desperdicio en austintexas.gov/plastic.

Súmese a EVolution

Austin Energy puede ayudarlo a conectarse al transporte más limpio. Fácil de usar, fácil de mantener y fácil de cargar. Los vehículos eléctricos son divertidos de conducir y pueden ahorrarle algo de dinero mientras colabora con el medio ambiente. Visite la Guía para compradores de vehículos eléctricos de Austin Energy para explorar vehículos eléctricos nuevos y usados en Austin. Consulte ev.austinenenergy.com.



Se está armando el plan Rain to River



Con un año de aportes comunitarios en torno a las “altas y bajas” del agua, el Departamento de Protección de Cuencas (Watershed Protection Department, WPD) está creando Rain

to River (de la lluvia al río), un plan estratégico para guiar el trabajo del departamento por el próximo decenio.

Para reunir el aporte de toda la diversidad de la comunidad de Austin, el WPD priorizó la difusión a las comunidades que han sido históricamente dejadas fuera de los procesos de planificación de la Ciudad, incluidas las personas de color, las comunidades con bajos ingresos y otros grupos que es probable que sufran perjuicios en su calidad de vida en Austin. Eche un vistazo a raintoriveratx.com para averiguar cómo el WPD está usando su aporte.

LIFEGUARD AUSTIN.COM

HAY TRABAJOS SALVAVIDAS
¡APLICAR HOY!

EL PAGO COMIENZA EN \$20 POR HORA

El Departamento de Parques y Recreación de Austin ahora está contratando guardavidas de 15 años de edad y más para la temporada de natación de verano. Los horarios son flexibles y el salario empieza en **\$20 la hora**. Los beneficios incluyen un **estipendio para formación de \$400**, pase gratis de autobús y licencia con goce de sueldo por enfermedad. Visite lifeguardaustin.com.

Número de teléfono de Servicio al Cliente: 512-494-9400

Reporte una avería en el sistema eléctrico disponible las 24 horas: 512-322-9100

Emergencia del servicio de agua disponible las 24 horas: 512-972-1000

East Austin Utility Customer Service Center (centro de servicio en persona): 2800 Webberville Rd.

North Austin Utility Customer Service Center (centro de servicio en persona): 8716 Research Blvd., Ste. 115

South Austin Utility Customer Service Center (centro de servicio en persona): 1901 W. William Cannon Drive, Ste. 100

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City of Austin se compromete a cumplir con el Decreto para Americanos Discapacitados. Modificaciones razonables e igual acceso a comunicaciones se proveerán, al solicitarlo. TDD 512-974-3256, Relay Texas 7-1-1



FY23-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment

[Translate](#)

City of Austin FY 23-24 Action Plan

The Housing and Planning Department Needs Your Feedback!

Background

Each year, the City of Austin prepares an Action Plan- a plan detailing the amount of federal funding to be allocated to various housing and public service programs (i.e., Tenant-Based Rental Assistance, Minor Home Repair), and setting goals for how many low to moderate-income people will be served by these programs over the year. The Action Plan serves as a grant application submitted to the Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) to qualify for the following grants- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program, Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA).

Our Process

As part of the Community Needs Assessment period, the Housing and Planning Department is encouraging public input from residents from March 6 - April 15, 2023. Feedback collected through this process from individuals and agencies on what needs should be addressed in the FY 23-24 Action Plan and comments left on this page will be considered by staff as part of the planning process.

Additionally, there will be two public hearings to receive feedback on community needs:

- Thursday March 23, 2023, [Austin City Council](https://www.austintexas.gov/department/city-council/council/council_meeting_info_center.htm) (https://www.austintexas.gov/department/city-council/council/council_meeting_info_center.htm)
- Tuesday April 11, 2023, [Community Development Commission](https://www.austintexas.gov/content/community-development-commission) (<https://www.austintexas.gov/content/community-development-commission>)

A draft of the Action Plan will be made available for public comment on this page from May 2 - June 09, 2023. Two additional public hearings will take place to receive input on the draft plan.

Get Involved

Share your input below on the needs of your community as part of the Community Needs Assessment for the Fiscal Year 22-23 Action Plan. If you have any questions about this process, please contact the Housing and Planning Department at christian.duran@austintexas.gov or by phone at 512-974-3100.

The Action Plan for the current Fiscal Year of 2022-2023 can be viewed in the Documents tab below.

¡El Departamento de Vivienda y Planificación necesita sus comentarios!

Antecedentes Cada año, la Ciudad de Austin prepara un Plan de Acción - un plan que detalla la cantidad de fondos federales que se asignarán a varios programas de vivienda y servicios públicos (es decir, Asistencia de Alquiler Basada en el Inquilino, Reparación de Casas Menores), y el establecimiento de objetivos para el número de personas de bajos a moderados ingresos serán atendidos por estos programas durante el año. El Plan de Acción sirve como una solicitud de subvención presentada al Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano (HUD) para calificar para las siguientes subvenciones - Subvención de Desarrollo Comunitario en Bloque (CDBG), Programa de Asociaciones de Inversión en el Hogar, Subvención de Soluciones de Emergencia (ESG), y Oportunidades de Vivienda para Personas con SIDA (HOPWA).

Nuestro Proceso

Como parte del período de Evaluación de las Necesidades de la Comunidad, el Departamento de Vivienda y Planificación está alentando a los residentes a dar su opinión desde el 6 de marzo hasta el 15 de abril de 2023. Los comentarios recogidos a través de este proceso de los individuos y las agencias sobre las necesidades que deben abordarse en el Plan de Acción FY 23-24 y los comentarios dejados en esta página serán considerados por el personal como parte del proceso

de planificación.

Además, habrá dos audiencias públicas para recibir comentarios sobre las necesidades de la comunidad:

- Jueves 23 de marzo de 2023, [Consejo de la Ciudad de Austin](https://www.austintexas.gov/department/city-council/council/council_meeting_info_center.htm) (https://www.austintexas.gov/department/city-council/council/council_meeting_info_center.htm)
- Martes 11 de abril de 2023, [Comisión de Desarrollo Comunitario](https://www.austintexas.gov/content/community-development-commission) (<https://www.austintexas.gov/content/community-development-commission>)

Un borrador del Plan de Acción estará disponible para comentarios públicos en esta página del 2 de mayo al 9 de junio de 2023. Se llevarán a cabo dos audiencias públicas adicionales para recibir comentarios sobre el borrador del plan.

Participe

Comparta su opinión sobre las necesidades de su comunidad como parte de la Evaluación de las Necesidades de la Comunidad para el Plan de Acción del Año Fiscal 22-23. Si tiene alguna pregunta sobre este proceso, póngase en contacto con el Departamento de Vivienda y Planificación en christian.duran@austintexas.gov o por teléfono al 512-974-3100.

Share your thoughts!

What housing needs in Austin should be supported by federal funding? / ¿Qué necesidades de vivienda en Austin deberían ser apoyadas por fondos federales?

Logged in as **Christian Duran** **Comment**

☐ Post Publicly

Ruth R Fairchild Additional senior activity centers should be a top consideration in view of the large senior population.

2 days ago

 Reply

Ruth R Fairchild In view of the large senior population, additional senior activity centers should be a top consideration for action.

2 days ago

Reply

irma Considerations and planning for seniors that want to "age" in our city. Providing housing options where seniors can access medical facilities and have aging supports without having to leave the city. Including seniors to have access to the many things that this city offers witho... See More

2 days ago

Reply

Housing for single earners and single parents in the form of small houses - not apartments - made so we can afford to live where we work and not have to move out of the city. Lower property taxes. Affordable rent is almost non-existent for those who do work.

3 days ago

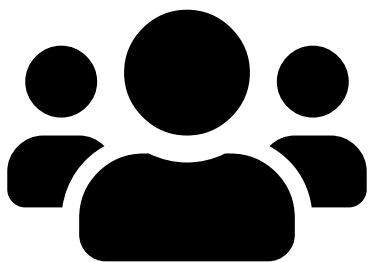
Reply

Affordable homes, not apartments need to be federally funded and the state needs to lower taxes.

4 days ago

Show all comments

Reply




Would you be willing to share some information about yourself so we can ensure we're hearing from a broad set of voices?

WHY WE'RE ASKING

NO THANKS

CONTINUE

Documents

 FY 2022-23 Action Plan.pdf (/Customer/File/Full/ba1148b4-e518-439a-9459-578671e946e7)

City of Austin (<https://www.austintexas.gov/>)

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(<https://www.youtube.com/user/austintexasgov/>)

FY23-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment

Project Engagement

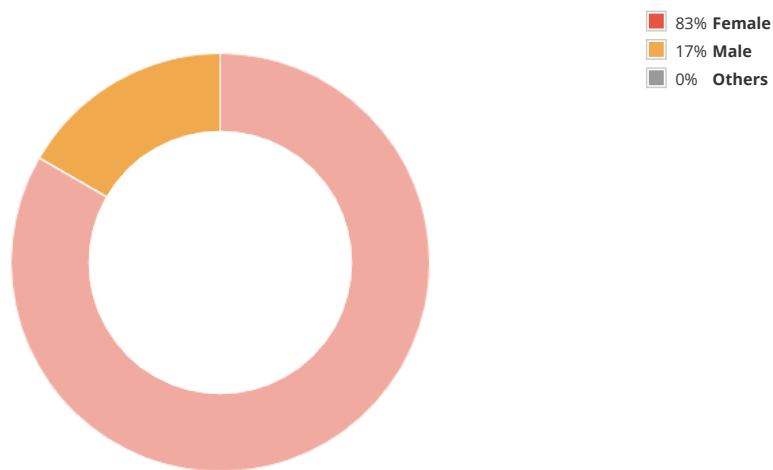
VIEWS	PARTICIPANTS	RESPONSES	COMMENTS
519	15	30	14

What is your race/ethnicity?

50%	Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish	3 ✓
33%	White	2 ✓
17%	Other	1 ✓
0%	Black or African-American	0 ✓
0%	Asian	0 ✓
0%	American Indian or Alaska Native	0 ✓
0%	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0 ✓
0%	I prefer not to answer	0 ✓

6 Respondents

What is your gender?



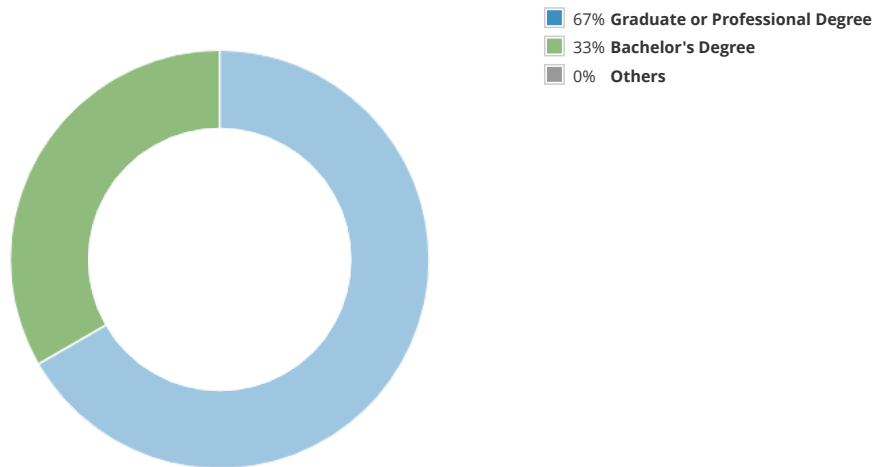
6 respondents

What is your age?



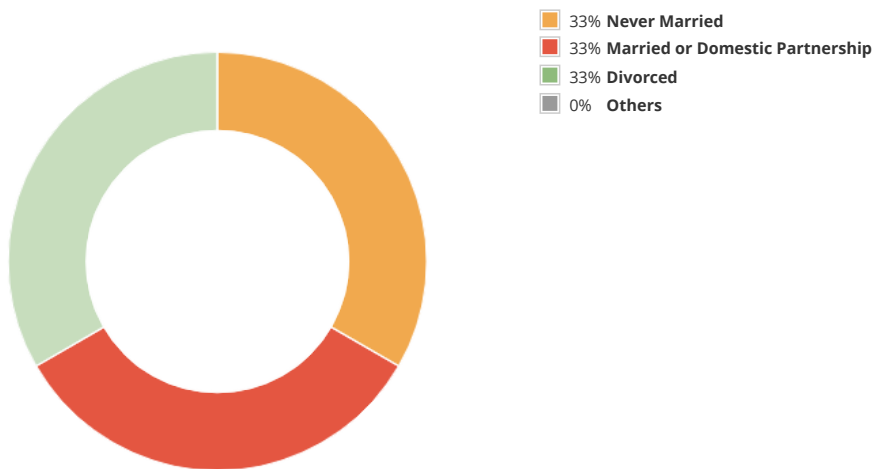
6 respondents

What is your highest formal education level?



6 respondents

What is your marital status?



6 respondents

Share your thoughts!

I would like questions answered and addressed related to Rapid Rehousing and the under performance presented in the Action Plan. I have sent two emails to the email listed above and no response.

19 days ago

More senior activity centers!

19 days ago

Additional senior activity centers should be a top consideration in view of the large senior population.

19 days ago

In view of the large senior population, additional senior activity centers should be a top consideration for action.

19 days ago

Considerations and planning for seniors that want to "age" in our city. Providing housing options where seniors can access medical facilities and have aging supports without having to leave the city. Including seniors to have access to the many things that this city offers without them having to drive into "town" or have to pay exorbitant fees for parking etc.

19 days ago

Housing for single earners and single parents in the form of small houses - not apartments - made so we can afford to live where we work and not have to move out of the city. Lower property taxes. Affordable rent is almost non-existent for those who do work.

20 days ago

Affordable homes, not apartments need to be federally funded and the state needs to lower taxes.

21 days ago

For those making less than \$60000, including single earners and single parents, more housing options, help with finding rooms for rent for those needing a roommate, lower property taxes, help with moving expenses.

21 days ago

Enforce the camping ban and reduce programs that ATTRACT the homeless. Support development of properties like Community First, NOT taking over exiting structures for homelessness.

22 days ago

Low income housing to help offset the huge increase in the cost of living in Austin. We also need to address the homeless situation. We need to address the underlying causes of homelessness and then create spaces for people to transition to having homes of their own.

22 days ago

Low income housing needs should absolutely be supported by federal funding. Inflation has gone through the roof and sent rent skyrocketing. It is nearly impossible to survive in this city (Austin) without having a good job, and it's squeezing the middle class more and more, making life even harder for low income residents. Low income Austinites need our support the most.

22 days ago

We need more transitional housing for the chronic homeless. The plan that Houston has done helped transition over 25k homeless off the streets. <https://www.homelesshouston.org/>

We also need more incentives for little houses and multi family apartment where the tenants can buy their apartment. This would allow us to help with people who are starting out or just need less space but don't end up on the rental merry-go-round.

one month ago

Homeless camping in Austin is a huge problem. What can be done to enforce the no camping ordinance and to help clean up the tons of trash created by homeless camping?

one month ago

Funds should be focused on needs of households with children under age 14.

one month ago

Public Hearing – Austin City Council

FY 2023-2024 Action Plan – Community Needs Assessment

Date: March 23, 2023

The following public hearing was held on March 23, 2023 at the Austin City Council Meeting as Item 65:

65. Conduct a public hearing to receive citizen input on community needs for the City's Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Action Plan that will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as part of the City's application for federal funding.

No speakers participated in the public hearing.

Public Hearing – Community Development Commission

FY 2023-2024 Action Plan – Community Needs Assessment

Date: April 11, 2023

The following public hearing was held on March 23, 2023 at the Austin City Council Meeting as Item 7:

- 7.** Conduct a public hearing to receive input on community needs relate to housing, homelessness and community development as part of the Community Needs Assessment for the FY 23-24 Action Plan.

No speakers participated in the public hearing.

Public Comment Period Outreach and Comments



City seeks public comment on federal funding for affordable housing, community development, and related services

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CITY OF AUSTIN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release Date: Apr. 25, 2023

Contact: Kasi Jackson [512-974-2243 \(tel:512-974-2243\)](tel:512-974-2243) [Email \(/email/kasijackson\)](mailto:/email/kasijackson)

La versión en español sigue a continuación.

Austin, TX – The City of Austin announces public hearings and a 30-day public comment period to receive public input on the **draft FY 2023-24 Action Plan** (<http://www.publicinput.com/housingneeds>), from Tuesday, May 9, 2023, to Friday, June 9, 2023. Austinites are invited to help decide where federal funding can be allocated to support City programs and services.

The Action Plan outlines funding allocations and service goals for federally funded programs related to affordable housing, community development, homelessness services, public services, and economic development activities. These activities are primarily funded through four grant programs received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD): Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA).

View the Draft FY 2023-24 Action Plan on the SpeakUp Austin website. (<http://www.publicinput.com/housingneeds>)

During the FY 2023-24 Action Plan Community Needs Assessment, public input was received and considered through public hearings before Austin City Council and the Community Development Commission, through the **SpeakUp Austin website** (<http://www.publicinput.com/housingneeds>), and various commission meetings. Additional feedback and input opportunities through the Housing and Planning Department's main phone line and postal mail were offered to the community as sources for providing input.

