

CITY OF DUNKIRK

2017 Annual Action Plan

Year 5 of 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan

Prepared by Christina Lincoln, Community Development Planner

6/13/2017

Rebecca Yanus, Director, Planning & Development
Mayor Wilfred Rosas

This is a final draft of the 2017 Annual Action Plan. Amounts reflected in this document are contingent upon notification of funding from the Department of Housing & Urban Development. Any of the listed programs and/or activities could see an increase or decrease in funding amounts or not be funded altogether, contingent upon the City's allocation for the 2017 CDBG Program Year. They are listed by priority of City and Consolidated Plan objectives.



City of Dunkirk

2017 CDBG Annual Action Plan

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	2
Lead & Responsible Agencies	9
Consultation	11
Participation	24
Expected Resources	26
Annual Goals and Objectives	32
Projects	35
Geographic Distribution	48
Affordable Housing	49
Public Housing	51
Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities	52
Barriers to Affordable Housing	56
Other Actions	57
Program Specific Requirements	61
Required Attachments:	
Certifications and SF 424	



Council Resolution for Submission of FY2017 Annual Action Plan to HUD

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Dunkirk is designated as an entitlement community based on the amount of its population suffering with poverty. The CDBG entitlement program allocates annual grants to assist in the development of viable communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and to expand economic opportunities, principally for low and moderate income persons. To receive an annual allocation of federal funds from HUD, the City is required to create a five-year Consolidated Plan (strategic plan) with an annual Action Plan. Subsequently, the five-year Plan will be updated with the Annual Action Plan for years two through five to describe how our community will achieve the goals in our Consolidated Plan. This is the final year for our current Consolidated Plan; a new one will be drafted and put into place for 2018.

The Consolidated Plan includes the amount of assistance the City expects to receive and the range of activities that may be undertaken including the estimated benefit to persons of low and moderate-income. The Annual Action Plan is required to include project or program information, such as location, cost, proposed outcome, and any additional descriptive information. Federal regulations require that funds be aimed where the greatest benefit may be attained for low and moderate income residents. To acquire ample public engagement in all aspects and phases of Plan development, the City of Dunkirk attempted to interact with various stakeholders in meetings, workshops, public hearings, and with written correspondence. We attended other public meetings to announce the meeting dates, published them in the newspaper, created a bi-lingual poster to be distributed all over the city, and enlisted other organizations to get involved by hosting meetings and acting as translators. Prior to the adoption of the Consolidated Plan/Action Plan, a 14 calendar-day public comment period will be observed and an additional public meeting held. This has been changed from previous years by a waiver from HUD of 24 CFR 91.105(b)(4) and 24 CFR 91.115 (b)(4) due to late adoption of the federal budget. Under 24 CFR 91.15(a)(2), HUD cannot accept an Annual Action Plan submission after August 16th, so the 30 day comment period has been reduced to 14 days from the normal 30 day period. All comments will be recorded and considered in the formulation of the Plan. In addition, all comments and responses will be included in the appendix of the Plan and will be forwarded to HUD upon adoption.



2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items, 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.

Although the City has many needs, this plan identifies and prioritizes the following critical components to the City's development strategy:

Infrastructure Improvements - In order to maintain a safe and healthy environment, the City needs to improve and to modernize its infrastructure, including roadways, streetscapes, fire hydrants, and water lines. Approximately 500 low-moderate income residents will benefit from these activities.

The Consolidated Plan also focuses on blight remediation and housing rehabilitation, strengthening neighborhoods and property values with the hope of attracting new residents and businesses. Due to timeliness issues and money unspent from previous program years, there will be no additional funds allocated to housing in this Plan.

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 Dunkirk achieved the following accomplishments in 2016:

Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation and Improvement Corp: Through two different programs, one being newly funded in 2016, CHRIC has one first time home buyer that will receive housing counseling, closing cost and down payment assistance in 2017 Program Year, with more entering the process. Four homeowners have been assisted through the Emergency Home Repair program, four throughout 2016 with more under contract. Emergency Home Repairs totaled just over \$20,000. Of those four homeowners assisted in 2016, three were disabled, three were female head of household, one black, one hispanic, one extremely low, two very low income and one low income residents.



Career Explorers: The Boys & Girls Club of Northern Chautauqua County was awarded \$15,000.00 in 2016 to operate its Career Explorers Program. A total of 75 low-income youth ages 13-18 participated in exploration and research of career areas of interest. Of those 75 youth, 37 were Hispanic, 10 were multi-racial, and 14 were Black/African American, reflecting the diversity of our City more accurately than in previous years. Together, the students have contributed 60 hours of community service and each of those students are participating in internship placement, college visits, or job readiness workshops.

Life Skills Program (Student Mentoring & Tutoring): Another of 2016's newly funded programs was Chautauqua Strider's tutoring and mentoring program which is geared toward assisting 47 students in grades K-12. Of those 47 students, 21 are Hispanic, four identified as multi-racial or "other" and two were black/ African American. Through the program, the students have brought their grades up dramatically and have a renewed interest in learning.

Street Improvements: During 2016, the 300 block of Hoyt Street, was fully reconstructed. This included the replacement of 14 lead waterlines, drainage, pavement, and the replacement of three non-operational fire hydrants, giving clean water service and fire protection to more than 22 households. Street paving will be completed later this summer, benefitting more than 200 residents.

Housing Rehabilitation: In conjunction with Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., the City is in the process of assisting five low-moderate income residents with Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation. These are under contract with work to begin soon and include foundation repairs, roof replacements, and handicap accessibility.

Demolition: The City is on its way to demolishing three vacant homes with CDBG funding. An asbestos survey and abatement has been completed with demolition soon to follow. A total of 10 homes were demolished in 2016 with assistance from the Chautauqua County Landbank.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The City believes in continual communication with its local nonprofits, community leaders, and citizens. To guide this communication, the City of Dunkirk adopted a Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) which was prepared in accordance with Section 104(a)(3) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and federal regulation 24 CFR 91.105. The CPP has been amended to make this process even more effective, and was formally adopted on April 7, 2015 after a 30-day public comment period.

The City held five public hearings during the drafting of the 2017 Annual Action Plan on November 14, 2016 and May 9th, 18th, and 24th of 2017. The comments from all five meetings can be found below. The



City also held a technical assistance meeting for potential CDBG subrecipients on November 18, 2016. The City held Public Hearings on May 9th, 18th, 24th and June 28th of 2017 to review the Draft 2017 Annual Action Plan and a draft was posted on our website, in the planning office, and at the Public Library on June 15th, 2017, with a public notice published on June 16th and 18th, 2017. Written and verbal comments were accepted until June 30th of 2017 at 5:00PM in City Hall by email, phone call, in writing, or in person.

