



2023-2024 CDBG

Annual Plan

Department of
Grants CDBG
Program

DRAFT

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

St. Tammany Parish proposes to target its CDBG entitlement funds in areas to support on-going community development programs in PY2023-2024. We will continue to partner with local non-profits and governmental partners to deliver urgently needed services to our most vulnerable residents. We also propose to invest CDBG funds in projects and activities that have a direct correlation to quality of life. Through our partnerships with other St. Tammany Parish Government departments, we will continue to address the concerns of our citizens in the areas of affordable housing, behavioral health and wellness, homelessness, neighborhood stabilization, self-sufficiency, and infrastructure improvements. Through our engagement with the public and partnerships with local non-profits, we are committed to an improved quality of life for our families and neighborhoods, by staying consistent with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) national strategies, particularly for low- and moderate-income persons.

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.

Safe, Affordable Housing

The most common housing problem within St. Tammany Parish is cost burden, affecting more homeowners in St. Tammany Parish than renters overall. Black, American Indian, and Alaskan Native households are disproportionately affected by cost burden in the low- to moderate-income level groups. In program year 2023-2024 St. Tammany plans to implement programs that support residents' continued inhabitation of safe and affordable homes, including those that enable elderly residents or those with mobility challenges to age safely in their homes.

Infrastructure Improvements

Based on the findings of the 2014 Watershed Management Study, St. Tammany Parish has developed multiple strategies to address the issue of water quality. Due to the acceleration of urban development, many of the streams and bayous are registered on EPA's 303(d) List of Impaired Waterbodies. The result is the introduction of many types of pollutants into our rivers and streams, ultimately flowing into Lake Pontchartrain. This plan dedicates funding for a program for homeowners to repair or replace non-compliant residential wastewater systems in St. Tammany to reduce this long term pollutant load.

Homelessness

The Northlake Homeless Coalition conducts an annual point-in-time count of unhoused residents in St. Tammany Parish. Their 2022 count included 428 individuals experiencing homelessness for varying reasons, and who have been unhoused for varying lengths of time. 408 individuals were sheltered at the time of the Northlake Homeless Coalition's count, and 20 were unsheltered. Homelessness in St. Tammany Parish is an ongoing concern among community organizations and the Parish, which are

continually working to coordinate resources and available services. This Action Plan targets funds toward programs that prevent homelessness, support residents at risk of homelessness so that they do not become homeless and seeks to expand Parish capacity for the longer-term goal of reducing long-term homelessness or underhoused residents as a result of reduced housing capacity in the region following Hurricane Ida.

Furthermore, this Action Plan builds on Parish efforts to address the cascading impacts of homelessness and mental and behavioral health challenges, especially as they impact Veterans. This Action Plan includes funding for the Cardinal Cove project at the Safe Haven Campus, an innovative use of program income from Katrina-Rita Disaster Recovery programs to supplement the CDBG-ENT program in addressing homelessness.

Non-Homeless Special Needs Populations

The HUD definition of “special needs” includes the frail and non-frail elderly, persons with physical, mental, or behavioral disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, and persons with alcohol or drug addictions. According to the U.S. Census American Community Survey, 40,265 individuals (15.2% of Parish population) were classified as having a disability in 2022. This is a slight increase from 36,146 individuals (15% of population) in 2016. Members of this population need services that include but are not limited to case management, supportive services, transportation, and affordable housing assistance.

Non-Housing Community Development

The non-housing community development needs of the Parish include, but are not limited to: infrastructure improvements, social and supportive services, services for unhoused individuals, and public facilities improvements.

CDBG funding will help St. Tammany Parish Government address these concerns, impacting citizens in the areas of affordable housing, behavioral health and wellness, homelessness, neighborhood stabilization, self-sufficiency, transportation, and infrastructure improvements. Through engagements with the public and partnerships with local non-profits, St. Tammany Parish is committed to an improved quality of life for our families and neighborhoods.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

During the 2022-2023 program year, St. Tammany Parish Government, undertook several actions to achieve our goals and improve the delivery of our services. The actions were consistent with the objectives and priority needs identified in the Consolidated Plan and furthered its purposes. The Grants Department worked closely with Community Action Agency (CAA), and St. Tammany Parish Staff to administer many programs funded through the CDBG program.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The Department of Health and Human Services and St. Tammany Parish staff maintain consistent communication throughout the year with local organizations that have specific interests in on-going efforts to address the community's concerns regarding workforce development, housing needs, individual cost of living aid, neighborhood improvement, needed social services, and economic opportunities. Data gathered in preparation for the development of the 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan included the 2018 Assessment of Fair Housing, the 2018 Community Needs Assessment, which included a public survey, emails, dialogues with non-profit leaders and community organizers, as well as formal resource gatherings and one-on-one meetings. Citizen participation was key to generating discussions and comments which ultimately facilitated the development of the 2023 Community Needs Assessment, this Consolidated Plan, and the 2023 Annual Action Plan.

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 summary of public comments are included in Appendix A and include:

- Responses to a digital and paper survey as part of the Community Needs Assessment process
- Public comment received at public hearings
- Written comments received at public meetings

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

All comments were accepted.

7. Summary

Parish staff made every effort to inform the public and promote citizen participation in the development of the Consolidated Plan, the 2023 Annual Action Plan, and the 2023 Community Needs Assessment by way of the Community Needs Survey, publication of citizen participation opportunities, and attendance and comment at public meetings.