Opportunities to Review and Provide Feedback on the Draft FY 2023-24 Action Plan

The public is invited to review the draft FY 2023-24 Action Plan from Tuesday, May 9, 2023, to Friday, June 9, 2023, on the **SpeakUp Austin website** (<http://www.publicinput.com/housingneeds>). (<https://www.speakupaustin.org/action-plan-fy-22-23>) The plan is also accessible in paper form at the following locations:

- Austin City Hall, 301 W 2nd Street
- Austin Central Library, 710 W Cesar Chavez St
- Asian American Resource Center, 8401 Cameron Rd
- Gus L. Garcia Recreation Center, 1201 E Rundberg Ln
- Housing Authority of the City of Austin, 1124 S I-35 Frontage Rd
- Dove Springs Recreation Center, 5801 Ainez Dr
- Carver Branch Austin Public Library, 1161 Angelina St
- St. John's Branch Austin Public Library, 7500 Blessing Ave

SpeakUp Austin

The draft FY 2023-24 Action Plan will be available for review and comment on the **SpeakUp Austin website** (<https://www.publicinput.com/housingneeds>) from Tuesday, May 9, 2023, to Friday, June 9, 2023.

Public Hearing Before the Community Development Commission (CDC)

The public is invited to provide input during the Community Development Commission (CDC) meeting on Tuesday, May 9, 2023. Meeting details and instructions for providing public comment during the virtual public hearing can be found on the meeting agenda on the **Community Development Commission website** (<https://austintexas.gov/content/community-development-commission>). Community members must sign up by noon the day before the meeting to provide public comment.

Public Hearing Before the Austin City Council

The public is invited to provide input during the meeting of the Austin City Council scheduled for Thursday, June 8, 2023. Meeting instructions for providing public comment during the virtual public hearing can be found on the meeting agenda on the **City Council Meeting Information Center website** (https://austintexas.gov/departments/city-council/council/council_meeting_info_center.htm). Community members must sign up by noon the day before the meeting to provide public comment.

Submit by Postal Mail:

Written comments may be submitted until 5:00 PM on Friday, June 9, 2023. Please include a name, address, and phone number:

Housing and Planning Department
Attn: City of Austin Draft FY 2023-24 Action Plan
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, Texas 78767

Submit by Phone:

Dial 512-974-3100, Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Submit by Email:

HPD@austintexas.gov (mailto:HPD@austintexas.gov?subject=City%20of%20Austin%20FY%202022-23%20draft%20Action%20Plan%C2%A0)
Subject Heading: City of Austin Draft FY 2023-24 Action Plan

La Ciudad busca comentarios del público sobre fondos federales para viviendas económicas, desarrollo comunitario y otros servicios relacionados

Austin, TX – La Ciudad de Austin anuncia audiencias públicas y un periodo de 30 días para comentarios del público con el fin de recibir opiniones sobre la **versión preliminar del Plan de Acción del año fiscal 2023-24** (<http://www.publicinput.com/housingneeds>) desde el martes 9 de mayo hasta el viernes 9 de junio de 2023. Los residentes de Austin están invitados a ayudar a decidir cómo se asignarán los fondos federales para apoyar los programas y servicios de la Ciudad.

El Plan de Acción describe la asignación de fondos y las metas de servicios para los programas que funcionan con fondos federales relacionados con vivienda económica, desarrollo comunitario, servicios para las personas sin hogar, servicios públicos y actividades de desarrollo económico. Estas actividades son financiadas principalmente a través de cuatro programas de subvenciones del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de EE.UU. (HUD, por sus siglas en inglés): Subvención en Bloque para Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG), Programa de Sociedades de Inversión para el Hogar (HOME), Subvención para Refugios de Emergencia (ESG) y Oportunidades de Vivienda para las Personas con sida (HOPWA).

Vea la versión preliminar del Plan de Acción del año fiscal 2023-24 en el sitio web SpeakUp Austin. (<http://www.publicinput.com/housingneeds>)

Durante la Evaluación de las Necesidades de la Comunidad del Plan de Acción del año fiscal 2023-24, se recibieron y consideraron los comentarios del público ofrecidos en audiencias públicas ante el Concejo Municipal de Austin y la Comisión de Desarrollo Comunitario, a través del **sitio web SpeakUp Austin** (<http://www.publicinput.com/housingneeds>) y de varias reuniones de la comisión. También se ofreció a la comunidad la oportunidad de proveer comentarios y sus opiniones a través de la línea telefónica principal del Departamento de Vivienda y Planificación y por correo postal.

Oportunidades para leer la versión preliminar del Plan de Acción para el año fiscal 2023-24 y ofrecer comentarios

Se invita al público a leer la versión preliminar del Plan de Acción para el año fiscal 2023-24 a partir del martes 9 de mayo de 2023 hasta el viernes 9 de junio de 2023 en el **sitio web SpeakUp Austin** (<http://www.publicinput.com/housingneeds>). (<https://www.speakupaustin.org/action-plan-fy-22-23>) También se puede acceder al plan en papel en los siguientes lugares:

- Ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Austin, 301 W 2nd Street
- Biblioteca Central de Austin, 710 W Cesar Chavez St
- Centro de Recursos Asiático-americanos, 8401 Cameron Rd
- Centro Recreativo Gus L. Garcia, 1201 E Rundberg Ln
- Autoridad de Vivienda de la Ciudad de Austin, 1124 S I-35 Frontage Rd
- Centro Recreativo Dove Springs, 5801 Ainez Dr
- Sucursal Carver de la Biblioteca Pública de Austin, 1161 Angelina St
- Sucursal St. John's de la Biblioteca Pública de Austin, 7500 Angelina St

SpeakUp Austin

La versión preliminar del Plan de Acción del año fiscal 2023-24 estará disponible para revisión y comentarios en el **sitio web SpeakUp Austin** (<https://www.publicinput.com/housingneeds>) a partir del martes 9 de mayo de 2023 hasta el viernes 9 de junio de 2023.

Audiencia pública ante la Comisión de Desarrollo Comunitario (CDC)

Se invita al público a proveer comentarios durante la reunión de la Comisión de Desarrollo Comunitario (CDC) programada para el martes 9 de mayo de 2023. Los detalles de la reunión y las instrucciones para proveer los comentarios del público durante la audiencia pública virtual se encuentran en la agenda de la reunión en el **sitio web de la Comisión de Desarrollo Comunitario (<https://austintexas.gov/content/community-development-commission>)**. Los miembros de la comunidad deben registrarse antes del mediodía del día antes de la reunión para poder proveer comentarios públicos.

Audiencia pública ante el Concejo Municipal de Austin

Se invita al público a proveer comentarios durante la reunión del Concejo Municipal de Austin programada para el jueves 8 de junio de 2023. Las instrucciones de la reunión para proveer comentarios públicos durante la audiencia pública virtual se encuentran en la agenda de la reunión en el **sitio web del Centro de Información de Reuniones del Concejo Municipal (<https://austintexas.gov/department/city-council/council-meeting-info-center.htm>)**. Los miembros de la comunidad deben registrarse antes del mediodía del día antes de la reunión para poder proveer comentarios públicos.

Envío de comentarios por correo postal:

Se pueden enviar comentarios escritos hasta las 5:00 PM del viernes 9 de junio de 2023. Por favor incluya su nombre, dirección y número de teléfono:

Housing and Planning Department
Attn: City of Austin Draft FY 2023-24 Action Plan
P.O. Box 1088
Austin, Texas 78767

Envío de comentarios por teléfono:

Llame al 512-974-3100, de lunes a viernes de 9:00 a.m. a 4:00 p.m.

Envío de comentarios por correo electrónico:

HPD@austintexas.gov (mailto:HPD@austintexas.gov?subject=City%20of%20Austin%20FY%202022-23%20draft%20Action%20Plan%C2%A0)

Asunto: City of Austin Draft FY 2023-24 Action Plan

###

About Housing and Planning Department

The **Housing and Planning Department (<https://www.austintexas.gov/department/housing-planning>)** provides resources related to planning, zoning, housing, and community development to enhance the quality of life of all Austinites. Equitable, efficient, and comprehensive planning with displacement prevention as a prioritized focus is the Department's core charge in delivering housing services to the community.

Información sobre el Departamento de Vivienda y Planificación

El **Departamento de Vivienda y Planificación (<https://www.austintexas.gov/department/housing-planning>)** ofrece recursos relacionados con planificación, zonificación, vivienda y desarrollo comunitario para mejorar la calidad de vida de todos los austinianos. La tarea principal del Departamento es la entrega de servicios de vivienda a la comunidad con una planificación equitativa, eficiente e integral con prevención de desplazamiento como enfoque prioritario.

([https://www.addtoany.com/share?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.austintexas.gov%2Fnews%2Frelated-services&title=City%20seeks%20public%20comment%20on%20federal%20funding%20for%](https://www.addtoany.com/share?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.austintexas.gov%2Fnews%2Frelated-services&title=City%20seeks%20public%20comment%20on%20federal%20funding%20for%20the%20city%20of%20Austin%20TX%20and%20its%20surrounding%20area%20-%20AustinTexas.gov)
(/#facebook) (/#twitter)



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FY 23-24 Action Plan Public Comment Period Press Release Media List

The press release for the FY 23-24 Action Plan public comment period, exhibited in Attachment I B: Public Engagement Summary, was distributed to the media outlets listed below.

Association/Company
ACL Radio
AMC Publishing
American Genius
Asian American Culture
Asian Contractor Association
Austin American Statesman
Austin Business Journal
Austin Chamber of Commerce
Austin Chinese TV Network
Austin Chronicle
Austin Free-Net
Austin Monitor
Austin Post
Austin Transit Partnership
AustinEcoNetwork.com
Austonia
Axios
Bloomberg
BOB FM, KDHT, KGSR, KLBJ, KROX
Buena Suerte Newspaper
CBS Austin
CNN
College Forward
Community Impact
Contributing Editor
Corridor News
Daily Texan
Daily Texan at UT Austin
Dell Medical School
Eater Austin
El Mundo
FOX 7
Goodwill Central Texas
Hispanos Net Austin
Houston Chronicle
Imagine Austin
Investigative Producer / KVUE
KAZI
KBVO-TV Channel 51

KEYE
KINV 107.7
KJCE-AM Talk 1370
KOKE FM
KOOP 91.7FM
KTBC Fox 7 News
KUT News, Austin's NPR station
KVUE
KXAN
La Prensa
Language and Learning
Law360
Magnolia Cafe South
District 1 - Policy Aide, District 10 Office, District 3 Council Office, District 8 office, Council Member
Kathie Tovo, Council Member Leslie Pool
NBC - Texas
NBC Universal
New York Times
News Korea Central Texas
Nexstar Media
Nexstar TV
Nokoa The Observer
Reporte Austin
Resources Unlimited
SAFE Alliance
Spectrum News
Strategic Partnerships Inc.
sustainable food center
Texas Observer
Texas Tribune
The Austin Post
The Daily Texan
The Houston Chronicle
The Pharr Side of Austin
The World Journal
Ujima
University of Texas Journalist
Univision
Upfront News
Urban Affairs Reporter
Voice of America
Wall Street Journal
Waller Creek Conservancy
Williamson County
WorldJournal.com

 Translate

FY 23-24 Action Plan

City of Austin FY 2023-2024 Action Plan

The Housing Department Needs Your Input & Feedback!

Background

The City of Austin Housing Department is working to prepare the FY 23-24 Action Plan. The City of Austin prepares an Action Plan annually, detailing the amount of federal funding allocated to various housing and public service programs (i.e., Tenant-Based Rental Assistance, Minor Home Repair, Down Payment Assistance) and setting goals for how many low to moderate-income people will be served by these programs over the year.

The Action Plan serves as a grant application submitted to the Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) to qualify for the following grants: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA).

Our Process

As part of the Community Needs Assessment period, the Housing Department invited public input from residents from March 6 through April 15, 2023. We collected feedback from individuals, organizations, and agencies on what should be prioritized and addressed in the FY 23-24 Action Plan and how programming can more effectively serve the community.

A draft of the FY 23-24 Action Plan is now available for public comment on this page from May 9 through June 9, 2023.

9, 2023.

We will have two public hearings for live public comment on the draft FY 23-24 Action Plan, both with in-person and virtual attendance options:

Tuesday, May 9, 2023, before the Community Development Commission

(<https://www.austintexas.gov/content/community-development-commission>)

Thursday, June 8, 2023, before the Austin City Council (https://www.austintexas.gov/department/city-council/council/council_meeting_info_center.htm)

Get Involved

Please share your feedback below on the updated Action Plan for Fiscal Year 23-24. If you have any questions about this process, please get in touch with the Housing Department at christian.duran@austintexas.gov (mailto:christian.duran@austintexas.gov) or by phone at 512-974-3100.

You can view the Action Plans for FY 22-23 and FY 23-24 in the Documents tab below.

Plan de Acción de la Ciudad de Austin para el año fiscal 2023-2024

¡El Departamento de Vivienda necesita sus ideas y comentarios!

Antecedentes

El Departamento de Vivienda de la Ciudad de Austin está preparando el Plan de Acción para el Año Fiscal 23-24. El plan describe la asignación de fondos y las metas de servicios para los programas que funcionan con fondos federales relacionados con vivienda económica, desarrollo comunitario, servicios para las personas sin hogar, servicios públicos y actividades de desarrollo económico. La Ciudad prepara este plan todos los años para asignar fondos federales a programas de vivienda y servicio público como los de asistencia de alquiler, reparaciones menores al hogar y asistencia con el pago inicial. El Plan de Acción ayuda a fijar metas para cuántos residentes de ingresos bajos a moderados se beneficiarán de estos programas durante el año.

El Plan de Acción sirve como una solicitud de subvención presentada al Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano (HUD, por sus siglas en inglés) para calificar para las siguientes subvenciones: Subvención en Bloque para Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG), Programa de Sociedades de Inversión para el Hogar (HOME), Subvención para Refugios de Emergencia (ESG) y Oportunidades de Vivienda para las Personas con sida (HOPWA).

Nuestro proceso

Como parte del periodo de Evaluación de Necesidades de la Comunidad, el Departamento de Vivienda invitó a los residentes a ofrecer sus comentarios entre el 6 de marzo y el 15 de abril de 2023. Recopilamos comentarios de individuos, organizaciones y agencias sobre qué se debe priorizar y atender en el Plan de Acción del Año Fiscal 23-24 y cómo la asignación a programas puede servir mejor a la comunidad.

Una versión preliminar del Plan de Acción para el año fiscal 23-24 está ahora disponible en esta página para comentarios del público entre el 9 de mayo y el 9 de junio de 2023.

Tendremos dos audiencias públicas para recibir comentarios del público sobre la versión preliminar del Plan de Acción para el año fiscal 23-24 con opciones para asistir en persona y virtualmente:

- Martes 9 de mayo de 2023 ante la Comisión de Desarrollo Comunitario [Sign In \(/Portal/Login/F1211/1178\)](#)
- Jueves 8 de junio ante el Concejo Municipal de Austin

Participe

Comparta sus comentarios más abajo sobre el Plan de Acción para el año fiscal 23-24 actualizado. Si tiene alguna pregunta sobre este proceso, contacte al Departamento de Vivienda por correo electrónico a christian.duran@austintexas.gov o por teléfono al 512-974-3100.

Vea los Planes de Acción para el año fiscal 22-23 y el año fiscal 23-24 en la pestaña de documentos más abajo

Please offer your feedback on the 2023-2024 draft Action Plan

Closed for Comments

Documents

 Draft FY 23-24 Action Plan.pdf (/Customer/File/Full/cdc81f0c-c4d1-4a9a-a4dc-dc5bd450e066)

 FY 2022-23 Action Plan.pdf (/Customer/File/Full/ba1148b4-e518-439a-9459-578671e946e7)

City of Austin (<https://www.austintexas.gov/>)

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(<https://www.youtube.com/user/austintexasgov/>)

FY 23-24 Action Plan Public Comment Period

Project Engagement			
VIEWS	PARTICIPANTS	RESPONSES	COMMENTS
399	2	0	2

As the governing board of the Austin/Travis County Homelessness Response System, the HRS Leadership Council offers the following public comment related to the City of Austin’s Housing Departments FY 23-24 Action Plan, specifically the section: AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)

Our most significant concern is regarding the City’s funding of Rapid Rehousing. According to the recent Housing Department Community Needs Assessment meeting with the HRS Leadership Council and the shared Action Plan Presentation slides, the Leadership Council has serious concerns regarding the underperformance and lack of clear mechanisms for accountability of the City’s Rapid Rehousing program. The City had a goal of assisting 1100 individuals through ESG-CV Rapid Rehousing and ONLY 381 individuals were served. In a community where we have at least 5000 individuals experiencing homelessness and many more who have completed a Coordinated Assessment, the city is grossly underperforming in this housing intervention. What performance measures are these programs being measured by? What are the impacts if metrics aren’t reached or funds are not spent? Why is the City continuing to fund a housing intervention when contracted agencies aren’t meeting goals? Difficulty locating affordable units or units that will accept clients with various barriers is something that can be addressed by the City on a systemic level. We also would like the City to consider increasing the length of time a client can receive funding and support through Rapid Rehousing. Many clients receiving RRH are unable to pay market rent when RRH funding ends, due to clients with disabilities only having income through SSI/SSDI or are in the process of long waiting periods to obtain SSI/SSDI Benefits. Similarly, clients may be unable to obtain employment in Austin that pays a living wage.