5. Summary of public comments

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

The City of Dunkirk did not **receive any** written comments in reference to the 2017 Annual Action Plan, but we did receive verbal comments at the public hearings. The summaries of those comments are below.

5/9/17: Attendees expressed concerns about the difficulty of transportation for residents in the area, since most of them don't drive or have access to cars. The regional transportation service, CARTS, stops service at 5:30. They cited a need for a shuttle to take people to the D&F Plaza and other shopping locations just outside of the City limits so that people could shop but also take jobs there. Many of the stores close well after the 5:30 CARTS stop time.

There was also discussion of the need for access to tools, such as a Tool Library. It should be located in a central location so that residents can easily walk to get what they need and have the ability to fix small projects around their homes.

The need for a community center was discussed at this meeting of three attendees as well. There is currently no place for large community gatherings. Organizations such as the Boys and Girls Club and Chautauqua Striders are also looking for larger space within the City that makes it easier to conduct their youth programs and can bring a larger variety of activities than their current location. They are both looking for a more centrally located building so that their programming can be more easily accessible to school age children.

Job training was also a concern. Many industries in Dunkirk have closed, leaving a skilled workforce without work. These are manufacturing and blue collar jobs. With job training or skill development courses partnered with business classes, there may be an opportunity to create jobs and to develop new businesses.

There was also worry about when CDBG funds would be available to spend. Since the program year begins on from April 1st, we're already over two months in and still don't know what our allocation is,



who is funded, or for what amount. Last year, the money wasn't available until August after approvals, leaving our home repair programs scrambling to start exterior repairs before the weather turned and the rest of the activities trying to spend enough of their allocations to meet the timeliness test.

5/18/17: There was only one attendee that couldn't stay. She wanted to know if CDBG could fund a community center and needed office space for the Dunkirk Housing Authority.

5/24/17: One attendee and the Dunkirk Observer. His concern was Fair Housing and how to educate landlords and tenants on their rights. We discussed how to involve more of the public in our meetings and events and where the best places to reach out may be, such as baseball games and Music on the Pier.

We also talked about Dunkirk's old housing stock and how to make it affordable and safe. It is estimated that 46% of properties fail the Section 8 inspection the first time. We also talked about the city's plan to register rental properties and what role CDBG may play in that. The attendee's opinion was regular inspections would make housing conditions safer and encourage maintenance.

Another issue brought to light was the need for a homeless shelter in Dunkirk. The Willow Mission closed and nothing has come about to take its place.

The need for more applicants to the CDBG program was also raised. More education and outreach may be needed to get different applicants and programs as options.

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

All comments are accepted as we're always looking for feedback from non-profits, businesses, and residents. However, some ideas or concerns can't be acknowledged in the 2017 Annual Action Plan due to the course of actions outlined in the 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan. We have filed these suggestions and will revisit them while crafting our new three year 2018-2020 Consolidated Plan later this year.

At this time the city has not received any comments or views that have been denied for any reason.

7. Summary

The City of Dunkirk strives to recognize the issues currently facing residents of the City of Dunkirk, and address these issues to the best of its ability. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, in conjunction with other resources, give the City of Dunkirk the opportunity to improve the lives of people



within Dunkirk. In 2017, we will look to undertake a number of planning projects as well as those involving infrastructure development and redevelopment within the City, with the stated goal of creating a happier, healthier community and environment throughout the City.

Dunkirk will also be undertaking heavily researched plans, including a Comprehensive Plan, residential conditions survey, and new Consolidated Plan to provide a clearer picture of its community as a whole. We have also applied for a tree inventory grant to allow us to assess the condition of our trees and take a critical look at the City's environmental health. Citizen participation and community input has been, and will continue to be, essential for developing targeted strategies to shape the City's vision and to ensure that federal resources provide the maximum benefit to those citizens in need.



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	CITY OF DUNKIRK	Department of Planning & Development
CDBG Administrator	Christina Lincoln	Department of Planning & Development
HOPWA Administrator		
HOME Administrator		
HOPWA-C Administrator		

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The City of Dunkirk is designated as an entitlement community by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and is the lead agency for overseeing the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

The City of Dunkirk's Department of Planning and Development is committed to improving the health of the economy, environment, and overall community of the City of Dunkirk. The City of Dunkirk Department of Development believes the City has a golden opportunity to improve its

City of Dunkirk
Department of Development
Rebecca Yanus, Director



342 Central Ave
Dunkirk, NY 14048
(716) 366-9879

economic and socio-economic status by improving the housing stock and infrastructure around the city. Due to changes in staff, the Consolidated Plan was drafted by Lauri Gawronski with program years 2016 and 2017 carried out by Christina Lincoln.

Rebecca Yanus, Director of Planning & Development: 366-9879 ryanus@cityofdunkirk.com

Christina Lincoln, Community Development Planner & CDBG Program Administrator: 366-9878 clincoln@cityofdunkirk.com



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

1. Introduction

The City of Dunkirk recognizes the importance of coordination and consultation with institutions within the community. As a result, in formulating this plan, the City of Dunkirk made all attempts to work with all organizations through public meetings and hearings, as well as working with organizations at their best convenience. The City also hosts a Business Roundtable in which City businesses and non- profits are invited to voice concerns and contribute ideas for the overall success of the City.

Dunkirk is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to create its own Five-Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan in order to be considered for entitlement grant funding. Five years ago, the City of Dunkirk completed its 2013-2017 Consolidated Plan, which clarifies and defines the City's future objectives and illustrates how those objectives align with CDBG program objectives. This Annual Action Plan utilizes the priorities outlined in the Consolidated Plan and specifies the intended uses of CDBG funding for Dunkirk's fifth and final program year (2017) under the current plan.

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

The City of Dunkirk strives to provide fair and accurate copies of its plans at every stage of their development. As such, the City provided public notices about public hearings via local media sources including print, online, social media, community meetings, posters, and word of mouth sources. The City also worked with, and made all attempts to work with, housing providers such as Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., the Dunkirk Housing Authority, as well as other agencies involved in healthcare and housing in some form. Notices of public meetings and copies of the City's 2017 CDBG Application were mailed to: Boys & Girls Club of Northern Chautauqua County, Dunkirk Housing Authority, Dunkirk-Fredonia Meals on Wheels, Chautauqua County Office for the Aging, Chautauqua County Department of Health & Human Services, Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene, Chautauqua County Rural Ministry, Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation and Improvement Corp., Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation, Senior Center of Dunkirk, Southern Tier Environments for Living, the Resource Center, Chautauqua Striders, and Revitalize Dunkirk. Copies of the DRAFT 2017 Annual Action Plan will be sent to these same agencies to garner their input and feedback.

The City of Dunkirk does not currently manage any public housing. Public housing within the City's jurisdiction is managed by the Dunkirk Housing Authority (DHA). The DHA currently maintains 243



housing units. City staff also maintains close relationships with local Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO), including Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI).