Regarding the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint supporting the production of 100 PSH units each year, with half of those units housing people experiencing homelessness. PSH by HUD definition, is dedicated to people experiencing homelessness. We are concerned why only half of the PSH unit house people experiencing homelessness? Why are not all 100 units dedicated to people experiencing homelessness?

Concerning the City’s partnership with “more than 10 different street outreach and mobile navigation programs and ten local emergency shelters,” we recommend a more coordinated effort including both geographical coordination and coordination of services offered. There is currently inconsistency of services offered, approaches to engagement, documentation requirements, and coordination of shelter and housing plans. Rather than allowing outreach and mobile navigation teams to coordinate organically, we recommend a more integrated and intentional process. Similarly, with the 10 local emergency shelters, there is currently little emphasis on client vulnerability and prioritization and transparent waiting list processes. Additionally, there is a general lack of accessible information available for people experiencing homelessness. We are aware that www.findhelp.org is a tool for Austinites to locate community resources, however there are significant accessibility issues for those who are living unsheltered without a reliable smart- phone or regular access to computers. We recommend the City find additional ways to create and maintain updated resource guides that are available in various forms, languages, and mediums so unsheltered Austinites can receive the same, up to date information regardless of which outreach team or mobile navigation team they encounter and/or emergency shelter they contact.

Regarding Austin's Action Plan to End Homelessness Section- there is a significant lack of crisis services available in Austin Travis County, including emergency shelter, crisis respite beds for mental health, and medical respite beds. Without emergency shelter and long waits for permanent housing, we recommend the City coordinate with appropriate city departments to increase public showers, public restrooms, and adequately fund inclement weather shelters.

Under the section " Addressing emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons," please consider changing the language to "people experiencing homelessness." Similarly, anytime "homeless person" is used, please consider changing this language.

Please also note that the recently announced emergency shelter at the Marshalling Yard was also not included in this Action Plan. And the plans for the former downtown Salvation Army Shelter building were also not included.

Additionally, regarding the use of Coordinated Entry to assist all shelter residents in applying for all possible housing programs, currently several of the shelters do not have trained Coordinated Assessment assessors on staff or on site. Similarly, CE does not encompass all housing options available in Austin/Travis County. And who is responsible for assuring HMIS documentation and the training of case managers? For agencies contracting with the City, please also consider applying a greater emphasis on salary and benefit requirements for outreach, navigation, shelter, and housing staff to ensure hiring and retention of qualified staff.

The Leadership Council has additional concerns about the lack of coordination with Landlord Outreach and Engagement. The Action Plan states that "The City partners with ECHO's Community Housing Department to support access to low barrier housing units through partnering with housing properties and providing landlord incentives for units dedicated to people experiencing homelessness. This also includes partnering with ECHO who provides housing barrier screening services by offering rent reports to support matching households to services, financial assistance tailored to ensuring households can find units regardless of financial and/or criminal background barriers." The Homelessness Response System (HRS) Permanent Housing Committee has a workgroup dedicated to Property Engagement. They are currently undergoing a research process, including already completed listening sessions with service providers and community members and examining practices in other comparable continuums of care. The workgroup plans to share their recommendations in the summer of 2023 with the Permanent Housing Committee and then with the HRS Leadership Council. These recommendations can also be shared with the Housing Department to assure consistency between HRS and the Housing Department.

Similarly, the Leadership Council has concerns about the City's efforts to prevent homelessness. According to the Action Plan, "In August of 2019, ECHO began developing the Housing for Healthcare division consisting of 4-5 staff who support system-wide discharge planning and are liaisons with various institutions such as the criminal justice system and the hospital and medical systems. ECHO staff work closely with other systems of care to divert persons from entering homelessness when possible and to increase access to available resources (e.g., crisis beds, coordinated entry assessment). Currently the Housing for Healthcare division consists of only 2 staff; and 1 staff dedicated as a "Legal Systems Manager." Yet, according to the 2023 PIT count, there are currently 700 people experiencing homelessness in the Travis County jail. It is unclear to LC how these efforts to prevent homelessness are being addressed by the City of Austin.

Please always use evidence-based decision-making in awarding contracts. Rather than the current subjective application-scoring mechanisms, instead prioritize affordable housing contracts to entities with proven track records of keeping local at-risk populations stably housed while maintaining years of good standing with Austin Code, HUD, and other regulatory bodies. Just because an agency makes a compelling case for what they intend to do, please give highest credence to those who actually have long-term experience in the multifaceted world of affordable housing.

28 days ago

Public Hearing – Community Development Commission

FY 2023-2023 Action Plan – Public Comment Period

Date: May 9, 2023

The following public hearing was held on May 9, 2023 before the Community Development Commission as Item 5:

5. Conduct a public hearing to receive public comment on the draft Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Action Plan

No speakers participated in the public hearing.

Public Hearing – Austin City Council

FY 2023-24 Action Plan – Public Comment Period

Date: June 8, 2023

The following public hearing was held on June 8, 2023 at the City of Austin City Council Meeting –

[Item] 57. Conduct a public hearing to receive public comment on the City's draft Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Action Plan as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

One speaker spoke to the FY 23-24 Action Plan. The following excerpt displays the testimony. The complete meeting transcript and video are available at: <https://www.austintexas.gov/watch-atxn-live> .

The following people spoke to the FY 23-24 Action Plan at the June 8, 2023 City Council Meeting:
Zenobia C. Joseph.

37 AND 84. NEXT SPEAKER IS ZENOBIA JOSEPH SPEAKING ON 22 29,

THANK YOU, MAYOR.

COUNSEL, I'M ZNO JOSEPH.

MAYOR, CAN YOU, BEFORE YOU START MY TIME AT LEAST AC KNOWLEDGE IF 57 SHOWS ME REGISTERING IN PERSON YESTERDAY? I'M NOT SURE I UNDERSTAND

[00:20:01]

THE QUESTION.

WHY DON'T YOU PLEASE, UH, GO AHEAD AND, AND PROVIDE YOUR TESTIMONY AND I'LL, I'LL CHECK ON, UH, WHERE YOU, WHAT NUMBERS YOU WERE ACTUALLY REGISTERED FOR, BUT I'M NOT SURE I UNDERSTOOD WHAT YOU JUST SAID.

MS. DENOIA, JOSEPH, YOU ARE REGISTERED FOR 57 AS WELL

THANK YOU, CLERK.

UM, THANK YOU MAYOR COUNSEL, I'M ZNO JOSEPH.

MY COMMENTS ARE SPECIFICALLY RELATED TO ITEM 57.

THAT IS YOUR FY 2324 ACTION PLAN.

I HAVE FILED A TITLE SIX COMPLAINT JUST BEFORE THIS MEETING STARTED AGAINST YOU, MAYOR AND COUNSEL CO-

MINGLING THE PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR THE ANNUAL UPDATE TO HUD ACTUALLY DENIES US AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK ON BOTH THE PUBLIC HEARING AND ALSO THE AGENDA ITEMS. I HAVE SPECIFICALLY ASKED TODD TO REJECT YOUR 2324 ACTION PLAN AND TO ALLOW, AND TO COMPEL YOU TO ACTUALLY HOLD SEPARATE HEARINGS AS IT RELATES SPECIFICALLY TO ITEM 84.

THAT'S THE RYAN AL ALTER AMENDMENT, UH, FROM HOUSING AUTHORITY OF TRAVIS COUNTY.

I DID DO A RECON THERE YESTERDAY, 28, 24 REAL, I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S REAL OR RAL STREET, WHICH IS BY THE MLK, UM, RAIL STATION.

I JUST WANT TO SAY THAT THIS IS A GOOD LOCATION, BUT MY OPPOSITION IS BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF TRANSPARENCY FOR THE OTHER ITEMS, UM, THAT ARE IN THE LETTER FROM THE COALITION, UM, AS IT RELATES TO THE CANOPY, I AM FOR THAT AND JUST WANT YOU TO RECOGNIZE THAT CANOPY IS THE AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY RESOURCE, BUT AFRICAN-AMERICANS, UH, DOCUMENTARIES THAT I'VE REQUESTED THAT ARE NOT AVAILABLE THROUGH CANOPY ARE ALSO NOT AVAILABLE THROUGH THE, THE AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY BECAUSE OF THEIR VENDORS THAT THEY'VE SELECTED.

SO I WOULD ASK THE CITY MANAGER TO CONSIDER AT LEAST A MILLION DOLLARS FOR BLACK BOOKS OR MORE.

UM, AND THEN I WOULD JUST SAY AS IT RELATES TO THE HOMELESSNESS, SALVATION ARMY AND THE ARCH, UM, I APPRECIATE THAT YOU'RE GOING TO EXTEND THOSE CONTRACTS, BUT I WOULD ASK YOU TO RECOGNIZE THAT WEST OF MOPAC, THERE ARE LOTS OF, UM, OPPORTUNITIES AND LAND.

AND THAT GOES BACK TO THE HUD ACTION PLAN, WHICH MENTIONS THE HIGH OPPORTUNITY AREAS, WHICH UNFORTUNATELY YOUR AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING HAS YET TO CONSIDER.

UM, THOSE ARE MY COMMENTS.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, I'LL WILLINGLY ANSWER THEM AT THIS TIME.

Attachment II A: Resale and Recapture Policy



City of Austin

HOUSING AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT (HPD) Office RESALE AND RECAPTURE POLICIES

Participating Jurisdictions (PJs) undertaking HOME-assisted homebuyer activities, including any projects funded with HOME Program Income (PI), must establish written resale and/or recapture provisions that comply with HOME statutory and regulatory requirements. These provisions must also be set forth in the PJ's Consolidated Plan. The written resale and/or recapture provisions that a PJ submits in its annual Action Plan must clearly describe the terms of the resale and/or recapture provisions, the specific circumstances under which these provisions will be used (if more than one set of provisions is described), and how the PJ will enforce the provisions for HOME-funded ownership projects. HUD reviews and approves the provisions as part of the annual Action Plan process.

The purpose of this section is to provide the "resale" and "recapture" policies of the City of Austin's Housing and Planning Department (HPD) and its sub-recipient, the Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC). As stated above, HOME requires that PJs utilize resale and/or recapture provisions to ensure continued affordability for low- to moderate-income homeowners and as a benefit to the public through the wise stewardship of federal funds.

HPD has three programs which use HOME funds to assist homeowners or homebuyers:

1. Down Payment Assistance (DPA) - new homebuyers;
2. Acquisition and Development (A&D) - developers of new ownership housing, and;
3. Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program (HRLP) - owners of existing homes.

Resale

This option ensures that the HOME-assisted units remain affordable over the entire affordability period. The Resale method is used in cases where HOME funding is provided directly to a developer to reduce development costs, thereby, making the price of the home affordable to the buyer. Referred to as a "Development Subsidy," these funds are not repaid by the developer to the PJ, but remain with the property for the length of the affordability period.

Specific examples where the City of Austin would use the resale method include:

1. providing funds for the developer to acquire property to be developed or to acquire affordable ownership units;
2. providing funds for site preparation or improvement, including demolition; and
3. providing funds for construction materials and labor.

CITY OF AUSTIN RESALE POLICY

Notification to Prospective Buyers. The resale policy is explained to the prospective homebuyer(s) prior to signing a contract to purchase the HOME-assisted unit. The prospective homebuyer(s) sign an acknowledgement that they understand the terms and conditions applicable to the resale policy as they have been explained. This document is included with the executed sales contract. (See attached Notification for Prospective Buyers on Page IV-11.)

Enforcement of Resale Provisions. The resale policy is enforced through the use of a Restrictive Covenant signed by the homebuyer at closing. The Restrictive Covenant will specify:

1. the length of the affordability period (based on the dollar amount of HOME funds invested in the unit; either 5, 10, or 15 years);
2. that the home remain the Buyer's principal residence throughout the affordability period; and
3. the conditions and obligations of the Owner should the Owner wish to sell before the end of the affordability period, including:
 - a. the Owner must contact the Austin Housing Finance Corporation in writing if intending to sell the home prior to the end of the affordability period;
 - b. The subsequent purchaser must be low-income as defined by HOME, and occupy the home as his/her new purchaser's primary residence for the remaining years of the affordability period. (However, if the new purchaser receives direct assistance through a HOME-funded program, the affordability period will be re-set according to the amount of assistance provided); and
 - c. The sales price must be affordable to the subsequent purchaser; affordable is defined as limiting the Principal, Interest, Taxes and Insurance (PITI) amount to no more than 30% of the new purchaser's monthly income.

Fair Return on Investment. The City of Austin will administer its resale provisions by ensuring that the Owner receives a fair return on his/her investment and that the home will continue to be affordable to a specific range of incomes. Fair Return on Investment means the total homeowner investment which includes the total cash contribution plus the approved capital improvements credits as described below:

1. The amount of the down payment;
2. The cost of any capital improvements, documented with receipts provided by the homeowner, including but not limited to:
 - a. Any additions to the home such as a bedroom, bathroom, or garage;
 - b. Replacement of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems;
 - c. Accessibility improvements such as bathroom modifications for disabled or elderly, installation of wheelchair ramps and grab bars, any and all of which must have been paid for directly by the Owner and
 - d. which were not installed through a federal, state, or locally-funded grant program; and
 - e. Outdoor improvements such as a new driveway, walkway, retaining wall, or fence.

Note: All capital improvements will be visually inspected to verify their existence.

3. The percentage of change as calculated by the Housing Price Index (HPI) Calculator of the Federal Housing Finance Agency. The HPI Calculator is currently located at <https://www.fhfa.gov/DataTools/Tools/Pages/HPI-Calculator.aspx> and projects what a given house purchased at a point in time would be worth today if it appreciated at the average appreciation rate of all homes in the area. The calculation shall be performed for the Austin-Round Rock, TX Metropolitan Statistical Area.

Affordability to a Range of Buyers. The City will ensure continued affordability to a range of buyers, particularly those whose total household incomes range from 65 percent to no greater than 80 percent MFI.

Sales prices shall be set such that the amount of Principal, Interest, Taxes, and Insurance does not exceed 30 percent of the new Buyer's annual income. For FY 2018-19, the affordable sales price shall not exceed \$175,000, which would be affordable to a 4-person household at 80 percent MFI at today's home mortgage interest rates.

Example: A home with a 10-year affordability period was purchased seven years ago by a person (the "original homeowner") who now wishes to sell. The original homeowner's mortgage was \$105,000 at 4.75% interest for 30 years, and has made payments for 72 months. The current mortgage balance is \$93,535. The principal amount paid down so far is \$11,465.

Calculating Fair Return on Investment

Down payment: The original homeowner was required to put down \$1,000 earnest money at the signing of the sales contract.

Cost of Capital Improvements: The original homeowner had a privacy fence installed four years ago at the cost of \$1,500 and has receipts to document the improvement. A visual inspection confirmed the fence is still in place.

Applicable Affordability Period. The original purchase price for the home was \$106,000 and the amount of HOME funds used as developer subsidy was \$25,000, thus requiring the 10-year affordability period.

Percentage of Change. For the purposes of using the Federal Housing Finance Agency's Housing Price Index calculator, the home was purchased in the 1st Quarter of 2010, and will be calculated using the most current quarter available, 4th Quarter 2016. Using the Housing Price Index calculator, the house would be worth approximately \$165,700.

Calculating the Fair Return to the Original Owner:

Down payment:	\$1,000
Capital Improvements:	\$1,500
Principal Paid:	\$11,465
Increase in value per HPI:	<u>\$59,700</u>

\$73,665 Fair Return on Investment

In order to realize a fair return to the original homeowner, the sales price must be set at roughly \$152,500 (i.e., \$105,000 [\$11,465 in principal payments made plus remaining mortgage balance of \$93,535] + \$1,000 down payment + \$1,500 capital improvements + \$59,700 HPI increase = \$167,200)

Affordability for a Range of Buyers. If the original homeowner sets the sales price at \$167,200 to get a fair return on investment, and if 2017 assumptions are used for front/back ratios, interest rates, insurance, taxes, an 80% Loan-to-Value (LTV) Ratio, etc., the monthly PITI would be approximately \$1,069.

The PITI of \$1,069 could, in theory, be supported by an annual household income of \$42,800 and not exceed 30% of the subsequent homeowner's monthly income. However, with an 80% LTV ratio and rapidly increasing home prices, buyers must have down payment assistance which, if HOME funds are used, would create a new affordability period based on the new HOME investment.

If the subsequent homeowner does not require any HOME subsidy to purchase the home, the affordability period would end in 3 years at which time the subsequent homeowner could sell to any buyer at any price.

Recapture

Under HOME recapture provisions financial assistance must be repaid if it is provided directly to the buyer or the homeowner. Upon resale the seller may sell to any willing buyer at any price. The written agreement and promissory note will disclose the net proceeds percentage if any that will be allotted to the homebuyer and what proceeds will return to the PJ. Once the HOME funds are repaid to the PJ, the property is no longer subject to any HOME restrictions. The funds returned to the PJ may then be used for other HOME-eligible activities.

CITY OF AUSTIN RECAPTURE POLICY

HPD HOME funded program under the recapture provisions is the Down Payment Assistance Program (DPA). The Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) HOME funded program under recapture provisions is the Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program (HRLP).

The (HOME) federal assistance will be provided in the form of a 0% interest, deferred payment loan. The fully executed (by all applicable parties) and dated Written Agreement, Promissory Note and Deed of Trust will serve as the security for these loans. The Deed of Trust will also be recorded in the land records of Travis County or Williamson County.

The payment of the DPA or HRLP Promissory Note is made solely from the net proceeds of sale of the Property (except in the event of fraud or misrepresentation by the Borrower described in the Promissory Note).

The City of Austin and/or AHFC/HPD may share any resale equity appreciation of HOME-assisted DPA or HRLP loans with the Borrower/Seller according to the following two recapture models:

Standard Down Payment Assistance. The City of Austin will calculate the recapture amount and add this to the existing payoff balance of the DPA loan. The entire payoff balance must be paid to AHFC/HPD before the homebuyer receives a return. The recapture amount is limited to the net proceeds available from the sale. However, the amount of standard Down Payment Assistance will be forgivable at the end of maturity date if the borrower met all of the program requirements.

Sales Price	\$
First Lien Mortgage	-\$
Mortgage Assistance Amount (prorated monthly)	-\$
Capital Improvement Recapture Credit	-\$
Proceeds to the Homeowner	=\$

Shared Equity Down Payment Assistance (DPA). The City of Austin and AHFC/HPD will permit the Borrower/Seller to recover their entire investment (down payment and capital improvements made by them since purchase) before recapturing the HOME investment. The recapture amount is limited to the net proceeds available from the sale.

Appraised Value of Property of Sales price <small>(less of the two)</small>	\$
Original Senior Lien Note Amount	-\$
Grantee's Cash Contribution	-\$
Capital Improvement Recapture Credit	-\$
Mortgage Assistance Amount (prorated monthly)	-\$
Equity to be shared	=\$
Shared Equity	-\$
Proceeds to the Homeowner	=\$

Down Payment Formula. Equity to be shared: The Appraised Value of the Property at time of resale less original senior lien Note, less borrower's cash contribution, less capital improvement recapture credit, less the Original Principal Amount of Mortgage Assistance under the DPA Mortgage, calculated as follows:

Appraised Value of Property or Sales Price (whichever is less)		
Original Senior Lien Note Amount	(-)	\$
Any reasonable and customary sales expenses paid by the Borrower in connection with the sale (Closing costs)	(-)	\$
Net proceeds		\$
Borrower's Cash Contribution	(-)	\$
Capital Improvement Recapture Credit	(-)	\$
DPA Mortgage Assistance Amount	(-)	\$
Equity to be Shared	=	

The homebuyer's entire investment (cash contribution and capital improvements) must be repaid in full before any HOME funds are recaptured. The capital improvement recapture credit will be subject to:

1. The borrower having obtained HPD approval prior to his/her investment; and
2. The borrower providing proof of costs of capital improvements with paid receipts for parts and labor.

Calculation of Shared Equity Percentage. Percentage shall remain the same as calculated at initial purchase (as set forth above).

Shared Equity Payment Due to HPD or the City of Austin. Shall be (Equity to be shared) x (Shared Equity Percentage), calculated as follows:

Equity to be shared		\$
Shared Equity Percentage	X	%
Shared Equity Payment Due to HPD/City of Austin	=	\$

Total Due to HPD or City of Austin. Shall be the total of all amounts due to HPD or the City of Austin calculated as follows:

Mortgage Assistance Amount		\$
Interest and Penalties	+	\$
Shared Equity Payment	+	\$
Total Due to HPD/City of Austin	=	\$

HRLP Homeowner Reconstruction Formula. Upon executing and dating the Promissory Note, Written Agreement and the Deed of Trust the parties agree that the Mortgage Assistance Amount provided to Borrower by AHFC is to be 25% of the Borrower's/Sellers equity in the Property.

Equity to be Shared. The Appraised Value of the Property at time of resale, less closing costs, homeowner's cash contribution (if any), capital improvement recapture credit, AHFC original assistance amount, calculated as follows:

Appraised Value of Property or Sales Price (whichever is less)		
Any reasonable and customary sales expenses paid by the Borrower/Seller in connection with the sale (Closing costs)	(-)	\$
Homeowner's Cash Contribution	(-)	\$
Capital Improvement Recapture Credit	(-)	\$
AHFC or the City of Austin Original HRLP Assistance Amount	(-)	\$
Equity to be Shared	=	

Calculation of Shared Equity Percentage: Percentage shall remain the same as initially determined (as set forth above). Shared Equity Payment Due to AHFC or the City of Austin: Shall be (Equity to be shared) x (Shared Equity Percentage), calculated as follows:

Equity to be shared	\$
Shared Equity Percentage	25%
Shared Equity Payment Due to AHFC or the City of Austin	= \$

Total Due to AHFC or the City of Austin: Shall be the total of all amounts due to AHFC or the City of Austin calculated as follows:

Existing Owing HRLP Mortgage Assistance Amount	\$
Shared Equity Percentage Payment	+ \$
Sum Total Due to AHFC or the City of Austin	\$

HRLP Homeowner Rehabilitation Formula. Equity to be shared: The Appraised Value of the Property at time of resale, less closing costs, homeowner's cash contribution (if any), capital improvement recapture credit, AHFC or the City of Austin's original assistance amount, calculated as follows:

Appraised Value of Property or Sales Price (whichever is less)		
Any reasonable and customary sales expenses paid by the homeowner in connection with the sale (Closing costs)	(-)	\$
Homeowner's Cash Contribution	(-)	\$
Capital Improvement Recapture Credit	(-)	\$
AHFC and/or the City of Austin's Original HRLP Assistance Amount	(-)	\$
Equity to Borrower/Seller	=	

Net proceeds consist of the sales prices minus loan repayment, other than HOME funds, and closing costs. If the net proceeds of the sale are insufficient to fully satisfy the amounts owed on the HRLP Note the AHFC or the City of Austin may not personally seek or obtain a deficiency judgment or any other recovery from the Borrower/Seller. The amount due to Lender is limited to the net proceeds, if any, if the net proceeds are not sufficient to recapture the full amount of HOME funds invested plus allow Borrower to recover the amount of Borrower's down-payment and capital improvement investment, including in, but not limited to, cases of foreclosure or deed-in-lieu of foreclosure,. If there are no net proceeds AHFC or the City of Austin will receive no share of net proceeds.

However, in the event of an uncured Default, AHFC or the City of Austin may, at its option, seek and obtain a personal judgment for all amounts payable under the Note. This right shall be in addition to any other remedies available to AHFC and/or the City of Austin. If there are insufficient funds remaining from the sale of the property and the City of Austin or the Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) recaptures less than or none of the recapture amount due, the City of Austin and/or AHFC must maintain data in each individual HRLP file that documents the amount of the sale and the distribution of the funds.

This will document that:

1. There were no net sales proceeds; or
2. The amount of the net sales proceeds was insufficient to cover the full amount due; and
3. No proceeds were distributed to the homebuyer/homeowner.

Under "Recapture" provisions, if the home is SOLD prior to the end of the required affordability period, the net sales proceeds from the sale, if any, will be returned to the City of Austin and/or AHFC to be used for other HOME-eligible activities. Other than the actual sale of the property, if the homebuyer or homeowner breaches the terms and conditions for any other reason, e.g. no longer occupies the property as his/her/their principal residence, the full amount of the subsidy is immediately due and payable.

If Borrower/Seller is in Default, AHFC and/or the City of Austin may send the Borrower/Seller a written notice stating the reason Borrower/Seller is in Default and telling Borrower/Seller to pay immediately:

- (i) the full amount of Principal then due on this Note,
- (ii) all of the interest that Borrower/Seller owes, and that will accrue until paid, on that amount, and
- (iii) all of AHFC/or the City of Austin's costs and expenses reimbursable Recovery against the Borrower/Seller responsible for the fraud or misrepresentation is not limited to the proceeds of sale of the Property, but may include personal judgment and execution thereon to the full extent authorized by law.

Affordability Periods

HOME Program Assistance Amount	Affordability Period in Years
\$1,000 - \$14,999.99	5
\$15,000 – \$40,000	10
Over \$40,000	15
Reconstruction Projects*	20

***City of Austin policy**

A HOME or CDBG Written Agreement, Note and Deed of Trust will be executed by the Borrower and the City of Austin and/or the Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) that accurately reflects the resale or recapture provisions before or at the time of sale.

References: [HOME fires Vol 5 No 2, June 2003 – Repayment of HOME Investment; Homebuyer Housing with a 'Recapture' Agreement; Section 219(b) of the HOME Statute; and §92.503(b)(1)-(3) and (c)]

CITY OF AUSTIN REFINANCING POLICY

In order for new executed subordination agreement to be provided to the senior first lien holder, the senior first lien refinance must meet the following conditions:

1. The new senior first lien will reduce the monthly payments to the homeowner, thereby making the monthly payments more affordable; or
2. Reduce the loan term;
3. The new senior lien interest rate must be fixed for the life of the loan (Balloon or ARM loans are ineligible);
4. No cash equity is withdrawn by the homeowner as a result of the refinancing actions;
5. AHFC/HPD and/or the City will, at its discretion, agree to accept net proceeds in the event of a short sale to avoid foreclosure; and
6. Only if the borrower meets the minimum requirements to refinance, the City can re-subordinate to the first lien holder.

The refinancing request will be processed according to the following procedure:

1. Submit a written request to Compliance Division to verify the minimum refinancing requirements with one month in advance from the expected closing;
2. HPD/AHFC will review the final HUD-1 Settlement Statement two weeks prior to closing the refinance.
3. If applicable, HPD/AHFC or the City of Austin will issue written approval a week prior to the closing date.

HPD/AHFC will be provided with a copy of the final, executed Settlement Statement CLOSING DISCLOSURE, Promissory Note, and recorded Deed of Trust three days in advance of the closing date.

4. If written permission is not granted by AHFC/HPD or the City of Austin allowing the refinance of the Senior Lien, the DPA OR HRLP Loan will become immediately due and payable prior to closing the refinance.
5. If written permission is granted by AHFC/HPD and/or the City of Austin and it is determined that the refinancing action does not meet the conditions as stated above, the DPA OR HRLP Loan will become immediately due and payable prior to closing the refinance.
6. Home Equity loans will trigger the repayment requirements of the DPA OR HRLP Programs loans. The DPA or HRLP Notes must be paid off no later than when the Home Equity Loan is closed and funded.
7. The DPA or HRLP Notes must be paid-in-full in order for AHFC/HPD and/or the City of Austin to execute a release of lien.

Basic Terminology

Affordable Housing: The City of Austin follows the provisions established on 24 CFR 92.254, and consider that in order for homeownership housing to qualify as *affordable housing* it must:

- ☐ Be single-family, modest housing,
- ☐ Be acquired by a low-income family as its principal residence, and
- ☐ Meet affordability requirements for a specific period of time as determined by the amount of assistance provided.

The City: means the City of Austin's Housing and Planning Department (HPD) or its sub recipient, the Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC).

Fair Return on Investment: means the total homeowner investment which includes the total cash contribution plus the approved capital improvements credits.

Capital Improvement: means additions to the property that increases its value or upgrades the facilities. These include upgrading the heating and air conditioning system, upgrading kitchen or bathroom facilities, adding universal access improvements, or any other permanent improvement that would add to the value and useful life of the property. The costs for routine maintenance are excluded.

Capital Improvement Credit: means credits for verified expenditures for Capital Improvements.

Direct HOME subsidy: is the amount of HOME assistance, including any program income that enabled the homebuyer to buy the unit. The direct subsidy includes down payment, closing costs, interest subsidies, or other HOME assistance provided directly to the homebuyer. In addition, direct subsidy includes any assistance that reduced the purchase price from fair market value to an affordable price.

Direct HOME subsidy for Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program: is the amount of HOME assistance, including any program income that enabled the homebuyer to repair or reconstruct the unit. The direct subsidy includes hard costs and soft cost according to 24 CFR 92.206

Net proceeds: are defined as the sales price minus superior loan repayment (other than HOME funds) and any closing costs.

Recapture: The recapture provisions are established at §92.253(a)(5)(ii), permit the original homebuyer to sell the property to any willing buyer during the period of affordability while the PJ is able to recapture all or a portion of the HOME-assistance provided to the original homebuyer.

Source: [2012-03 Guidance on Resale and Recapture Provision Requirements under the HOME Program](#)

INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE BUYERS

The [Five] [Ten] [Fifteen]-Year Affordability Period & The Restrictive Covenant Running With the Land

I understand that because a certain amount of federal funds were used by [Developer Name] to develop the property at _____, the federal government requires that certain restrictions apply to the occupancy or re-sale of this home for a period of [five (5) ten (10) fifteen (15)] years. I understand that during that [five] [ten] [fifteen]-year period, those requirements will be enforced through a legally-enforceable document called a “Restrictive Covenant Running with the Land.”

Please
Initial
Below

If I choose to purchase this home, at the time the home is sold to me, I will sign a Restrictive Covenant Running with the Land, and it will be filed in the Official Public Records of the Travis County Clerk’s Office. The requirements of the Restrictive Covenant Running with the Land are:

- _____ • That I **must occupy the home as my principal residence** during the [5] [10] [15]-year period in which the Restrictive Covenant is in effect;
- _____ • If I wish to sell the Property before the end of that period, I am required to sell it to a subsequent buyer whose total household income is **at or below 80% of the Austin area Median Family Income** in effect for the year I wish to sell the home.
- _____ • The sales price must be set such that I receive a **fair return** which shall be defined as:
 - 1. The amount of any cash contributions including the down payment and principal payments made;
 - 2. The cost of any capital improvements, documented with receipts, and including but not limited to:
 - a. Any additions to the home such as a bedroom, bathroom, or garage;
 - b. Replacement of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems;
 - c. Accessibility improvements such as bathroom modifications for disabled or elderly, installation of wheelchair ramps and grab bars, any and all of which must have been paid for directly by the Owner and which were not installed through a federal, state, or locally-funded grant program; and
 - d. Outdoor improvements such as a new driveway, walkway, retaining wall, or fence.
- _____ • The sales price must be set so that the monthly principal, interest, taxes and insurance to be paid by the subsequent buyer **will not exceed 30% of that subsequent buyer’s monthly household income.**
- _____ • **I will notify the Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) in writing** so that AHFC can assist with the compliance of this federal regulation.

I/We acknowledge having received this information about the federal requirements involved if I/we decide to purchase this home.

_____ Signature	_____ Signature
_____ Date	_____ Date

Attachment II B: ESG Program Standards



**City of Austin
Austin Public Health Department**

**Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) /
Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act Program (ESG-CV)**

**Program Standards,
Policies, and Procedures**

Section 1: ESG PROGRAM STANDARDS

I. Definitions

The Terms used herein will have the following meanings:

APH – Austin Public Health Department, City of Austin

At Risk of Homelessness-

- 1) An individual or family who:
 - a) Has an annual income below 30% of median family income for the area; AND
 - b) Does not have sufficient resources or support networks immediately available to prevent them from moving to an emergency shelter or another place defined in Category 1 of the “homeless” definition; AND one of the following conditions:
 - i) Has moved because of economic reasons 2 or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for assistance; OR
 - ii) Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship; OR
 - iii) Has been notified that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days after the date of application for assistance; OR
 - iv) Lives in a hotel or motel and the cost is not paid for by charitable organizations or by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals; OR
 - v) Lives in an SRO or efficiency apartment unit in which there reside more than 2 persons or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than one and a half persons per room; OR
 - vi) Is exiting a publicly funded institution or system of care; OR
 - vii) Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness, as identified in the recipient’s approved Consolidated Plan;
- 2) A child or youth who does not qualify as homeless under the homeless definition, but qualifies as homeless under another Federal statute; An unaccompanied youth who does not qualify as homeless under the homeless definition, but qualifies as homeless under section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, and the parent(s) or guardian(s) or that child or youth if living with him or her.