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.

Homelessness and chronic homelessness are issues individuals face throughout the United States. Residents of Dunkirk are unfortunately no exception to this rule. While efforts are ongoing to improve data collection on the exact amount of homelessness and chronic homelessness exists within the City, a support network has been established for those experiencing homelessness, chronic homelessness, or risk of becoming homeless. Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI) is the City's Continuum of Care provider. In October of 2014 the Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition signed and adopted a 10-year plan to end homelessness in Chautauqua County.

Chautauqua Lake Central School District, which is within the CoC geography, has a McKinney-Vento funding award from the NYS education Department to provide educational services to homeless children. The McKinney-Vento Liaisons in all of the county's 18 school districts have been contacted and asked to join the CoC or be provided with information about homeless services. Chautauqua County has a NY State licensed runaway and homeless youth shelter that is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and operated by the CoC lead agency.

Providers regularly refer families to other providers when their family composition does not allow them to be accommodated in their facility. The CoC has also held a McKinney-Vento training in coordination with local school districts to improve coordination of services with school districts, and whenever possible, keep children in their school of origin.

If housing is not available for a specific family type, the local Department of Social Services will utilize a local hotel to keep the family together while other housing options are explored.

The Veteran's Administration's regional representative is a member of the CoC decision-making body.

The lead agency also coordinates with VASH as the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher administrator for the county, and was recently awarded a Supportive Services for Veteran Families grant from the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs to prevent homelessness among veteran families. The CoC participated in the Veteran's Administration needs assessment. All HUD-funded agencies in the CoC serve veterans as an integrated service.

The CoC lead agency operates a NYS licensed Runaway and Homeless Youth Shelter that is funded with



DHHS Basic Center funding, as well as a DHHS funded Street Outreach Program that makes contact with over 7,500 youth in the county annually, and a Transitional Living Program for youth ages 16-21 (DHHS funding). These programs frequently collaborate with other providers that serve the youth population such as Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCA's and YWCA's, church teen groups, municipal recreation programs, and other non-profit organizations. The lead organization and other youth serving providers will participate in strategic planning meetings to ensure that the needs of homeless youth are addressed in future plans.

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

The City of Dunkirk does not receive ESG funds.

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



Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	CHAUTAUQUA OPPORTUNITIES INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-homeless Services-Health Major Employer
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City mailed a notice of public hearing to Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI) along with a copy of the 2017 CDBG Application. Josiah Lamp did attend the public meeting on May 24 th . We are also in contact with Bill Vogt via phone and email on a regular basis.



2	Agency/Group/Organization	Dunkirk Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Homeless Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City mailed a notice of public hearing to the Dunkirk Housing Authority (DHA) along with a copy of the 2017 CDBG Application. Our CDBG Administrator has also met with their Executive Director and board president. Board President Donna Brisky came to the public meeting on May 18 th and also met in our offices on June 7 th with questions about CDBG funding and eligible activities.



3	Agency/Group/Organization	Revitalize Dunkirk
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Civic Leaders Neighborhood Group Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Park Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City mailed a notice of public hearing to Revitalize Dunkirk along with a copy of the 2017 CDBG Application. Members of Revitalize Dunkirk are in constant communication with Planning & Development officials and visit our offices frequently. A member of Revitalize Dunkirk attended the first public meeting on May 9 th .
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Chautauqua County Rural Ministry
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy



	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City mailed a notice of public hearing to Chautauqua County Rural Ministry (CCRM) along with a copy of the 2017 CDBG Application. No representatives of CCRM have attended the public meetings or technical training sessions.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Youth Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City mailed a notice of public hearing to Boys & Girls Club of Northern Chautauqua County along with a copy of the 2017 CDBG Application. Executive Director Kate Piazza has attended Business Roundtable meetings and the public meeting on May 9th. We are also in regular communication via email.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	SOUTHERN TIER ENVIRONMENTAL LIVING, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing



	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Families with children
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City mailed a notice of public hearing to Southern Tier Environmental Living (STEL) along with a copy of the 2017 CDBG Application. Two members of STEL attended the first public hearing. They are in constant communication with our office and even hosted one of the public meetings for the Annual Action Plan.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Meals on Wheels
8	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Senior Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City mailed a notice of public hearing to Dunkirk-Fredonia Meals on Wheels (MOW) along with a copy of the 2017 CDBG Application. A representative from MoW was in communication over the phone but they ultimately decided not to apply for funding. They have not attended any of the public meetings.



Agency/Group/Organization	Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation & Improvement Corp (CHRIC)
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Services
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City mailed a notice of public hearing to CHRIC along with a copy of the 2017 CDBG Application. Two representatives from CHRIC attended the first public hearing and one attended the technical assistance presentation and the May 9 th public meeting. We are in constant communication with CHRIC representatives by phone and email. We are working together to come up with a strategy to offer increased services in the future.

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

The City of Dunkirk contacted agencies and organizations associated with housing rehabilitation, economic development, community development, infrastructure development, or skills development. Any and all agencies involving the needs of the people of the City of Dunkirk are always welcome to discuss the plan with City Department of Planning and Economic Development staff and were given advance notice regarding the public hearings, release of draft plan, and public comment period.



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	Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.	In consultation with the Chautauqua County Continuum of Care provider (COI), the City has designed its consolidated plan to reflect the needs and concerns laid out in the CoC. We are working with them to find other solutions to the homeless problem including finding shelters for heating and cooling centers in inclement weather.
Visualizing our Options: Creating a Better Future	Chautauqua County Department of Planning and Economic Development	This plan is of design guidelines that will allow growth to continue in Chautauqua County communities while maintaining and protecting rural community character and working landscapes. The City of Dunkirk abides by the design guidelines dictated in this plan, and has used it to help spur our goal of economic development.
Brownfield Opportunity Area City of Dunkirk	TVGA Consultants	This plan is going to be used by the City of Dunkirk to identify and remediate brownfields throughout the City of Dunkirk. We have held numerous public meetings to discuss parcels with which to concentrate development and the consultants and City officials have been regularly meeting with stakeholders and property owners to discuss next steps in redeveloping brown field sites. A final plan is due to the City in the coming month.
Waterfront Enhancement Planning	Woolpert	This is a historical plan for the waterfront of the City of Dunkirk which shows the sheer potential economic development within the City of Dunkirk utilizing Lake Erie as its primary resource.



Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Central Business District Development Strategy	City of Dunkirk Department of Planning and Economic Development	This is the current comprehensive development plan for the City of Dunkirk. We analyzed this plan and took into consideration design and economic development guidelines put in place in this plan. The City was also recently awarded funds through a CFA to complete a full comprehensive plan for the city which will be completed in the next year to year and a half.
CBD Market Assessment, Dunkirk NY	Belden Associates	This plan is a market analysis of potential development opportunities within the City of Dunkirk specifically relating to downtown central business district areas. This plan was used to view historical use and view historic economic development opportunities within the City of Dunkirk.
Water Systems Analysis	Chadwick Bay Regional Development	The purpose of this plan was to determine the current condition of the City of Dunkirk's water transmission system, which serves the City of Dunkirk and surrounding Chadwick Bay municipalities. The purpose of the study was to determine the condition of the water infrastructure and identify immediate water supply problems and future needs. We used this plan to help determine target areas for where infrastructure redevelopment would be most necessary.
Roberts Road Redevelopment Plan	City of Dunkirk Department of Planning and Development	This plan is for the redevelopment of a road within the City of Dunkirk where there was once a heavy emphasis on industrial uses. We are currently using this plan to determine where potential economic development opportunities exist within the City of Dunkirk and have even directed a major warehouse project to this site. If approved, that project could be completed as early as spring of 2018.



Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Community Needs Assessment 2014	Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.	This very thorough annual assessment researches and analyzes Chautauqua County's strengths and weaknesses in the following areas: Economy & Employment, Housing, Health, Family Life, Early Education & Childcare, Education & Youth, Public Assistance, Transportation, Community Development, Public Safety, and Volunteerism. This data and assessment is very beneficial to the City when it is determining which areas to focus on and what strategies to utilize.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)



The City continually consults with Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., Dunkirk Housing Authority, and Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation & Improvement Corporation (CHRIC) executives to better understand their needs. Through continued partnership with these organizations, the City anticipates improved quality and quantity of services and affordable housing for the homeless and low/moderate-income persons.

We have also undertaken new initiatives to further economic development as well as housing conditions within the City. We were awarded a LISC Zombie Property grant which we will use for a survey of housing conditions in the City as well as taking a look at utility bills, sidewalk conditions, foreclosure information, and build dates for the homes. We're using this information in conjunction with the Chautauqua County Landbank and Chautauqua Opportunities in order to direct homeowners on the verge of foreclosure to programs that can keep them in their homes, thereby preventing increased vacancy. This will also allow us to identify where the greatest needs are and to better allocate CDBG funding in the future.

The City is also exploring Certified Local Government (CLG) status. This will allow the city and its residents to control the future of its historical building stock, protect what's important, and guide future development and reuse proposals, including infill in historic neighborhoods. It is the goal of some neighborhood groups to use this tool to establish historic districts which would afford property owners historic tax credits for rehabilitation of their homes.

This year was the first year that the City hosted a Small Business Saturday event. We had over 30 local businesses offer a special that day and were able to activate vacant storefronts by hosting eight pop-up vendors. We paired this with a parade celebrating the Dunkirk High School football team and the City's annual holiday tree lighting. By hosting this event, we brought hundreds of people downtown on a rainy, cold November Saturday and showcased the importance of shopping at our locally owned businesses and restaurants.

Perhaps the biggest accomplishment this year, was the CFA award dedicated to create our first Comprehensive Plan in more than three decades. This will be used to develop a planning road map and create design standards and implement other initiatives that will improve property values and create a more vibrant and inclusive resurgence.



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 believes in continual communication with its local nonprofits, community leaders, and citizens. To guide this communication, the City of Dunkirk adopted a Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) which was prepared in accordance with Section 104(a)(3) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and federal regulation 24 CFR 91.105. A DRAFT Amended Citizen Participation Plan was put out for a 30-day public comment period and was formally adopted on April 7, 2015.

The City held five Public Hearings/ Meetings during the drafting of its 2017 Annual Action Plan, one on November 14, 2016 and the others on May 9th, 18th, 24th and June 28th of 2017. The comments from these meetings can be found below. The City also held one Technical Assistance meeting for potential CDBG subrecipients on November 18, 2016. Legal Notices were published in the Observer on November 6th and 10th, 2016, April 21st and 23rd and June 16th and 18th to announce the public hearing and comment period. A DRAFT Annual Action Plan was posted on June 15th and was also available in the Planning office, City Clerk's office and the public library.

Notices of public meetings and copies of the City's 2017 CDBG Application were mailed to: Boys & Girls Club of Northern Chautauqua County, Dunkirk Housing Authority, Dunkirk-Fredonia Meals on Wheels, Chautauqua County Office for the Aging, Chautauqua County Department of Health & Human Services, Chautauqua County Department of Mental Hygiene, Chautauqua County Rural Ministry, Chautauqua Opportunities, Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation and Improvement Corp., Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation, Salvation Army, Senior Center of Dunkirk, Southern Tier Environment for Living, Revitalize Dunkirk, and Chautauqua Striders.

City of Dunkirk
Department of Development
Rebecca Yanus, Director



342 Central Ave
Dunkirk, NY 14048
(716) 366-9879



Expected Resources

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

Introduction

To ensure federal funds are spent effectively throughout the community, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires recipients of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to prepare a five-year Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan describes the needs of a community and how those needs will be met using CDBG funds as well as other federal and local funding. Each year of the Consolidated Plan term, the recipient of CDBG funds must prepare a one-year Action Plan. The Action Plan outlines the activities that will be funded using CDBG funds and other federal and local funding sources.

The City completed the \$300,000.00 repayment to its HUD line of credit in 2015. These funds were used for the complete reconstruction of East Seventh Street. For 2016, we were awarded a reduced amount of \$386,801.00 as part of the payback deal. For 2017, we're expecting our full amount of \$462,439 to be dispersed.

Priority Table

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
							\$	



Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	462,439	0	166,477	166,477		All funds will be used for housing rehabilitation, infrastructure improvements in low-income census tracts, and providing services to low-income individuals and families. All expected funds in the Action Plan will come from CDBG funding. City will provide funding to help with the infrastructure projects.
Other	public - state	Admin and Planning Economic Development Public Improvements	462,439	0	175,975.58	240,975.58	240,975.58	The City of Dunkirk received a \$330,000 Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) Step 2 grant from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. The previous year's resources are funds that have yet to be spent from prior program years.



Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Reminder of ConPlan	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
Zombie Properties	LISC	Identify vacant and abandoned properties within the city	125,500	0	0	125,500	125,500	Funds were received from a LISC grant and will be used for a city-wide residential housing survey, vacant property task force, software and program direction.
CFA	public - state	Planning & Development	45,000	0	0	45,000	45,000	Funds were received from a CFA for a Comprehensive Plan for the City.
Wright Park Improvement Program	public - state	Park Improvements	449,620	0	0	50,000	499,620	Funds were secured with a NYS Parks grant for use to rehabilitate Wright Park on the Lake Erie shore. An additional \$50,000 has been applied for in CDBG funds for ADA accessible facilities and planning documents.