CDO- Community Development Officer;

Chronically homeless means:

- 1) A “homeless individual or family with a disability,” as defined in section 401(9) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360(9)), who:
 - a) Lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter; and
 - b) Has been homeless and living as described in paragraph (1)(i) of this definition continuously for at least 12 months or on at least 4 separate occasions in the last 3 years, as long as the combined occasions equal at least 12 months and each break in homelessness separating the occasions included at least 7 consecutive nights of not living as described in paragraph (1)(i). Stays in institutional care facilities for fewer than 90 days will not constitute as a break in homelessness, but rather such stays are included in the 12-month total, as long as the individual was living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or an emergency shelter immediately before entering the institutional care facility;
 - c) An individual who has been residing in an institutional care facility, including a jail, substance abuse or mental health treatment facility, hospital, or other similar facility, for fewer than 90 days and met all of the criteria in paragraph (1) of this definition, before entering that facility; or

- d) A family with an adult head of household (or if there is no adult in the family, a minor head of household) who meets all of the criteria in paragraph (1) or (2) of this definition, including a family whose composition has fluctuated while the head of household has been homeless. (Updated 12-4-15)

City- City of Austin;

ESG- Emergency Solutions Grant program;

ESG-CV- Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act program;

- 1) Homeless Person(s): An individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:
 - a) An individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground;
 - b) An individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals); or
 - c) An individual who is exiting an institution where he or she resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution;
- 2) An individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that:
 - a) The primary nighttime residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance;
 - b) No subsequent residence has been identified; and
 - c) The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks needed to obtain other permanent housing;
- 3) Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition, but who:
 - a) Are defined as homeless under section 387 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5732a), section 637 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832), section 41403 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043e-2), section 330(h) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b(h)), section 3 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012), section 17(b) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(b)), or section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a);
 - b) Have not had a lease, ownership interest, or occupancy agreement in permanent housing at any time during the 60 days immediately preceding the date of application for homeless assistance;
 - c) Have experienced persistent instability as measured by two moves or more during the 60-day period immediately preceding the date of applying for homeless assistance; and
 - d) Can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time because of chronic disabilities, chronic physical health or mental health conditions, substance addiction, histories of domestic violence or childhood abuse (including neglect), the presence of a child or youth with a disability, or two or more barriers to employment, which include the lack of a high school degree or General Education Development (GED), illiteracy, low English proficiency, a history of incarceration or detention for criminal activity, and a history of unstable employment; or
- 4) Any individual or family who:
 - a) Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member, including a child, that has either taken place within the individual's or family's primary

- nighttime residence or has made the individual or family afraid to return to their primary nighttime residence
- b) Has no other residence; and lacks the resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, to obtain other permanent housing
- 5) Definitions from 24 CFR 576.2. For purposes of ESG-CV funds, the definitions at 24 CFR 576.2 apply except that:
- a) At Risk of Homelessness. The CARES Act raised the income limit in paragraph (1)(i) of the “at risk of homelessness” definition at 24 CFR 576.2 from 30 percent of area median income (AMI) to the Very Low-Income limit of the area, as determined by the Secretary.
- 6) Definitions not in 24 CFR 576.2
- a) Coronavirus- SARS-CoV-2 or another coronavirus with pandemic potential, as defined by section 23005 of the CARES Act.
 - b) ESG-CV- Emergency Solutions Grants Program as funded by the CARES Act and governed by requirements HUD establishes in accordance with that Act. ESG-CV funds do not include annual ESG funds, although annual ESG funds may be used in accordance with the requirements established for purposes of ESG-CV funds as further described in the sections below.
 - c) Prevent, Prepare for, and Respond to Coronavirus- To assist recipients in ensuring that an activity being paid for with ESG-CV funds is eligible, or determining whether annual ESG funding may follow the waivers and alternative requirements established in this Notice, recipients and subrecipients should consider the following:
 - i) Prevent...coronavirus means an activity designed to prevent the initial or further spread of the virus to people experiencing homelessness, people at risk of homelessness, recipient or subrecipient staff, or other shelter or housing residents. This includes providing Personal Protective Equipment to staff and program participants, paying for non-congregate shelter options such as hotels and motels, paying for handwashing stations and portable toilets for use by people living in unsheltered situations, and providing rapid re-housing or homelessness prevention assistance to individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness (as applicable) to reduce their risk of contracting or further spreading the virus.
 - ii) Prepare for...coronavirus means an activity carried out by a recipient or subrecipient prior to or during a coronavirus outbreak in their jurisdiction to plan to keep people healthy and reduce the risk of exposure to coronavirus and avoid or slow the spread of disease. This includes updating written standards to prioritize people at severe risk of contracting coronavirus for shelter and housing consistent with fair housing and nondiscrimination requirements, adapting coordinated entry policies and procedures to account for social distancing measures or increased demand, developing a strategy and recruiting landlords to provide housing to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, training homeless providers on infectious disease prevention and mitigation, and implementing a non-congregate shelter strategy to reduce the spread of coronavirus.
 - iii) Respond to coronavirus means an activity carried out once coronavirus has spread to people experiencing homelessness, provider staff, or once individuals and families lose or are at risk of losing their housing as a result of the economic downturn caused by coronavirus. This includes transporting individuals and families experiencing homelessness to medical appointments, paying for shelter to isolate individuals who have contracted coronavirus from other program participants and people experiencing homelessness, providing rental assistance to those who are at risk of losing their housing, have already become homeless, or continue to experience homelessness due to the economic downturn caused by coronavirus, and providing hazard pay to recipient or subrecipient staff who put their own health at risk to continue to provide necessary services to individuals and families experiencing and risk of homelessness.

HPD- Housing and Planning Department, City of Austin

HUD- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Subrecipient- An organization receiving ESG funds from the City to undertake eligible ESG activities

II. General

The Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG), formerly known as the Emergency Shelter Grant Program, and the Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act Program (ESG-CV) are funded through the City's Housing and Planning Department (HPD), which is made available by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The City utilizes ESG and ESG-CV funds to provide an array of services to assist homeless persons and persons at-risk of homelessness.

The ESG program is designed to be the first step in a continuum of assistance to help clients quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness. ESG-CV funds have been made available from HUD to assist homeless persons who meet the CDC's definition of being at a high risk of health complications due to COVID-19.

The City's Austin Public Health Department is responsible for the implementation of ESG in compliance with the governing regulations of the ESG program. The City's Housing and Planning Department (HPD) is responsible for the planning and administration of the ESG program. The Community Development Officer (CDO) of HPD has the authority to establish processes, procedures, and criteria for the implementation and operation of the program, and to waive compliance with any provision of these guidelines if s/he determines that to do so does not violate any Federal, state, or local law or regulation, and is in the best interest of the City. Nothing contained, stated, or implied in this document shall be construed to limit the authority of the City to administer and carry out the program by whatever means and in whatever manner it deems appropriate.

III. Eligible Organizations

The subrecipient must be a unit of local government or a private, non-profit organization, as defined by the Internal Revenue Service tax code, evidenced by having a Federal identification number, filed articles of incorporation, and written organizational by-laws.

IV. Ineligible Organizations

An organization will not be eligible to apply for ESG funds if it meets the following conditions:

- 1) Outstanding audit or monitoring findings, unless appropriately addressed by a corrective action plan;
- 2) Current appearance on the List of Suspended and Debarred Contractors
- 3) Terms and conditions of existing contract are not in full compliance;
- 4) History of non-performance with contracts.

V. Financial Terms

- 1) Grantee shall expend the City budget in a reasonable manner in relation to Agreement time elapsed and/or Agreement program service delivery schedule.
- 2) All grant funds allocated must be completely spent down within the 24-month allocation period.

- 3) If the Grantee has a remaining balance at the end of the first twelve-month period, the Grantee must submit a request to spend down remaining balance to the Assistant Director of the Austin Public Health, Health Equity Community Engagement Division (HECE).
- 4) If cumulative expenditures are not within acceptable amounts, spending rates, or in accordance with grant compliance the City may require the Grantee to:
 - a) submit an expenditure plan, and/or
 - b) amend the Agreement budget amount to reflect projected expenditures, as determined by the City.

In order to be eligible for services under the ESG program, clients must meet HUD's definition of homelessness or at-risk of homelessness, and must meet annual income guidelines for homelessness prevention activities.

5) ESG-CV Financial Terms:

- a) Progressive Expenditure Deadline and Recapture Provisions- To ensure ESG-CV funds are spent quickly on eligible activities to address the public health and economic crises caused by coronavirus, the following alternative requirements are established:
 - i) HUD may recapture up to 20 percent of a recipient's total award, including first and second allocation amounts, if the recipient has not expended at least 20 percent of that award by September 30, 2021.
 - ii) HUD may recapture up to 80 percent of a recipient's total award, including first and second allocation amounts, if the recipient has not expended at least 80 percent of that award by March 31, 2022.
 - iii) Prior to recapturing funds as described above, HUD will follow the enforcement process described in 24 CFR 576.501 and provide the recipient with an opportunity to provide a spending plan demonstrating to HUD's satisfaction that all of the recipient's ESG-CV funds from the first and second allocations will be expended by September 30, 2022.

VI. Matching Funds

Subrecipient organizations that receive ESG funds must provide a dollar for dollar (or 100%) match to their ESG award amount.

- 1) Sources of matching funds include:
 - a) Cash Contributions- Cash expended for allowable costs identified in 2 CFR Part 200. Program Income for the ESG program can also be used as match funds. Match funds are identified in 2CFR Part 200.306
 - b) Non-Cash Contributions- The value of any real property, equipment, goods, or services.
- 2) Funds used to match a previous ESG grant may not be used to match a subsequent award.
- 3) ESG-CV Match - As provided by the CARES Act, ESG-CV funds are *not subject to the match requirements* that otherwise apply to the Emergency Solutions Grants program.

VII. Eligible Activities

Each sub-recipient will be allocated funding by activity type, and may have multiple activities in one program. The following is a list of eligible activities for the ESG Program:

- 1) ESG Eligible Activities:
 - a) Street Outreach- Support services limited to providing emergency care on the streets, including engagement, case management, emergency health and mental health services, and transportation;
 - b) Emergency Shelter- Includes essential services, case management, child care, education, employment, outpatient health services legal services, life skills training, mental health & substance abuse services, transportation, shelter operations, and funding for hotel/motel stays under certain conditions;
 - c) Homeless Prevention- Includes housing relocation & stabilization services and short/medium-term rental assistance for individuals/families who are at risk of homelessness;
 - d) Rapid Re-Housing- Includes housing relocation & stabilization services and short/medium-term rental assistance to help individuals/families move quickly into permanent housing and achieve stability;
 - e) Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) costs; and

- f) ESG Administration costs.
- 2) ESG-CV Program-specific Waivers, Alternative Requirements, and Statutory Flexibilities for Existing Eligible Activities:
 - a) Short-Term and Medium-Term Rental Assistance
 - i) 24 CFR 576.106(a)(2), where medium-rent is defined as “for more than 3 months but not more than 24 months of rent” is waived and an alternative requirement is established where medium-term is established as for more than 3 months but not more than 12 months. This alternative requirement will allow more households to receive rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention assistance, which is necessary to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.
 - ii) The requirement at 24 CFR 576.106(d) that prohibits rental assistance where the rent for the unit exceeds the Fair Market Rent established by HUD, as provided under 24 CFR Part 888, is waived so long as the rent complies with HUD’s standards of rent reasonableness, as established under 24 CFR 982.507. Waiving this requirement will allow recipients to help program participants move quickly into housing or retain their existing housing, which is especially critical at reducing the spread of coronavirus and responding to coronavirus. This waiver provides additional flexibility beyond the waiver made available to the ESG Program on March 31, 2020 and extended to ESG-CV funds on May 22, 2020 by permitting ESG recipients to provide rental assistance for program participants, whose current rent exceeds FMR and by allowing recipients to use this waiver as needed throughout the period they are providing rental assistance to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.
 - b) Hotel/Motel Costs- As permitted under 24 CFR 576.102(a)(3), eligible costs include a hotel or motel voucher for homeless individuals and families where no appropriate emergency shelter is available. Additionally, the limitations on eligible activities provided in section 415(a) of the McKinney-Vento Act and 24 CFR part 576, subpart B are waived and alternative requirements are established to the extent necessary to authorize ESG-CV funds to be used for the following hotel or motel costs for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, receiving rapid re-housing assistance under the Continuum of Care (CoC) or ESG programs, receiving homelessness prevention under the ESG program, or residing in permanent supportive housing: The recipient or subrecipient may pay for a hotel or motel room directly or through a hotel or motel voucher. Additionally, funds can be used to pay for cleaning of hotel and motel rooms used by program participants as well as to repair damages caused by program participants above normal wear and tear of the room. These flexibilities are provided to allow recipients to secure hotel and motel rooms more quickly to be available when needed to prevent the spread of coronavirus (for example, when a program participant needs to isolate to keep from spreading the virus to other shelter occupants or household members).
 - c) Helping current ESG program participants maintain housing- In order to ensure current program participants receiving homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing assistance do not lose their housing during the coronavirus public health crisis and the subsequent economic downturn caused by the crisis, the requirements in 24 CFR 576.105(c) and 576.106(a) are waived and alternative requirements are established as follows:
 - i) The requirement at 24 CFR 576.105(c) limiting the total period of time for which any program participant may receive the services under paragraph (b) to 24 months during any 3-year period is waived solely for those program participants who reach their 24-month maximum assistance during the period beginning on the presumed start of this crisis, January 21, 2020 – the date the first confirmed case was reported in the United States, and ending 6 months from the date of publication of this Notice, provided that the services are only extended for these program participants for up to a maximum of an additional 6 months; and
 - ii) The requirement at 24 CFR 576.106(a) limiting the total number of months a program participant can receive rental assistance to 24 months in a 3-year period is waived solely for those program participants who reach their 24-month maximum during the period beginning on the presumed

start of this crisis, January 21, 2020 – the date the first confirmed case was reported in the United States, and ending 6 months from the date of publication of this Notice, provided that the rental assistance is only extended for these program participants for up to a maximum of an additional 6 months.

- d) **HMIS Lead Activities-** The limitations on eligible activities provided in section 415(a) of the McKinney-Vento Act and 24 CFR Part 576, subpart B are waived to the extent necessary to authorize ESG funds to be used under 24 CFR 576.107 to pay for HMIS costs beyond where they are related to collecting data on ESG program participants and ESG program activities to the extent they are necessary to help the geographic area prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus. Additionally, 24 CFR 576.107 that limits recipients to paying for the costs at 24 CFR 576.107(b) is waived to allow recipients that are not the HMIS Lead, as designated by the Continuum of Care, to pay for costs at 24 CFR 576.107(b), either directly or by sub-granting to the HMIS Lead if the HMIS Lead is an eligible subrecipient to the extent that the HMIS costs are necessary to help the geographic area prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus. This waiver and these alternative requirements provide additional flexibility beyond the waiver made available to the ESG Program on March 31, 2020 and extended to ESG-CV funds on May 22, 2020 by permitting ESG recipients who are not also HMIS Leads to pay for the costs eligible at 24 CFR 576.107(b) and lifting the 6-month limit on the waiver so that this flexibility applies throughout the period the recipient or subrecipient uses funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus. Additionally, this waiver provides additional flexibility for ESG funds to be used on HMIS costs even when they are not related to ESG program participants or ESG activities when necessary to collect and report better data about the impact of coronavirus across the community. These flexibilities will allow communities to collect data that is necessary to coordinate and report on activities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus among individuals and families experiencing homelessness, at risk of homelessness, and receiving homeless assistance
 - e) **Legal Services-** Legal services established in 24 CFR 576.102(a)(1)(vi) and 24 CFR 576.105(b)(4) are limited to those services necessary to help program participants obtain housing or keep a program participant from losing housing where they currently reside.
- 3) **Additional ESG-CV Eligible Activities:**
- a) **Training-** As permitted by the CARES Act, ESG-CV funds may be used for training on infectious disease prevention and mitigation for staff working directly to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus among persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and the use of funding shall not be considered administrative costs for purposes of the 10 percent cap. In addition, the limitations on eligible activities provided in section 415(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and 24 CFR part 576, subpart B are waived and alternative requirements are established to the extent necessary to authorize ESG-CV funds to be used for training on infectious disease prevention and mitigation for homeless assistance providers, including those who do not receive funding through the CARES Act, to help them best prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus among persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. These training costs are eligible as a standalone activity and are not to be charged to an activity under 24 CFR 576.101 to 24 CFR 576.109.
 - b) **Hazard Pay-** As permitted by the CARES Act, funds may be used to pay hazard pay for recipient- or subrecipient-staff working directly to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus among persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Examples of recipient or subrecipient staff working directly in support of coronavirus response include emergency shelter intake staff, street outreach teams, emergency shelter maintenance staff, emergency shelter security staff, staff providing essential services (e.g., outpatient health or mental health, housing navigators), and staff in proximity to persons with coronavirus or working in locations with a high likelihood of contracting coronavirus.
 - c) **Landlord Incentives-** The limitations on eligible activities under section 415(a) of the McKinney-Vento Act and 24 CFR 576.105 are waived and alternative requirements are established to the extent necessary to authorize ESG-CV funds to be used under 24 CFR 576.105 to add the eligible cost of

paying for landlord incentives as reasonable and necessary to obtain housing for individuals and families experiencing homelessness and at risk of homelessness. However, a recipient may not use ESG-CV funds to pay the landlord incentives set forth below in an amount that exceeds three times the rent charged for the unit. Waiving the limitation on eligible costs under housing relocation and stabilization services to pay for the costs of landlord incentives will increase the number of housing units available to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, especially in tight rental markets and obtaining and maintaining housing is critical to preventing the spread of coronavirus and helping mitigate the economic impact of the crisis. The limitation to three times the rent charged for each unit ensures enough ESG-CV funds remain available to provide other eligible activities necessary to prevent the spread of coronavirus. Eligible landlord incentive costs include:

- i) Signing bonuses equal to up to 2 months of rent;
- ii) Security deposits equal to up to 3 months of rent;
- d) Paying the cost to repair damages incurred by the program participant not covered by the security deposit or that are incurred while the program participant is still residing in the unit; and,
- e) Paying the costs of extra cleaning or maintenance of a program participant's unit or appliances.

VIII. Client Eligibility

In order to be eligible for services under the ESG program, clients must meet HUD's definition of homelessness or at-risk of homelessness, and must meet annual income guidelines for homelessness prevention activities.

1) ESG Eligibility Documentation

- a) Homelessness Prevention: This program will not provide Homelessness Prevention Services.
- b) Rapid Re-Housing:
- c) Please refer to the Homeless Eligibility Form for more information on documenting homelessness for ESG clients.
- d) Sub-recipient agencies must collect the required supporting documentation requested in the Homeless Eligibility Form in order for clients to be considered eligible for services
- e) All eligibility and supporting documentation for Rapid Re-Housing clients must be maintained in each client's file
- f) Clients will be referred to ESG programs through the Coordinated Assessment or Coordinated Entry process.
- g) CDU-Specific Client Eligibility Requirements
 - i) Referral through Coordinated Assessment
 - ii) HIV Positive, homeless individuals
- h) DACC-Specific Eligibility Requirements
 - i) Referral through Coordinated Assessment
- i) Front Steps Specific Eligibility Requirements
 - i) Referral through Coordinated Assessment
 - ii) Targeted to those who sheltered at ARCH and coming from the streets outside the ARCH

2) Confidentiality of Client Information

- a) Subrecipients must have written client confidentiality procedures in their program policies and procedures that conform to items b – d below:
- b) All records containing personally identifying information of any individual or family who applies for and/or receives ESG assistance must be kept secure and confidential.
- c) The address or location of any domestic violence project assisted under ESG shall not be made public.
- d) The address or location of any housing for a program participant shall not be made public.

IX. Emergency Shelter

Requirement: Policies and procedures for admission, diversion, referral and discharge by emergency shelters assisted under ESG, including standards regarding length of stay, if any, and safeguards to meet the safety and shelter needs of special populations.

The ESG-funded emergency shelter, Austin Resource Center for the Homeless, or ARCH is currently limited to those clients in case-management, with 20 beds held open for Emergency Night Shelter for men. The ARCH provides Day Resource Center for enrolled clients. Case Management and other co-located services are provided on-site by the following local service providers.

Sleeping Unit Reservation System: Of the 150 sleeping units, approximately 130 are reserved for those clients in full-time case-management with the remaining 20 held open for Emergency Night Shelter.

There is no length of stay for the shelter, and in case management, the general length is 6 months with evaluation on a case by case basis. Clients are informed that if they have a reservation, but they do not arrive to check in, within a set number of days, their reserved place will be made available to other clients on the waiting list. There are also available beds in coordination with the following participating agencies: CommUnityCare Clinic, Veterans Administration (VA), and Austin/Travis County Integral Care, the local mental health authority. All these case-managed clients work with their case manager to determine a housing plan and are connected to other resources to find permanent housing. The client is informed of the grievance process, and their end date for services determined on a case by case basis.

Clients are encouraged to work with Case Managers to progress towards personal goals related to obtaining/maintaining sustainable income, exploring viable housing options, and addressing self-care issues that impact progress towards self-sufficiency. Case Management services are based on a Harm Reduction philosophy and the stages in the Trans-theoretical Model of Change. Various techniques, including motivational interviewing, are effectively utilized in working with clients whose needs vary across a spectrum of vulnerability. Men's and women's support groups as well as anger management classes are offered through case management. ARCH clients with domestic violence concerns are offered coordination and referral to appropriate programs on a case by case basis.

Front Steps, the agency administering the ARCH, has been designated as one of the "front doors"/community portals in the Coordinated Assessment process. Using the Vulnerability Index & Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) as part of the Coordinated Assessment process, coupled with more robust data entry into HMIS, clients who score within range and are identified as likely benefitting from receiving Shelter Case Management services will be offered these services as openings in the program become available.

The following is provided in the case that a client is terminated:

Written notice to the participant containing a clear statement of the reason for termination.

A review of the decision, in which the participant is given the opportunity to present written or oral objections before a person other than the person (or subordinate of the person) who made or approved the termination decisions, AND

Prompt written notification to the program participant.

Because the ARCH is a City building, the agencies cannot deny citizens access to the shelter property on a permanent basis.

X. Rapid Rehousing and Other ESG-funded Services

There are no essential services funded by ESG.

There are no homeless prevention services funded by ESG.

Requirement: Policies and procedures for determining and prioritizing which eligible families and individuals will receive rapid re-housing assistance.

All programs funded through the Emergency Solutions Grant will use Coordinated Entry for referrals for the program in order to serve the most vulnerable Rapid Rehousing clients in the community. Agency eligibility could include, for example, HIV status for the Communicable Disease Unit. All programs help clients go through the Coordinated Entry process to access appropriate referrals and community programs.

Each client will be individually assessed for the amount of Rapid Rehousing using progressive engagement and housing first principles. If a client or family needs continued services and financial assistance past the initial date of entry into the program, agencies will work to address those needs until the client exits the program. Other funding sources will be used to address the other service needs of the client such as case management, housing location or financial and rental assistance as needed.

Requirement: Standards for determining the type, amount and duration of housing stabilization and/or relocation services to provide a program participant, including the limits on rapid re-housing assistance.

- 1) All Rapid Rehousing programs will include the following components:
 - a) Housing Stability Plan with Exit Strategy
 - b) Progressive Engagement
 - c) Coordination with other HUD funded programs and regular review the program's progress towards the HUD benchmarks:
 - i) Reducing the length of time program participants spend homeless;
 - ii) Exiting households to permanent housing, and
 - iii) Limiting returns to homelessness within a year of program exit.
- 2) Also, all RR programs will provide the following services with ESG funds or with another funding source. If the agency is not able to provide all of these services, they will work with a collaborative partner to provide them.
 - a) Housing Location
 - b) Financial Assistance – Rental, Deposits, Application Fees, etc.
 - c) Housing Stability Case Management
- 3) Rapid Rehousing Financial Assistance Guidelines:
 - a) ESG:
 - i) Security Deposits are available for no more than 2 months' rent.
 - ii) Last Month's Rent is only paid if the last month's rent is necessary for the participant to obtain housing, if it is paid at the same time as the security deposit and first month's rent and does not exceed one month's rent.
 - iii) Utility Deposit, Payments and Arrears is paid if it is within 24 month limit, including up to 6 months of utility arrears, and if the utility account is in the name of the participant or if there is proof of responsibility, and is for eligible gas, electric, water and sewage.
 - iv) Caps on assistance by program:
 - (1) Downtown Austin Community Court: Financial Assistance can include up to \$2300 a year in direct financial assistance for all eligible financial assistance and rental assistance funding, with a 24-month cap of \$4600.
 - (2) Contracted agencies: None beyond the regulations above.
 - (3) Communicable Disease Unit: Does not administer financial assistance and rental assistance.

- v) Changes in household composition. The limits on the assistance under this section apply to the total assistance an individual receives, either as an individual or as part of a family.
 - vi) Limit of months of assistance. No client may receive more than 24 months of assistance in a three-year period.
 - vii) Recertification. Clients will be recertified at least every twelve months to determine ongoing eligibility as per 576.401. Recertification will assess clients to see if they do not have an annual income that exceeds 30% AMI *and* lack sufficient resources and support networks to retain housing without ESG assistance.
- b) ESG-CV:
- i) Same as ESG in a) above, but with the following exceptions:
 - (1) Limit of months of assistance. No client may receive more than 12-months of financial assistance in a 24-month period.
 - (2) Recertification- Clients will be recertified at least every twelve months to determine ongoing eligibility as per 576.401. Recertification will assess clients to see if they do not have an annual income that exceeds the Very Low-Income limit of the area, as determined by the Secretary *AND* lack sufficient resources and support networks to retain housing without ESG assistance.
 - (3) Financial assistance limitations:
 - (a) Landlord incentives are limited to three times the rent charged for each unit to ensure enough ESG-CV funds remain available to provide other eligible activities necessary to prevent the spread of coronavirus. Eligible landlord incentive costs include:
 - (i) Signing bonuses equal to up to 2 months of rent;
 - (ii) Security deposits equal to up to 3 months of rent;
 - (b) Paying the cost to repair damages incurred by the program participant not covered by the security deposit or that are incurred while the program participant is still residing in the unit; and,
 - (c) Paying the costs of extra cleaning or maintenance of a program participant's unit or appliances.

Requirement: Standards for determining what percentage or amount of rent and utilities cost each program participant must pay while receiving rapid re-housing assistance.

Most clients receiving financial assistance through the Emergency Solutions Grant will have high housing barriers and will be highly vulnerable. Participants are not required to contribute a percentage of their income to rent or utilities, so there are no standards developed.

Requirement: Standards for determining how long a particular program participant will be provided with rental assistance.

- 1) Short-term and medium-term rental assistance - rental assistance can be provided to a program participant with up to 24 months of rental assistance during any 3-year period. This assistance may be short-term rental assistance, medium-term rental assistance, payment of rental arrears, or any combination of this assistance.
 - a) Short and Medium-Term Rental Assistance - Short-term rental assistance is assistance for up to 3 months of rent; Medium-term rental assistance is assistance for more than 3 months but not more than 24 months of rent; Rental assistance for this program will be tenant-based.
 - i) Rental Assistance use with other subsidies. Except for a one-time payment of rental arrears on the tenant's portion of the rental payment, rental assistance cannot be provided to a program participant who is receiving tenant-based rental assistance, or living in a housing unit receiving project-based rental assistance or operating assistance, through other public sources. Rental

assistance may not be provided to a program participant who has been provided with replacement housing payments under the URA during the period of time covered by the URA payments.

- ii) Fair Market Rent - Rental Assistance must only be provided if rent does not exceed Fair Market Rent and complies with HUD's standard of rent reasonableness, as established under 24 CFR 982.507.
 - iii) For purposes of calculating rent, the rent shall equal the sum of the total monthly rent for the unit, any fees required for occupancy under the lease (other than late fees and pet fees) and, if the tenant pays separately for utilities, the monthly allowance for utilities (excluding telephone) established by the public housing authority for the area in which the housing is located.
 - iv) Rental assistance agreement. The recipient or subrecipient may make rental assistance payments only to an owner with whom the recipient or subrecipient has entered into a rental assistance agreement. The rental assistance agreement must set forth the terms under which rental assistance will be provided, including the requirements that apply under this section. The rental assistance agreement must provide that, during the term of the agreement, the owner must give the recipient or subrecipient a copy of any notice to the program participant to vacate the housing unit, or any complaint used under state or local law to commence an eviction action against the program participant.
 - v) Late payments. The recipient or subrecipient must make timely payments to each owner in accordance with the rental assistance agreement. The rental assistance agreement must contain the same payment due date, grace period, and late payment penalty requirements as the program participant's lease. The recipient or subrecipient is solely responsible for paying late payment penalties that it incurs with non-ESG funds.
 - vi) Lease. Each program participant receiving rental assistance must have a legally binding, written lease for the rental unit, unless the assistance is solely for rental arrears. The lease must be between the owner and the program participant. Where the assistance is solely for rental arrears, an oral agreement may be accepted in place of a written lease, if the agreement gives the program participant an enforceable leasehold interest under state law and the agreement and rent owed are sufficiently documented by the owner's financial records, rent ledgers, or canceled checks. For program participants living in housing with project-based rental assistance under paragraph (i) of this section, the lease must have an initial term of one year.
- 2) Tenant-based rental assistance. Rental assistance for this program will be tenant-based, and all programs will provide the minimum amount of assistance needed for client to stabilize using the principles of Progressive Engagement.
- a) A program participant who receives tenant-based rental assistance may select a housing unit in which to live and may move to another unit or building and continue to receive rental assistance, as long as the program participant continues to meet the program requirements.
 - b) The recipient may require that all program participants live within a particular area for the period in which the rental assistance is provided.
 - c) The rental assistance agreement with the owner must terminate and no further rental assistance payments under that agreement may be made if:
 - i) The program participant moves out of the housing unit for which the program participant has a lease;
 - ii) The lease terminates and is not renewed; or
 - iii) The program participant becomes ineligible to receive ESG rental assistance.
- 3) Rental Arrears are paid if the client is assisted with one-time payment of up to 6 months of rental arrears, including any late fees on those arrears. A lease must be present in the file with the participant's name on the lease or a document of the rent payments/financial records, as well as Rent Reasonableness, Lead Based Paint and Habitability Standards forms. Where the assistance is solely for rental arrears, an oral agreement may be accepted in place of a written lease, if the agreement gives the program participant an

enforceable leasehold interest under state law and the agreement and rent owed are sufficiently documented by the owner's financial records, rent ledgers, or canceled checks. For program participants living in housing with project-based rental assistance under paragraph (i) of this section, the lease must have an initial term of one year.

- 4) Caps on assistance by program:
 - a) Downtown Austin Community Court: Financial Assistance can include up to a year in direct financial assistance for all eligible financial assistance and rental assistance funding.
 - b) Contracted agencies: None beyond the regulations above.
 - c) Communicable Disease Unit: Does not administer financial assistance and rental assistance.
- 5) All clients will be recertified at least every twelve months to determine ongoing eligibility as per 576.401. Recertification will assess clients to see if they do not have an annual income that exceeds 30% AMI *and* lack sufficient resources and support networks to retain housing without ESG assistance.

XI. Coordination Between Service Providers

The following list gives the types of service coordination activities to be undertaken for the ESG Program: Case management, permanent supportive housing, rapid re-housing and housing location and financial assistance.

Services will be coordinated between the downtown Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (ARCH), Downtown Austin Community Court, and in consultation with the local Continuum of Care as well as other service providers such as Austin Travis County Integral Care, Caritas of Austin, Salvation Army, Veterans Administration, Continuum of Care Permanent Supportive Housing programs and other appropriate federal, state and local service providers.

Agency	Case Management/Supportive Services	Permanent Supportive Housing	Rapid Rehousing/Housing Location	Direct Financial Assistance
Front Steps PSH and Rapid Rehousing	X	X	X	X
Caritas of Austin with CoC and City funding	X	X	X	X
Downtown Community Court	X		X	X
Public Health	X		X	
Communicable Disease Unit				
Other Continuum of Care Programs	X	X		
City-funded Social Service Agencies	X	X	X	X

ESG Rapid Rehousing Program Design: All ESG Programs will have all components or coordinate with other funding sources or entities so that all needs of the Rapid Rehousing clients will be adequately addressed.

RR Agency	Case Management/Supportive Services	Housing Location	Direct Financial Assistance	Rental Assistance
Front Steps	Front Steps	Front Steps	Front Steps HHSP and SSVF; BSS Plus	Front Steps HHSP and SSVF, BSS Plus
Communicable Disease Unit (CDU)	CDU	CDU/DACC ESG	DACC ESG	DACC ESG
Downtown Austin Community Court	DACC	DACC	DACC ESG	DACC ESG

XII. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

Organizations receiving funding from the City of Austin for homelessness prevention and homeless intervention services are required to utilize the Local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to track and report client information for individuals who are at risk of homelessness or who are homeless. A high level of data quality is required. All ESG-funded programs will also be working with the community's Coordinated Entry process.

ESG Specific Requirements Include:

- 1) Entering client data into HMIS as per the guidelines outlined in an agreement with ECHO HMIS and under the requirements of the Austin/Travis County HMIS Data Quality Assurance Plan.
- 2) ESG-funded programs will participate in the centralized or coordinated assessment system in HMIS, as required under § 576.400(d).
- 3) The ESG Rapid Rehousing program will accept referrals through Coordinated Entry.
- 4) Utilizing the ESG eligibility form to determine homeless eligibility.
- 5) Demographic data collected in the ESG Demographic Form
- 6) HUD 40118 form or other required form required for Emergency Solutions Grants
- 7) Submission of HUD reporting information for the Consolidated Plan, Action Plan and Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).
- 8) Participation in community homeless coordination and planning.
- 9) Other HMIS Requirements:

Organizations receiving funding from the City of Austin for homelessness prevention and homeless intervention services are required to utilize HMIS to track and report client information for individuals who are at risk of homelessness or who are homeless. A high level of data quality is required. The Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO) currently serves as the local HMIS administrator.

SECTION 2: ESG POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Management and operation of approved projects is the responsibility of the Subrecipient. The Subrecipient is the entity that will receive the City contract. Therefore, the subrecipient has the overall responsibility of the project's successful completion.

I. Grant Subaward Process

At its discretion, the City may use a competitive Request for Application and comprehensive review process to award ESG funding to providers of services to homeless persons and persons at-risk of homelessness. Activities will be consistent with the City's Consolidated Plan, in compliance with local, state, and Federal requirements and the governing regulations for use of ESG funds, and in conformance with program standards. The City will enter into written agreements with selected Subrecipients and will work with Subrecipients to ensure that project costs are reasonable, appropriate, and necessary to accomplish the goals and objectives of the City's overall ESG Program. The subrecipient must be able to clearly demonstrate the benefits to be derived by the services provided to homeless individuals, and to low-to-moderate income families. Performance measures will be established in the contract. All ESG award decisions of the City are final.