Table 4 - Expected Resources – Priority Table



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

The City will use the \$462,439.00 from the United States Department of Housing & Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant Program to address the needs listed in the Action Plan.

Many of the non-profits applying for CDBG funding receive funding from other areas to make their programs work. Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. receives various Federal, State, and Local grants for the operation of its Community Development programs. The City will continue to partner with local organizations, non-profits, and businesses to administer its CDBG programs.

The City of Dunkirk will use NYS Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIP) funds in conjunction with CDBG funding to help defray the cost of the infrastructure projects within the City. The Chautauqua County Land Bank received a grant from the NYS Housing Trust Fund for the demolition of vacant properties across Chautauqua County. The Land Bank will be using some of these funds to demolish approximately 10 properties within the City of Dunkirk. These funds combined with LISC Zombie Property grant and left over demolition funds from CDBG, will make a huge difference in reducing the number of vacant, abandoned and blighted properties in the City.



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

The only publically owned land or property to be used will be the streets, sidewalks, and street right of ways within the City's qualified census tracts.

Discussion

Beyond the funded programs and projects listed above, the City is also home to a wide variety of other ongoing projects. The following is a list of these projects:

- Dredging / Weed cutting of Dunkirk City Harbor - Funded by bed tax, general funds, and newly awarded \$1 million grant, the City is working on dredging the harbor as well as finding sustainable ways to keep the weeds at a minimum.
- Chautauqua County Land Bank - Funded by the Housing Trust Fund, this project involves addressing the increasing number of vacant and abandoned properties within the City of Dunkirk.
- Chautauqua County Health Network - Funded by a New York State Department of Health Grant, this project involves creating healthy places to live, work and play (Now called 'Creating Healthy Schools & Communities'). Increasing the availability of places to be physically active as well as have access to fresh produce. Creating and maintaining places for physical activity. This project includes farmers markets, community gardens, walkability studies, and more.
- SUNY Fredonia Technology Incubator - Funded by the Faculty Student Association at SUNY Fredonia, this project offers business resources to start up technology entrepreneurs.
- Slum and Blight Plan - This project is to identify key areas of focus for housing and commercial reinvestment within the City of Dunkirk.
- LEED Certified Neighborhood / Energy Efficiency - The City of Dunkirk is working with SUNY Fredonia and other interested organizations to improve the energy efficiency of the housing stock, commercial operations, and the City as a whole. A long term goal is to improve



one of the neighborhoods identified in the slum and blight plan to LEED certified status, as a model not just for the City, but for the region as a whole. This is funded by NYSERDA.

- Bertges Site / Flickinger Building / Marina / Brownfields - The City (and Dunkirk Local Development Corporation) are working to clean up environmentally contaminated sites so that they are able to be put back into productive use. This includes the strategically important Bertges, Flickinger and Marina properties. Funding for this is provided by the New York State department of environmental conservation, as well as the regional economic development council.
- Recreational / Tourism - Funded by the City's General Budget, the City is working on improving tourism opportunities within its boundaries. Part of this is infrastructure development (including dredging). This also includes an increase in the number of events and the scale of both the events themselves as well as the marketing of those to the immediate area. The City is also looking at opportunities to increase the usage of its three large waterfront parks - Point Gratiot, Memorial Park, and Wright Park.
- Comprehensive Plan- This year, the City will utilize a \$45,000 grant from NYS Department of State to complete its first Comprehensive Plan in almost 40 years. This plan will serve as a road map for development, preservation, and growth for the City.
- Wright Park- Work will also start on Wright Park, a neighborhood park along Lake Erie. This is currently in the design stage with improvements based on cost and budget. The money came from Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation in the amount of \$449,620.
- LISC Zombie Properties- The City of Dunkirk was awarded \$125,500 in LISC Zombie Property grant funds, from a settlement with banks regarding foreclosure practices. We will use these funds to conduct a city-wide residential housing condition survey and data collection, use various mailings and public meetings to inform the public of the new law and their rights and also of state programs available to avoid foreclosures. We will also form a Vacant Property task force to monitor vacant properties with the hopes of getting the properties into responsible hands for either redevelopment or demolition.
- Point Gratiot- Another popular lakeside park was awarded \$500,000 for improvements by DASNY. This is currently in the design phase and work will move forward quickly once those plans are back from the consultant.



Annual Goals and Objectives

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

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Infrastructure Development	2013	2017	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development Infrastructure	DUNKIRK	Year 1 Needs Year 2 Needs Year 3 Needs Year 4 Needs Year 5 Needs	CDBG: \$300,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 500 Persons Assisted



Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
2	Housing Rehabilitation	2013	2017	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	DUNKIRK	Year 1 Needs Year 2 Needs Year 3 Needs Year 4 Needs Year 5 Needs	CDBG: \$0	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 5 Household Housing Unit Buildings Demolished: 3 Buildings Due to the timeliness issue and funds left unused during previous years, no housing rehabilitation will be funded during the 2017 Program Year. However, each organization that is responsible for housing rehab has left over funds from past program years.

Table 5 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions



1	Goal Name	Infrastructure Development
	Goal Description	This activity will provide funding to restore water lines and activate fire hydrants and reconstruct streets and sidewalks in residential areas of the City of Dunkirk's low income census tracts.
2	Goal Name	Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	This activity will provide decent, safe housing by performing housing rehabilitation and emergency repairs needed to keep individuals and families warm, safe and dry. This will also involve the demolition of vacant dilapidated housing.

Table 6 – Goal Descriptions

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

The City does not receive HOME funds.



AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The City utilized a four-week open application process which opened on November 10th, 2016 and closed on December 9, 2016. The City received a total of 14 proposals for funding in the amount of \$1,656,000. Like previous years, the applications were reviewed at the staff level for basic eligibility, then the Director of Development, Economic Development Committee and Mayor were tasked with deciding how to allocate the funds appropriately.

Because of the late passing of the Federal budget, activities to be funded are listed in order of priority and will be funded contingent upon the amount of funding allocated to us by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. There is a chance that some activities will not be funded due to the availability of funds.

Project Name
Street Improvements
Planning & Development Wright Park ADA Accessibility
Administration- CDBG Administration
Youth Services Career Explorers
Youth Services Life Skills Program
Park Development- Pocket Park at 6 th & Main St.

Table 7 – Project Information



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

Like most cities in the "Rust Belt" region of the United States, the City of Dunkirk is facing problems with an aging housing stock and infrastructure and a decrease in the amount of manufacturing jobs. It is for this reason the primary focus of our funds is public facilities/infrastructure and housing, instead of other programs. We also focused on youth activities to better educated and mentoring local youth and give them skills to successfully move forward with their lives within our community. The goal of the allocation of this money is to make the City of Dunkirk a desirable place to work, live, and play for generations to come.