II. Contracting

Subrecipients must enter into a written contract with the City for performance of the project activities. Once a contract is signed, the subrecipient will be held to all agreements therein.

- 1) Members of the Subrecipient organization, volunteers, residents, or subcontractors hired by the organization may carry out activities. Subrecipients must enter into a written contract with the subcontractors carrying out all or any part of an ESG project. All subcontractors must comply with the City and Federal procurement and contracting requirements.
- 2) All contracts are severable and may be canceled by the City for convenience. Project funding is subject to the availability of ESG funds and, if applicable, City Council approval.
- 3) Amendments - Any amendments to a contract must be mutually agreed upon by the Subrecipient and the City, in writing. Amendment requests initiated by the Subrecipient must clearly state the effective date of the amendment, in writing. Austin Public Health (APH) staff will determine if an amendment request is allowable. APH reserves the right to initiate amendments to the contract.
- 4) Liability - Subrecipients shall forward Certificates of Insurance to the Austin Public Health Department within 30 calendar days after notification of the award, unless otherwise specified. The City's Risk Management Department will review and approve the liability insurance requirements for each contract. Subrecipients must maintain current insurance coverage throughout the entire contract period, as well as for any subsequent amendments or contract extensions.

III. Internal Controls

Subrecipients must have policies and procedures in place to protect assets, create accurate and reliable financial reporting, maintain compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, and ensure that agency operations are effective and efficient. These Internal Controls should include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Information and documents required through the standard City Boilerplate
 - a) Business continuity/risk management plans
 - b) Conflict of interest policy
 - c) Whistleblower policy
 - d) Financial management policy
- 2) Staff and Program evaluations
- 3) Maintaining annual income and expense budget reports to compare expected spending and revenue with actual spending and revenue
- 4) Information Technology controls
- 5) Written job descriptions to clearly define roles within the organization

IV. Recordkeeping Requirements

- 1) Project Records- The Subrecipient must manage their contract and maintain records in accordance with City and Federal policies and must be in accordance with sound business and financial management practices, which will be determined by the City. Record retention for all ESG records, including client information, is five years after the expenditure of contract funds.
- 2) Client Records- The Subrecipient must maintain the following types of client records to show evidence of services provided under the ESG program:
 - a) Client Eligibility records, including documentation of Homelessness, or At-Risk of Homelessness plus income eligibility and support documentation.
 - b) For Rapid Rehousing client files, a copy of the ESG Rapid Rehousing Client File Review checklist and Rapid Rehousing Financial Assistance Checklist should be placed at the beginning of the file and peer reviewed before any financial assistance is provided
 - c) Documentation of Continuum of Care centralized or coordinated assessment (for client intake)
 - d) Financial Assistance backup documentation required for each type of assistance outlined in the previous sections.
 - i) Rental assistance agreements and payments
 - ii) security deposits
 - iii) all backup documentation required for each type of assistance
- 3) Housing Financial Assistance - for eligible clients, financial assistance may be allocated for eligible expenses with the following requirements and limitations:
 - a) Rental application fees.
 - b) Security deposits. Equal to no more than 2 months' rent.
 - c) Last month's rent. If necessary to obtain housing for a program participant, the last month's rent may be paid from ESG funds to the owner of that housing at the time the owner is paid the security deposit and the first month's rent. This assistance must not exceed one month's rent and must be included in calculating the program participant's total rental assistance, which cannot exceed 24 months during any 3-year period.
 - d) Utility deposits.
 - e) Utility payments. Up to 24 months of utility payments per program participant, per service, including up to 6 months of utility payments in arrears, per service. A partial payment of a utility bill counts as one month. This assistance may only be provided if the program participant or a member of the same household has an account in his or her name with a utility company or proof of responsibility to make utility payments. Eligible utility services are gas, electric, water, and sewage. No program participant shall receive more than 24 months of utility assistance within any 3-year period.
 - f) Financial assistance cannot be provided to a program participant who is receiving the same type of assistance through other public sources.
 - g) Short-Term and Medium-Term Rental Assistance. Up to 24 months of rental assistance during any 3-year period. This assistance may be short-term rental assistance, medium-term rental assistance, payment of rental arrears, or any combination of this assistance.
 - i) Short-term rental assistance is assistance for up to 3 months of rent.
 - ii) Medium-term rental assistance is assistance for more than 3 months but not more than 24 months of rent.
 - iii) Payment of rental arrears consists of a one-time payment for up to 6 months of rent in arrears, including any late fees on those arrears.
 - iv) Rental assistance may be tenant-based or project-based
- 4) Rent Restrictions.

- a) Rental assistance cannot be provided unless the rent does not exceed the Fair Market Rent (FMR) established by HUD, as provided under 24 CFR part 888, and complies with HUD's standard of rent reasonableness, as established under 24 CFR 982.507.
 - b) For purposes of calculating rent under this section, the rent shall equal the sum of the total monthly rent for the unit, any fees required for occupancy under the lease (other than late fees and pet fees) and, if the tenant pays separately for utilities, the monthly allowance for utilities (excluding telephone) established by the public housing authority for the area in which the housing is located.
 - c) Rental assistance agreement must state that rental assistance payments will be made only to a landlord or owner with whom the subrecipient has entered into a rental assistance agreement. The rental assistance agreement must set forth the terms under which rental assistance will be provided, including the requirements that apply under this section. The rental assistance agreement must provide that, during the term of the agreement, the landlord/owner must give Front Steps a copy of any notice to the program participant to vacate the housing unit, or any complaint used under state or local law to commence an eviction action against the program participant.
 - d) Late payments. Subrecipients must make timely payments to each landlord/owner in accordance with the rental assistance agreement. The rental assistance agreement must contain the same payment due date, grace period, and late payment penalty requirements as the program participant's lease. The recipient or sub-recipient is solely responsible for paying late payment penalties that it incurs with non-ESG funds.
 - e) Lease. Each program participant receiving rental assistance must have a legally binding, written lease for the rental unit, unless the assistance is solely for rental arrears. The lease must be between the landlord/owner and the program participant. Where the assistance is solely for rental arrears, an oral agreement may be accepted in place of a written lease, if the agreement gives the program participant an enforceable leasehold interest under state law and the agreement and rent owed are sufficiently documented by the owner's financial records, rent ledgers, or canceled checks. For program participants living in housing with project-based rental assistance, the lease must have an initial term of one year.
- 5) All City of Austin ESG-funded Rapid Re-Housing programs will include the following components:
- a) Housing Stability Plan with Exit Strategy
 - b) Progressive Engagement
 - c) Coordination with other HUD-funded programs and regular review the program's progress towards the HUD benchmarks:
 - d) Reducing the length of time program participants spend homeless;
 - e) Exiting households to permanent housing, and
 - f) Limiting returns to homelessness within a year of program exit.
- 6) All of the below items must be completed and checked "Yes" before financial assistance can be provided:
- a) Forms Required:
 - i) Required for housing location, housing stability case management, financial assistance, rental assistance
 - (1) Habitability Standards
 - (2) Lead Hazard Standards
 - (3) Rent-Reasonableness
 - (4) Peer Reviewed ESG Rapid Rehousing Client File Review
 - ii) Required for rental assistance – arrears and ongoing rent (in addition to the above forms)
 - (1) Lease in client's name or a document of the rent payments/financial records
 - (2) Fair market rent calculation
 - (3) Landlord Rental Agreement

V. Reporting Requirements

- 1) Monthly Claims Requests - must be submitted within fifteen (15) calendar days after the reporting month's end with backup uploaded to the City's online contract management system, PartnerGrants, which identify the allowable expenditures incurred under this contract. The backup should be uploaded with the Claims request and should include:
 - a) Contracted agencies: General Ledger
 - b) City Agreements: Grant Cost Report grant costs with appropriate backup from the Digital Express Reports (DXR)
 - c) Rapid Rehousing Financial Assistance programs: backup documentation for all direct financial assistance including a Rapid Rehousing Financial Assistance Checklist to verify that all required forms and steps were completed before releasing financial assistance to clients.
 - d) Current Month Matching Funds:
 - i) ESG- Statement must be submitted monthly in the City's online contract management system, PartnerGrants, along with the monthly Claims report. The contractor is required to expend and document Matching Funds against payments to be received under this Agreement. The Claim cannot be approved unless the Matching Funds statement is included.
 - ii) ESG-CV has no matching fund requirement
 - e) All monthly claims reports must include a copy of the HMIS Universal Data Elements quality report for the month requested with ratings of either "Excellent" or "Acceptable" – if data quality reports fall below minimum standards, payments may be withheld until reports improve to "Excellent" or "Acceptable" ratings
- 2) Quarterly Reporting
 - a) Quarterly performance reports shall be submitted, in a format prescribed by the City, by the 15th calendar day of the month after the quarter end, which identify the activities accomplished under this contract.
 - b) Other performance metrics may be required to align with HUD system-wide performance measures.
 - c) ESG Demographic Report must be submitted within fifteen (15) calendar days after the end of the preceding quarter. The data from this report should be able to be extracted from HMIS. Sections 4-8 and 10 must be completed by all ESG programs that serve clients.
 - d) Quarterly Claims Review – Quarterly, one Claim will be reviewed for complete documentation including but not limited to:
 - i) Timesheets
 - ii) Check stubs, copies of checks
 - iii) Client File Checklists
 - iv) Peer Reviewed Rapid Rehousing Client File Review Form showing that the required documentation for clients served were collected in the correct order
 - v) Client file documentation of eligibility and appropriate housing documentation
 - vi) If issues are found with the quarterly reviews, or if HUD deems it necessary, the Claims Review process will be conducted monthly rather than quarterly
- 3) Annual Close-Out Reporting
 - a) The Federal ESG program year ends on September 30th. At completion of all activities, a Contract Closeout Report must be submitted within 30 days of the end of the contract. The subrecipient is required to supply such information, in such form and format as the City and HUD may require. All records and reports must be made available to any authorized City representative upon request and without prior notice.
 - b) For contracts that contain renewal/extension options, an Annual Progress Report shall be completed using the City's online contract management system by the Grantee and submitted to the City within 60 calendar days following the end of each Program Period identified in Section 4.1.2 of the Contract boilerplate.

- c) For those Agreements that are ending, a Closeout Report shall be completed by the Grantee through the City's online contract management system and submitted to the City within 30 calendar days following the expiration or termination of this Agreement. Any encumbrances of funds incurred prior to the date of termination of this Agreement shall be subject to verification by the City. Upon termination of this Agreement, any unused funds, unobligated funds, rebates, credits, or interest earned on funds received under this Agreement shall be returned to the City.
- d) The Closeout Report must contain all information that the City requires during the normal Contract Close-Out Report or, if the Contract is ongoing but the Program Period had ended, all of the information the City requires for their Contract Progress Report.
- e) All ESG Subrecipients must use HMIS to report on clients served by the ESG program.
- f) All ESG programs are required to submit end of year reporting according to HUD requirements. This may include:
 - i) Providing reports in PartnerGrants earlier than the normal fourth quarter deadline
 - ii) Running and submitting an HMIS report to the HUD database, SAGE.

VI. Program Limitations

- 1) ESG Administration costs are limited to 7.5% of the total ESG allocation.
- 2) ESG Street Outreach and Emergency Shelter costs are limited to the greater of: 60% of the City's 2011-12 ESG grant -or- the amount committed to emergency shelter for the City's 2010-11 ESG allocation.
- 3) Program Income
 - a) ESG - Income derived from any ESG activity must be recorded and reported to APH as program income. Such income may not be retained or disbursed by the subrecipient without written approval from APH and is subject to the same controls and conditions as the Subrecipient's grant allocation.
 - b) ESG-CV Program Income- Because ESG-CV program income cannot be used as match without the ESG matching requirement, HUD is waiving the ESG provisions for program income under 24 CFR 576.2 and 576.407(c)(1) and establishing alternative requirements, as follows:
 - i) Program income is defined as provided by 2 CFR 200.80, except that:
 - (1) Program income includes any amount of a security or utility deposit returned to the recipient or subrecipient, as provided by 24 CFR 576.2; and
 - (2) Costs that are incidental to generating program income and not charged to the ESG-CV grant or subgrant may be deducted from gross income to determine program income, as allowed under 2 CFR 200.307(b).
 - c) As allowed under 2 CFR 200.307(e), program income may be treated as an addition to recipient's grant (or the subrecipient's subgrant, if the income is generated by the subrecipient's activities), provided that the program income is used in accordance with the purposes and conditions of that grant or subgrant. Program income otherwise must be deducted from allowable costs as provided by 2 CFR 200.307(e)(1).
 - 4) ESG funds may not be used for lobbying or for any activities designed to influence legislation at any government level.
 - 5) A church or religious affiliated organization must show secularism when submitting an ESG application.
 - 6) Any ESG funds that are unallocated after the funding cycle will be reprogrammed by APH. Contracts that show three (3) consecutive months of inactivity (as documented by monthly reports or non-submission of required reports) will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and may be irrevocably canceled.

VII. Performance Standards

ESG-funded programs will report into HMIS and have a high level of data quality specified in Section XII. Homeless Management Information Systems. HMIS data quality is reviewed quarterly by City staff. All data quality is reviewed by the ECHO HMIS Administrator.

Performance measures will be reviewed quarterly by the City of Austin, Austin Public Health Department. Measures will also be reviewed annually by the local Continuum of Care decision-making body, ECHO, during the annual Consolidated Evaluation and Performance Report process.

VIII. Termination Procedures

The following is provided in the case that a client is terminated:

- 1) Written notice to the participant containing a clear statement of the reason for termination.
- 2) A review of the decision, in which the participant is given the opportunity to present written or oral objections before a person other than the person (or subordinate of the person) who made or approved the termination decisions, AND
- 3) Prompt written notification to the program participant.

Accessibility

In order to demonstrate compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 requirements, the following statements must be added to all public notices, advertisements, program applications, program guidelines, program information brochures or packages, and any other material containing general information that is made available to participants, beneficiaries, applicants, or employees:

_____ (insert the name of your organization) as a subrecipient of the City of Austin is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Please call _____ (insert your organization's phone number) (voice) or Relay Texas at 1-800-735-2989 (TDD) for assistance.

_____ (insert the name of your organization) como un subreceptor de la Ciudad de Austin se compromete a cumplir con el Acta de Americanos con Discapacidades. Con solo solicitarlo se proveerán modificaciones e igual acceso a comunicaciones. Para información, favor de llamar a _____ (insert your organization's phone number) (voz) o Relay Texas 1-800-735-2989 (TDD) para asistencia.

Attachment II C: Monitoring Plan

MONITORING PLAN

The goal of the City of Austin's monitoring process is to assess subrecipient/contractor performance in the areas of program, financial and administrative compliance with applicable federal, state and municipal regulations and current program guidelines. Under this plan, select programs and project activities are monitored through one or more of the following components. The City of Austin's monitoring plan consists of active contract monitoring and long-term monitoring for closed projects.

Active Contract Monitoring

Prior to executing any agreement or obligation, monitoring takes the form of a compliance review. Verification is obtained to ensure that the proposed activity to be funded has received the proper authorization through venues such as the annual Action Plan, environmental review and fund release, and identification in the Integrated Disbursement & Information System (IDIS). A contract begins with written program guidelines, documentation and tracking mechanisms that will be used to demonstrate compliance with applicable federal, state and local requirements.

For activities implemented through external programs or third-party contracts with non-profit, for-profit and community-based organizations, a solicitation may be required in the form of a comprehensive Notice of Fund Availability (NOFA) or Request for Proposals (RFP) which details performance, financial and regulatory responsibilities.

1. Compliance Review prior to obligation of funds. Prior to entering into any agreement or to the obligation of entitlement funds, the City conducts a compliance review to verify that the program activity has been duly authorized. The compliance review consists of verifying and documenting:

- The program activity has been approved as part of the Action Plan for the specified funding source and year;
- The availability of applicable funds for the specific activity;
- The activity has received environmental review and determination and fund release, as applicable;
- The service provider is not listed in the System for Award Management (SAM);
- The activity has been set up and identified in IDIS;
- The scope of work defined in the contract has adequately addressed performance, financial and tracking responsibilities necessary to report and document accomplishments; and
- The service provider has the required insurance in place.

After this information has been verified and documented, staff may proceed in obtaining authorization and utilization of entitlement funds for the activity.

2. Desk Review. Before processing an invoice for payment, staff reviews the invoice to verify that the item or service is an eligible expense and it is part of the contract budget. Staff also reviews performance reports and supporting documentation submitted with the invoice to ensure that the contractor is performing in accordance with the terms of the contract and the scope of work. This level of monitoring is performed on an ongoing basis throughout the duration of the contract.

- 3. Records Audit.** A records audit includes a review of all file documents as needed. A file checklist is used to determine if the required documents are present. Through the review of performance reports and other documentation submitted by the contractor, staff is able to identify areas of concern and facilitate corrections and/or improvements. Should problems be identified, a contractor or recipient of funds may then be provided technical assistance as necessary to reach a resolution.
- 4. Selected On-Site Monitoring.** A risk assessment is conducted internally and is used to determine the priority of site reviews to be conducted. Based on the results of the risk assessment, a selected number of projects may be subject to an on-site review. The performance of contractors is reviewed for compliance with the program guidelines and the terms and conditions of the contract. In particular, staff verifies program administration and regulatory compliance in the following areas:
- Performance (*e.g.* meeting a national objective, conducting eligible activities, achieving contract objectives, performing scope of work activities, maintaining contract schedule, abiding by the contract budget);
 - Record keeping;
 - Reporting practices; and
 - Compliance with applicable anti-discrimination regulations.

There will be follow-up, as necessary, to verify regulatory and program administration compliance has been achieved.

- 5. Failure to resolve identified problems.** If no resolution of identified problems occurs or the contractor fails to perform in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract, the City of Austin has the authority to suspend further payments to the contractor or recipient of funds until such time that issues have been satisfactorily resolved.
- 6. Contract Closeout.** Once a project activity has been completed and all eligible project funds expended, the staff will require the contractor to submit a project closeout package. The contract closeout will provide documentation to confirm whether the contractor was successful in completing all performance and financial objectives of the contract. Staff will review and ask the contractor, if necessary, to reconcile any conflicting information previously submitted. The project closeout will constitute the final report for the project. Successful completion of a project means that all project activities, requirements, and responsibilities of the contractor have been adequately addressed and completed.

Long-term Monitoring

Acceptance of funds from the Housing and Planning Department (HPD) Office of the City of Austin, or its sub-recipient Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) obligates beneficiaries/borrowers to adhere to conditions for the term of the affordability period. HPD is responsible for the compliance oversight and enforcement of long- or extended-term projects and financial obligations created through City-sponsored or -funded housing and community development projects. In this capacity, HPD performs the following long-term monitoring duties:

- Performs compliance monitoring in accordance with regulatory requirements specified in the agreement;
- Reviews and verifies required information and documentation submitted by borrowers for compliance with applicable legal obligations and/or regulatory requirements;
- Enforces and takes corrective action with nonperforming loans and/or projects deemed to be out of compliance in accordance with legal and/or regulatory terms and conditions; and
- If the beneficiary has been uncooperative, non-responsive, or unwilling to cure the existing default by all reasonable means, staff will discuss with management and will refer the loan to the City Attorney for review, with a recommendation for judgment and/or foreclosure.

The first step in the monitoring process includes the development of a risk assessment that is essential in guiding the monitoring efforts of the department. Based on the results of the risk assessment, additional projects may be monitored. Monitoring may be in the form of a desk review, on-site visit, or Uniform Physical Conditions Standards (UPCS) inspection. Technical assistance is available to assist beneficiaries/ borrowers in understanding any aspect of the contractual obligation so that performance goals are met with minimal deficiencies.

Attachment II D: Relocation Policy

City of Austin/Austin Housing Finance Corporation

ANTI-DISPLACEMENT and RELOCATION ASSISTANCE POLICY

INTRODUCTION

The City of Austin Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Policy (Displacement Policy) as set forth herein, pertains where applicable to projects assisted with funding provided by The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) which may include among others, funding with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investments Partnership Program (HOME), HUD Lead Hazards Control Grant (LHCG) program and Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) funds and which, because of the HUD assistance, cause residential displacement of low- and moderate-income persons from occupied dwellings rendered unoccupiable as a result of HUD-assisted conversions to a use other than affordable housing, or by demolition. Funding for these programs is made available to the City by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under Title I of the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Act of 1974, as amended.

The HUD funded programs are administered by the City's Housing and Planning Department (HPD). Activities funded by HUD funded programs may be carried out by City employees, competitive procurement or agreements with subrecipients. All funded activities meet one or more of the national and local objectives for the program, which are: elimination of slum and blight; benefit to persons and households of low and moderate income, i.e., earning eighty percent (80%) or less of the median family income (MFI) for the Austin area; and meeting needs of particular urgency.

RESIDENTIAL ANTI-DISPLACEMENT and RELOCATION ASSISTANCE POLICY

The City of Austin shall implement this policy to minimize the displacement of persons as a result of HUD funded activities and assist persons actually displaced, either temporarily or permanently, as a result of such activities. It is the policy of the City to plan and to provide funding only for those HUD funding activities that will not cause permanent residential displacement or reduce the amount of affordable housing stock by conversion or demolition. However, activities such as rehabilitation of occupied housing may require temporary displacement to ensure the safety of residents during the rehabilitation of the units. The City will enforce this policy upon developers and other entities responsible for carrying out planned HUD activities.

The Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-242) and the Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-17) made changes that affect the manner in which CDBG and other federal grantees treat displacement issues. The policy does not take into account all changes brought about by the 1987 legislative action. If necessary, this displacement policy will be amended at such time as HUD promulgates HUD rules that clarify the effect of the HCD Act of 1987 on CDBG- and other HUD grant funded related displacement issues.

DISPLACEMENT POLICY

The policy addresses temporary displacement of households participating in either owner-occupied or tenant-occupied housing rehabilitation programs assisted with HUD funds. Although the policy encompasses action relative to permanent residential displacement and relocation assistance, under no circumstances will HUD funds be used for any project or activity that will cause permanent displacement or relocation of families or the conversion of affordable housing to other uses. The term “family” as used herein refers to one or more persons occupying the same housing unit whether or not the individuals are related by birth or marriage. All classes of temporary displacees will receive equal and comparable treatment and assistance regardless of their status as owner or tenant.

1. TEMPORARY DISPLACEMENT/RELOCATION

Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Programs

Homeowners participating in a housing rehabilitation program that for their safety requires they vacate the residence during the course of construction, will be entitled to a dislocation stipend. The family will receive a fixed daily allowance for each day in which they cannot occupy their residence. The purpose of the stipend is to offset the cost of moving or storing their personal possessions and for related expenses, such as increased utility costs. The daily allowance will be set by the City of Austin’s Housing and Planning Department (HPD/AHFC). Payment will be made either directly by HPD/AHFC or through other subrecipient organizations or developers under contract to HPD or AHFC to operate a housing rehabilitation program. The stipend rate will be reviewed periodically and may be adjusted if in the judgment of the HPD/AHFC it does not represent adequate compensation.

The following services will be provided by the appropriate program operator (i.e., the HPD/AHFC or other subrecipient): Clients will be counseled and advised of their right to receive an allowance, notified of the approximate time of start of construction and given adequate time to make alternative temporary living arrangements. If necessary, clients will be assisted in locating decent and safe accommodations.

The offices of the HPD/AHFC are fully accessible to people with disabilities and people who are mobility impaired. Bilingual staff is available to assist Spanish-speaking clients and portable Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf (TDD) with read/print capability are available for the hearing-impaired. If subrecipients cannot carry out their counseling responsibilities toward clients with disabilities or non-English speaking clients by any other means, clients may be referred to the HPD/AHFC for assistance.

Tenant-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation

HUD-funded rehabilitation of renter-occupied properties can be carried out by the Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) on HUD-subsidized public housing or by subrecipients under contract to the HPD/AHFC for properties owned and operated by a non-profit or for-profit affordable housing developer. The Housing Authority, as a publicly-funded HUD recipient, will carry out its relocation responsibilities in accordance with the HUD rules pertaining to Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) or the Policy, whichever is more appropriate.

Public Housing: As an operator of multiple properties subsidized by HUD, the PHA may elect to relocate families by a method commonly called “checkerboarding,” i.e., the movement of families to previously rehabilitated units in the same complex. When this method is infeasible, HACA may elect to relocate a family to a unit in another PHA complex.

Unsubsidized Housing: For properties operated by a non-profit or for-profit affordable housing developer, the organization’s contract with the HPD/AHFC will specify if and to what extent the clients are entitled to assistance under this policy. If all elements of the policy are to be carried out, each will be specified in the contract documents, counseling and other relocation services as above.

2. PERMANENT RESIDENTIAL DISPLACEMENT/RELOCATION

Replacement Housing: If through HUD funding, dwellings affordable to low- and moderate-income persons are demolished or converted to uses other than housing, the City (or developer) will provide comparable replacement housing units for the same number of occupants who could have been housed in the occupied or vacant units. The replacement housing will be located in the same general area as the houses deleted from the affordable housing stock and will be affordable to low- and moderate-income residents. The replacement housing will be designed to remain affordable to such families for a period of ten (10) years from the time of initial occupancy.

Relocation Benefits: All occupants of the dwellings demolished or converted will receive relocation benefits to include: reimbursement for actual and reasonable moving expenses, security deposits, credit checks and other moving-related expenses, including any interim living costs. Low- and moderate-income persons will be provided either:

- a.) Compensation sufficient to ensure that for a period of five (5) years the family shall not bear, after relocation, a ratio of shelter costs to income that exceeds thirty percent (30%); or -
- b.) If elected by the family, a lump-sum payment equal to the value of the benefits available under (a.), to permit the household to secure participation in a cooperative or mutual housing association.

Replacement housing for persons displaced shall be decent, safe and sanitary, of adequate size to accommodate the family, functionally equivalent and in an area not subject to unreasonably adverse environmental conditions. Displacees have the right to elect, as an alternative to the benefits under this policy, benefits under the Uniform Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, if it is in their best interest to do so. If a claim for assistance under this policy is denied by the City/AHFC, the claimant has the right to appeal the decision to HUD.

May 16, 2019

Attachment II E: HOME Sale Price Information

Attachment II E: HOME Sale Price Information

HOME Maximum Sale Price

For services funded by the HOME Investment Partnerships grant, such as the Down Payment Assistance Program, federal regulation restricts the maximum allowable purchase price of homeownership units to 95% of the area median purchase price for single family housing. This sets an upper limit for the allowable price of housing assisted with HOME funds. The Housing and Urban Development Department outlines the process for cities and other jurisdictions to determine this maximum purchase price based on the area's median area purchase price for single family housing in 24 CFR 92.254(a)(2)(iii). The following paragraphs outline how the attached dataset fulfills the requirements listed in 24 CFR 92.254.

24 CFR 92.254(a)(2)(iii)

(A) The 95 percent of the median area purchase price must be established in accordance with a market analysis that ensured that a sufficient number of recent housing sales are included in the survey.

The below dataset is a market analysis of all home sales (both existing and new construction) of single-family homes (one to four-unit buildings; noted in column B titled "Property Sub Type" below) from the Austin Board of Realtors. With 923 total sales, this dataset includes a sufficient number of recent housing sales per this regulation.

(B) Sales must cover the requisite number of months based on volume: For 500 or more sales per month, a one-month reporting period; for 250 through 499 sales per month, a 2-month reporting period; for less than 250 sales per month, at least a 3-month reporting period. The data must be listed in ascending order of sales price.

The City provided data for one month of sales from March 2023 as this is the most recent available dataset. Total sales equaled 923, listed in ascending order of sales price in column C titled "Close Price" below and is sufficient as it exceeds the requirement of 500 or more sales per month per the regulations.

(C) The address of the listed properties must include the location within the participating jurisdiction. Lot, square, and subdivision data may be substituted for the street address.

The data below includes the address and zip code (column A) evidencing that each sale is located within the City's jurisdiction.

(D) The housing sales data must reflect all, or nearly all, of the one-family house sales in the entire participating jurisdiction.

Per the market study, the dataset includes all one-family house sales within the City's jurisdiction.

(E) To determine the median, take the middle sale on the list if an odd number of sales, and if an even number, take the higher of the middle numbers and consider it the median. After identifying the median sales price, the amount should be multiplied by 0.95 to determine the 95 percent of the median area purchase price.

The City determined the median area purchase price to be \$553,000 and calculated the 95% of the median area purchase price for the City of Austin jurisdiction to be \$525,350.

Data was provided by the Austin Board of Realtors ACTRIS database and reflects sales price of all singlefamily homes sold in the City of Austin from March 1st, 2023 - March 31st, 2023. The dataset included 923 home sales. Due to a non-disclosure agreement between the City of Austin and the Austin Board of Realtors, the City is unable to disclose the list of houses sold included in the calculation.

Based on this sale price data, the median sale price is \$553,000, putting 95% of the median sale price at \$525,350.

For Fiscal Year 20223-24, the City of Austin will use the sale price of \$525,350 as the limit for the allowable price of housing assisted with HOME funds.

Attachment II F: Funding Summary & Production Table

CITY OF AUSTIN
ACTION PLAN 2023-2024 - ALL FUNDING SOURCES
July 14, 2023

Program / Activity	Funding Source	FY 2023-24 Plan	
		New Funding	Services
SPECIAL NEEDS ASSISTANCE			
<u>Child Care Services</u>	CDBG	485,236	180
<u>Senior Services</u>	CDBG	129,052	175
<u>Mental Health Services</u>	CDBG	196,179	159
<i>Subtotal, Public Services</i>		810,467	514
<u>Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS</u>			
AIDS Services of Austin/VH	HOPWA	1,018,881	280
Project Transitions	HOPWA	1,358,508	88
Integral Care ATCIC	HOPWA	153,203	70
ASHwell	HOPWA	59,578	18
HOPWA - Adm	HOPWA	80,108	-
<i>Subtotal, Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS</i>		2,670,278	456
Subtotal, Special Needs Assistance		3,480,745	970
HOMELESS ASSISTANCE			
<u>Tenant-Based Rental Assistance</u>	HOME	1,048,572	120
<u>HEARTH Emergency Solutions Grant</u>			
Shelter Operation and Maintenance	HESG	313,922	375
HMIS	HESG	22,000	-
Rapid Rehousing Programs	HESG	291,274	108
ESG - Adm	HESG	31,000	-
<i>Subtotal, HEARTH Emergency Solutions Grant</i>		658,196	483
Subtotal, Homeless Assistance		1,706,768	603
RENTER ASSISTANCE			
<u>Architectural Barrier Program - Rental</u>	CDBG	185,000	7
<u>Tenants' Rights Assistance</u>	CDBG	293,886	300
Subtotal, Renters Assistance		478,886	307

CITY OF AUSTIN
ACTION PLAN 2023-2024 - ALL FUNDING SOURCES
July 14, 2023

Program / Activity	Funding Source	FY 2023-24 Plan	
		New Funding	Services
HOMEBUYER ASSISTANCE			
<u>Down Payment Assistance</u>	HOME	1,472,830	25
	HOME - PI	400,000	-
<i>Subtotal, Down Payment Assistance</i>		1,872,830	25
Subtotal, Homebuyer Assistance		1,872,830	25
HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE			
<u>Architectural Barrier Removal - Owner</u>	CDBG	1,510,000	80
<u>Minor Home Repair</u>	CDBG	900,000	230
<u>Homeowner Rehabilitation Loan Program</u>	HOME - PI	200,000	-
	CDBG	637,001	9
	CDBG - RL	40,000	-
<i>Subtotal, Homeowner Rehab</i>		877,001	9
Subtotal, Homeowner Assistance		3,287,001	319
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE			
<u>Rental Housing Development Assistance</u>	CDBG	1,553,529	2
	HOME	-	-
	HOME - PI	218,182	4
	HOME (CHDO)	270,140	4
<i>Subtotal, Rental Housing Dev Assist</i>		2,041,851	10
<u>Ownership Housing Development Assistance</u>	CDBG	-	-
	CDBG - RL	55,000	-
	HOME	-	-
	HOME (CHDO)	270,140	2
<i>Subtotal, Ownership Housing Dev Assistance</i>		325,140	2
Subtotal, Housing Developer Assistance		2,366,991	12
OTHER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE			
<u>CHDO Operating Expenses Grants</u>	HOME (CO)	180,000	2
<u>Family Business Loan Program</u>	Section 108	3,000,000	33
	Section 108 - PI	126,116	-
Subtotal, Other Community Development Assistance		3,306,116	35

CITY OF AUSTIN
ACTION PLAN 2023-2024 - ALL FUNDING SOURCES
July 14, 2023

Program / Activity	Funding Source	FY 2023-24 Plan	
		New Funding	Services
DEBT SERVICE			
<u>Neighborhood Commercial Mgmt., Debt Service</u>	Section 108 - PI	300,000	-
Subtotal, Debt Service		300,000	-
ADMINISTRATION			
	CDBG	1,472,471	-
	CDBG - PI	10,000	-
	HOME	360,186	-
	HOME - PI	81,818	-
Subtotal, Administration		1,924,475	-
TOTAL Programs, Debt Service, and Admin Cost		18,723,812	2,271

FUND SUMMARIES:

✓	HOPWA	2,670,278	456
✓	HESG	658,196	483
✓	CDBG	7,362,354	1,142
✓	CDBG - PI	10,000	-
✓	CDBG - RL	95,000	-
✓	HOME	2,881,588	145
✓	HOME (CHDO)	540,280	6
✓	HOME (CO)	180,000	2
✓	HOME - PI	900,000	4
✓	Section 108 - PI	426,116	-
✓	Section 108	3,000,000	33
0	Totals	18,723,812	2,271