Obstacles addressing underserved needs include insufficient data regarding the underserved population, particularly the homeless population, in Chautauqua County. We are also having difficulty with participation, not only among the underserved community but within the community in general. We are developing plans to not only reach out and get the public to participate in meetings and other events but to make sure we talk to the most underserved who may not have access to resources such as computers. We have created a bi-lingual poster that was sent to all of our awardees, the SUNY Fredonia Technology Incubator, and other interested parties in which we have contact information in order to generate attention and garner a response.

Another challenge has been the timeliness in spending with some of the previously awarded programs. Because of the late passage of the federal budget, our cold climate, and RFP requirements, it is sometimes the end of the program year before construction and other activities can occur, surpassing the time that most of our funds should be spent. It is because of this that housing rehabilitation programs are not funded for program year 2017. Both organizations that provide housing programs for the city, have unexpended funds from previous years.

This program year, the federal budget was passed late, leaving us with an abbreviated time to spend our CDBG allotment. This has also challenged a review of a detailed Annual Action Plan. The activities proposed in this draft of the document are contingent upon the amount of funds received from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. There is a chance that not all activities listed will be able to be funded. They are listed in order of priority to the health and safety of our residents and amounts will be adjusted accordingly after the amount of our allocation is received.



Projects

AP-38 Projects Summary

Project Summary Information

Table 8 – Project Summary

	Project Name	Street Reconstruction
	Target Area	DUNKIRK- Seel St, southern part of City per Consolidated “Wave” Plan
	Goals Supported	Infrastructure Development
	Needs Addressed	Year 1 Needs Year 2 Needs Year 3 Needs Year 4 Needs Year 5 Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$300,000



	Description	Run fire-protection waterline to and through Seel Street that now has no usable fire hydrants and many lead-pipe service lines. This will include improvement to the drainage of the street, repaving the roadway and adding an accessible sidewalk on the southern side of Seel Street.
	Target Date	4/1/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	500 low-moderate income residents
	Location Description	City of Dunkirk Seel Street: on the southern border of the City limits Dunkirk, NY 14048
	Planned Activities	Providing approximately 500 families with lead free water service lines, new, functional fire hydrants, and a sidewalk accessible to all residents where there currently is none.
	Project Name	Wright Park ADA Accessibility
	Target Area	DUNKIRK



Goals Supported	Infrastructure Improvements
Needs Addressed	Year 1 Needs Year 2 Needs Year 3 Needs Year 4 Needs Year 5 Needs
Funding	CDBG: \$40,000
Description	Planning funds will be used to create ADA accessible restrooms during the Wright Park reconstruction as well as necessary planning documents.
Target Date	4/1/2017
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This will benefit approximately 440 immediate neighbors to the park, a highly distressed neighborhood in the City.
Location Description	City of Dunkirk 198 Lake Front Blvd Dunkirk, NY 14048



	Planned Activities	Redesign the restrooms in the park to be ADA accessible to the Park's hundreds of nearby neighborhood residents.
	Project Name	Planning & Administration
	Target Area	DUNKIRK
	Goals Supported	Program Administration
	Needs Addressed	Year 1 Needs Year 2 Needs Year 3 Needs Year 4 Needs Year 5 Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000
	Description	This will fund a position to administer CDBG funds within the City.
	Target Date	4/1/2017



	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The City of Dunkirk
	Location Description	342 Central Ave, Dunkirk, NY 14048
	Planned Activities	Program administration to be done by a part time, contracted position.
	Project Name	Boys & Girls Club Career Explorers
	Target Area	City of DUNKIRK youth ages 13-18
	Goals Supported	Youth programming
	Needs Addressed	Year 1 Needs Year 2 Needs Year 3 Needs Year 4 Needs Year 5 Needs
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000
	Description	Development of career exploration and experience program for approximately 50 youth ages 13-18. They will gain internship experience, perform community service, learn to fill out job and college applications.



	Target Date	4/1/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 50 youth of low to moderate income families.
	Location Description	296 Lake Shore Dr East, Dunkirk, NY 14048
	Planned Activities	Assist 50 low to moderate income youth ages 13-18 in career exploration, internships, and community development activities.
	Project Name	Chautauqua Striders Life Skills Program
	Target Area	DUNKIRK
	Goals Supported	Youth programming
	Needs Addressed	Mentoring and tutoring of school age children in mainly middle and high school.
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000



	Description	Chautauqua Striders will match 55 lower income youth with a caring adult volunteer mentor, one-to-one or in small groups. Activities will be asset based to provide an opportunity for the mentee to build a connection to Dunkirk and the surrounding community. There will be a focus on science and math.
	Target Date	4/1/2017
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 55 low/moderate-income youth will participate in this program.
	Location Description	296 Lake Shore Drive East Dunkirk, NY 14048
	Planned Activities	Life Skills program will assist 55 youth in boosting grades, mentoring, and tutoring services.
	Project Name	Pocket Park
	Target Area	DUNKIRK
	Goals Supported	Park development



Needs Addressed	Year 1 Needs Year 2 Needs Year 3 Needs Year 4 Needs Year 5 Needs
Funding	CDBG: \$10,000.00
Description	The City of Dunkirk and Revitalize Dunkirk will create a pocket park on a vacant parcel of land owned by the Department of Transportation and cared for by the City of Dunkirk. This is a highly distressed area of the City and will serve as a safe meeting place for youth and adults alike. The interactive artwork will be safely fenced and lit and will include benches and chess boards for adults called "Park de pequenos."
Target Date	4/1/2017
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 169 low-income households will benefit from this program, in total more than 400 people.
Location Description	296 Lake Shore Drive East Dunkirk, NY 14048
Planned Activities	A gathering space for young and old, beautifully landscaped and safely lit and enclosed.



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City of Dunkirk
Department of Development
Rebecca Yanus, Director



342 Central Ave
Dunkirk, NY 14048
(716) 366-9879



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 has recognized geographic regions with populations in need of affordable housing options and improved public facilities and infrastructure and had developed a wave program, this year focusing on the southern portion of the City. This area includes a portion of Census Tract 357.00. This area has a dense population of low- to moderate-income families. Based on the 2013 American Community Survey, the percentage of persons within those census tracts whose income was below to poverty level range from 22.6 - 32.5%. The percentage of Hispanic or Latino persons in the same tracts range from 25.0% - 28.8%.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
DUNKIRK	100

Table 9 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically is to meet the primary objective of the CDBG Program which is to benefit low-income and moderate-income residents.

100% of the City's CDBG allocation will be spent in the following prequalified census tracts: 354.00, 355.00, and 357.00. These areas have dense populations of low- to moderate-income families and growing minority concentrations. Based on the 2013 American Community Survey, the percentage of persons within those census tracts whose income was below to poverty level range from 22.6 - 32.5%. The percentage of Hispanic or Latino persons in the same tracts range from 25.0% - 28.8%. Between 16.9 - 36.7% of the households within these census tracts receive food stamps/SNAP benefits.



Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

With a plurality of residents of the City of Dunkirk having low to moderate incomes and with 38.1% of the population being below poverty levels, concerns do exist for affordable housing for Dunkirk residents. Fortunately, numerous programs have effectively targeted low-income populations who are searching for affordable housing. In the coming years, Dunkirk will continue to support the Dunkirk Housing Authority, as well as continue its housing rehabilitation programs, so those living in sub-standard conditions will see improvements, not only to their home, but to their community.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	5
Special-Needs	0
Total	5

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	5
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	5

Table 11 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type



Discussion

Housing conditions in Dunkirk reflect the poor local economy. A whopping 82.7% of the City's housing stock was built prior to 1959. Compare this with 57.1% for the rest of New York State and 30% for the nation as a whole (2013 American Community Survey). This statistic indicates that older homes are not being replaced. Older homes also require regular maintenance. This is not being done due to a number of factors. The two primary reasons are the aging population and the lack of financial resources to make necessary repairs. Around 18.3% of household owners are spending more than 30% of their monthly income on housing costs. Median monthly owner costs are estimated at \$860. The vast majority of owners experiencing cost burdens over 30% of their annual income are seniors aged 62 years and older. It is likely that these people are on a fixed income and therefore have a more difficult time competing with the rate of inflation.

The National Low-Income Housing Coalition's 2015 Out of Reach report on housing costs states that the Fair Market Rent for a one bedroom apartment in the City of Dunkirk is \$550. In order to afford this level of rent and utilities without paying more than 30% of income on housing a household must earn \$1,720 monthly or \$21,050 annually. With a state minimum wage of \$9.70/hour, that equates to a minimum wage earner working 54 hours per week, more than the average full time job. Currently 51.9% of the City's rental population is spending 30% or more of their income on housing.



AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The City of Dunkirk does not administer a public housing program nor does it administer the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program. The City's public housing is administered by the Dunkirk Housing Authority (DHA) whose mission is to provide low-income families with decent, safe and sanitary shelter at a price they can afford. The DHA has multiple complexes designated as public housing, with 243 units spread throughout the City. There are also numerous Section 8 housing subsidies which are mostly fulfilled through privately owned housing. Currently, there are no City of Dunkirk residents on a waiting list for public housing. In fact, the DHA has a surplus of eight units.

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

The City of Dunkirk will continue to work with the Dunkirk Housing Authority by providing homeownership education to individuals in the community. This has, and will encourage public housing residents to become more involved in the management of their own homes and participate in homeownership.

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

The Housing Authority of the City of Dunkirk is a member of the Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition. The purpose of this group is to create strategies for creating housing options for those people in need. The City will continue to support this organization's goals and mission.

The City also funded a first time homebuyer down payment assistance and closing cost assistance program with its 2016 CDBG funds. Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation and Improvement Corp (CHRIC) is administering that program which also includes homebuyer and financial counseling, strengthening the ability of homeowners in Dunkirk to make sound financial decisions regarding their homes.

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

The Dunkirk Housing Authority is not designated as troubled.



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

Introduction

The Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition is a comprehensive network of diverse organizations that addresses the needs of, and provides intervention and prevention services for, the homeless and those at risk of homelessness. There are several other agencies in this area that serve individuals or families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. The City of Dunkirk is, and will continue to be involved with these organizations.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

The City has partnered with the Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition to work on a plan to affect homelessness. One of the key strategies is to address chronic homelessness and provide outreach. The Homeless Coalition is represented by agencies that specifically target the homeless and assist individuals with accessing mainstream mental health and chemical dependency services. Part of this outreach is education of both the service providers and the communities to assist in eradicating homelessness.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

While the City does not receive emergency shelter grants, there are a variety of local non-profits which do provide these types of services which the City will continue to be involved in and supportive of. The Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition continually performs assessments to identify the needs of homeless/at-risk of homeless persons within the county.

The Dunkirk Housing Authority has multiple complexes designated as public housing, with 243 units spread throughout the City.

Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI) operates a NYS licensed runaway and homeless youth shelter that is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Chautauqua County Rural Ministries currently has 19 low-income apartments for homeless and transitional housing. They also operate a soup kitchen and a garment gallery.

Willow Mission, which was operated through the Dunkirk First United Methodist Church, has closed,



leaving a gap in care for the homeless population.

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 will continue to work with the Continuum of Care to address the housing and supportive services needs of homeless persons making the transition to permanent housing and independent living.

The City has also worked with Southern Tier Environments for Living (STEL) which is planning a large scale housing rehab and development project along Main Street which will rehabilitate or demolish and rebuild on more than 25 lots to turn into housing for low income, disabled and impaired residents.

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 members of the Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition provide a wide array of services to complement homeless services. The mission of Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. (COI), the county's Continuum of Care provider, is "leading the fight against poverty by mobilizing resources and creating partnerships to promote empowerment, economic independence and opportunities." Some of the services they provide are:

Health Services

- Home Health Care
- Health Screenings
- Mental Health Services
- Health Insurance Education and Access



- Services for Pregnant Women & Minorities

Youth Services

- Safe House
- Transitional Independent Living Program
- After School Programs
- Teen Pregnancy and Parenting Services
- Transitional Work Force Services

Housing & Community Development

- Housing Rehab/Rental Rehab
- Energy Audits
- Homeless Prevention
- Veterans Services
- Homeownership Education
- Houses/Apartments for Rent

Economic Development

- Business Loans
- Incubator Services
- Small Business Counseling

The City of Dunkirk will continue its ongoing efforts to help rehabilitate homes that would otherwise be destined for condemnation and provide assistance with emergency repairs. We feel it is imperative to keep our housing stock in good shape and to prevent anyone from becoming homeless due to the condition of their home. We are working with housing non-profits in Chautauqua County on



programs that will take care of the most urgent needs of the most of our residents.

Southern Tier Environments for Living (STEL) is also building on more than 25 parcels to introduce those who have previously been living in mental health and health care facilities into everyday life. They will be given support services to transition them successfully into the working and homeowner world while making sure they are comfortable in their surroundings.

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
Tenant-based rental assistance
Units provided in housing facilities (transitional or permanent) that are being developed, leased, or operated
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds
Total 0 We do not receive HOPWA



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

Introduction

After reviewing 2005 - 2009 CHAS data regarding housing within the City of Dunkirk, we have determined that the leading barrier to affordable housing in the City of Dunkirk is that extremely-low income individuals simply do not have the means to keep and maintain homes. With large percentages of the population spending between 30% and 50% of their annual income on housing within the City of Dunkirk, we recognize that this is a real problem that needs to be addressed. These problems have not changed eight years later and have become even more exacerbated by the recent closings of several manufacturing facilities and the shut down of the NRG Energy plant.

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

For a few years, Dunkirk saw a drop in home prices that put more homes within reach for the low to moderate-income families and individuals; however, getting qualified for a mortgage was a huge barrier to the prospective low/moderate-income home owner.

At this time, home prices are slowly beginning to rise, making it even more difficult for potential homeowners to secure a mortgage. The economy is also a barrier to affordable housing making it harder for low-income families and individuals to save for a down payment. The City will continue working towards preparing low/moderate-income residents for becoming homeowners and help them through the mortgage process. CHRIC was awarded \$30,000 in 2016 CDBG funds to help potential first time home buyers with down payment assistance, closing costs, and also provide homeowner education and financial counseling.



AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction

The City of Dunkirk has other actions planned for the use of CDBG funds in this five year plan including increasing partnerships with local institutions, improving public transportation opportunities and protecting our most valuable resource - our waterfront on Lake Erie.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City of Dunkirk has funded multiple activities for the 2017 Program Year that address infrastructure and public services. One obstacle is the lack of data specific to Dunkirk in these areas, making the amount of need in the City difficult to measure.

We have been awarded a LISC Zombie Properties grant and will be conducting a residential housing survey that will include home conditions, occupancy, ownership, utility, sidewalk conditions and other vital information that will give us an idea of where there are infrastructure, vacancy and blight challenges within the City.

Another challenge that we're looking to resolve this year, is how to reach more members of our community. In order for CDBG programs and other planning initiatives to be successful, we need the input of all of our residents. We're putting together a public outreach plan with the goal of doing just that- reaching out to all members of our population where they feel the most comfortable, including holding meetings in social clubs, bars and churches. Notices will continue to be published in the local newspaper, The Observer as well as on the City website, public access TV channel and the City Facebook page.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

There is still leftover money for the Emergency Repair and Owner Occupied Rehabilitation programs for eligible homeowners and repairs. Since timeliness is an issue we had to consider, no new 2017 CDBG funds will go toward these programs due to outstanding money from previous program years. However, we will revisit these programs for the upcoming Consolidated Plan and 2018 application year. We are already working with local housing agencies to assess the needs in the community and how we can best address them in partnership with the residential survey.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

Actions will be continued in the City of Dunkirk to evaluate and reduce the number of houses containing lead-based paint hazards. The Chautauqua County Environmental Health Services division responds to



reports of children with elevated blood lead levels and performs environmental assessments to identify hazardous areas with lead-based paint in the child's home. Lead hazard control activities may be suggested or ordered to be performed dependent on the child's blood lead level. Education of parents, landlords and renovators on how to prevent lead poisoning and properly deal with lead hazards is a priority.

The Health Department and the Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation and Improvement Corporation (CHRIC) have partnered to implement a third HUD - funded Lead Hazard Control grant. The program offers grants to landlords and homeowners to address lead-based paint hazards in rental properties and homes in Chautauqua County. Due to this initiative, lead-based paint has thankfully become a limited concern in the City of Dunkirk. The City will continue to work with its partners to improve the quality of housing in relation to these concerns.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City of Dunkirk has a plan implemented to reduce poverty levels within the City:

1: Promote Affordable Housing

- Preserve and maintain existing affordable housing opportunities through the City of Dunkirk's Housing Rehabilitation programs and address problems such as high utility bills by implementing cost savings measures
- Promote the development of new affordable housing units
- Support foreclosure prevention programs and services
- Assist in the purchase of homes for owner occupied individuals and families

2: Foster Employment and Economic Opportunities for the low and moderate income residents of the City of Dunkirk

- Work collaboratively to promote employment training opportunities that prepare low to moderate income individuals for jobs that provide a living wage. The training programs should focus on the opportunities that actually exist here. We expect this to be a focus in our upcoming 2018-2020 Consolidated Plan.

3: Support the delivery of Human Services



- Champion public service programs that support anti-poverty efforts including: financial literacy, programs that assist vulnerable populations, for example the homeless or abused and/or neglected children, youth programs, feeding programs, new public transportation programs, and programs aimed to assist low income elderly.

4: Seek Partnerships that improve the cost-effectiveness and quality of programs to assist low/moderate income individuals and families

- The City of Dunkirk will continue to develop stronger partnerships with community agencies that assist with low/moderate income individuals and families.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

During the program year covered by this Action Plan, the City will review the gaps listed in the Consolidated Plan and determine methods to strengthen the institutional structure in order to eliminate those gaps; review current services and processes to determine what may be streamlined; review the delivery systems of the City Departments and external agencies that utilize federal funding to determine how to strengthen the coordination of services; and meet with program partners to determine what gaps may exist and how best to eliminate those gaps.

The Community Development Planner /CDBG Administrator has been meeting regularly with our HUD representative in Buffalo and has also applied for and received other funding to partner with CDBG funds in order to maximize our impact on residents and properties within the city.

The City of Dunkirk is home to many public and private institutions that the residents of the City of Dunkirk are able to take advantage of. It is with plans like this CDBG five year plan that help coordinate these institutions to better serve the community as a whole. Educational, religious, service based, and other institutions all have purposes in the community, we intend to continue to reach out to these institutions within the community to help them coordinate services more efficiently, and better serve the community.

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

The City continues its support of the local nonprofit organizations that are members of the Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition. The Coalition is "a comprehensive network of diverse organizations that addresses the needs of, and provides intervention and prevention services for, the homeless and those at risk of homelessness." The Homeless Coalition members that address the City of Dunkirk's population are: Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc., Chautauqua Home Rehabilitation Improvement Corp., and



Chautauqua County Department of Health & Human Services.

Our primary goal for CDBG funds for the FY 2013 -2017 plan is to enhance the community through infrastructure development and housing rehabilitation. We also recognize the importance of improving other services and connections around the City of Dunkirk. It is for this reason that we include in our plan areas where we can improve our coordination with private and public institutions in and around our City.



Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction

A small portion of the City's 2017 CDBG funds will be used for Administration and Planning costs, as we try to spend down excess funds from past years. The City's goal is to use 100% of the funds to assist low and moderate income families and Limited Clientele, as determined by HUD.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(1)

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

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



Other CDBG Requirements

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 1. The amount of urgent need activities | 0 |
| | |
| 2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 100% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this 2017 Annual Action Plan. 2013-2017 Consolidate Plan | 100% |



Discussion

In the 2017 program year noted in this Plan, the total amount allocated to low and moderate income persons will be **\$462,439**. From that total, the City anticipates that 100% of the funds will be used to benefit low and moderate income persons through its outlined projects.

Housing rehabilitation and infrastructure development are the highest priorities identified in the City of Dunkirk's Consolidated Plan. Therefore, the City has programmed most of its 2017 CDBG funds to programs that will address these two priorities.