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
CDBG Administrator	ST. TAMMANY PARISH	Department of Grants

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The Parish has appointed its Department of Grants as the lead agency to coordinate the Annual Action Plan preparation process. The Department of Grants, possesses extensive experience in social service delivery, project planning, grant administration, and community outreach and advocacy, is charged with creating and implementing programs which directly and indirectly improve the quality of life for Parish residents.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

Staff from St. Tammany Parish’s Grants Department, as well as from the Department of Health and Human Services, have made efforts to include public input and the input of local organizations that have an interest in the Consolidated Plan’s statutory goals in the development of the Community Needs Assessment, the Consolidated Plan and the Action Plan, to ensure that all needs facing the community are identified and assessed. Needs identified by the public were received through direct one-on-one communication, as well as through the Community Needs Survey, which was made available to all citizens online, as well as a paper copy survey distributed at community points of contact throughout the Parish. Survey responses are reflected in the goals and program recommended strategies included in the Community Needs Assessment and include the need for affordable housing, assistance with childcare costs, financial relief from rising flood insurance costs, transportation, and economic improvements.

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(I))

St. Tammany Parish employees continue to participate in coalitions organized to address the needs of underserved populations who are struggling to fulfill their daily requirements. St. Tammany Parish staff remains steadfast in their dedication to supporting LMI residents by developing sustainable, long-term housing affordability and non-housing community development solutions.

Safe Haven Advisory Team, the Northlake Homeless Coalition, and Family Promise of St. Tammany are excellent planning resource agents for service coordination for mental health, homelessness, and housing needs in St. Tammany. Staff regularly attend meetings and events at the United Way, Volunteers of America, the Workforce Investment Board, hospital and town administrations, Northshore Resource Roundup, and the St. Tammany Parish Commission on Families to gain a comprehensive understanding of the unmet needs in the metropolitan area. Some of the most important and visible needs of the community include: 1) populations challenged with mental and behavioral health issues, 2) the lack of decent, affordable housing and 3) homelessness. The Parish’s interaction with community groups plays a significant role to ensure that service gaps are identified, and that efforts made to address those gaps are non-duplicative and coordinated. The result is enhanced communications and coordination between DHHS and its partners.

In late 2022, the Parish retained a consultant to develop the 2023 Community Needs Assessment, 2023 – 2027 Consolidated Plan, and the associated Annual Action Plan. The Parish and consultant team used focus groups, email surveys, and community meetings to capture the public’s opinions regarding needed improvements and future investments in housing and social services..

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.

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

Aside from administering the CDBG program, the Department of Health and Human Services manages and supports the Community Action Agency (CAA). CAA is responsible for administering ESG funds received from the Louisiana Housing Corporation (LHC). The administration of ESG funds is in part decided by the Needs Assessment performed by St. Tammany Parish Department of Grants that is developed as a part of the overall CDBG application process submitted to HUD. The CAA works with community organizations to evaluate past program outcomes and organize future program priorities depending on the changing needs of St. Tammany Parish. CAA works in tandem with DHHS to determine needed policy and procedural changes that may be required reflect changing need among LMI residents in the Parish.

CAA staffers play a key role with the Northlake Homeless Coalition (NHC). The two organizations readily share information, and coordinate services and program development. NHC Board is responsible for the Continuum of Care that participates in HMIS and develops performance standards and outcomes, policies and procedures, and identifies funding availability.

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	St. Tammany Parish Government
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	- Homelessness Strategy - Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Internal consultation from Grant Dept. & DHHS staff
2.	Agency/Group/Organization	Northlake Homeless Coalition
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	- Services - Homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	- Homelessness Strategy - Homeless Needs: Chronically homeless - Homeless Needs: Families with children - Homelessness Needs: Veterans - Homelessness Needs: Unaccompanied youth
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Data share from the agency with team developing 2023 Community Needs Assessment and 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan
3.	Agency/Group/Organization	Habitat for Humanity St. Tammany West
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	- Services: Housing - Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	- Housing Need Assessment - Homelessness Strategy - Homeless Needs: Chronically homeless - Homeless Needs: Families with children - Homelessness Needs: Veterans - Homelessness Needs: Unaccompanied youth - Non-Homeless Special Needs - Market Analysis - Anti-Poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Organization was engaged with at community organization meetings where the Community Needs Assessment, Consolidated Plan, and CDBG Funding process were presented. Community organizations were asked to fill out and distribute Community Needs Survey to clients and constituents.
4.	Agency/Group/Organization	Habitat for Humanity St. Tammany East

	Agency/Group/Organization Type	- Services: Housing - Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	- Housing Need Assessment - Homelessness Strategy - Homeless Needs: Chronically homeless - Homeless Needs: Families with children - Homelessness Needs: Veterans - Homelessness Needs: Unaccompanied youth - Non-Homeless Special Needs - Market Analysis - Anti-Poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Organization was engaged with at community organization meetings where the Community Needs Assessment, Consolidated Plan, and CDBG Funding process were presented. Community organizations were asked to fill out and distribute Community Needs Survey to clients and constituents.
5.	Agency/Group/Organization	University of New Orleans Institute for Economic Development and Real Estate Research
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Educational Institution
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	- Needs Assessment Analysis - Housing Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Development of the Community Needs Assessment and the Consolidated Plan were both supplemented by the data found in the 2022 Housing Market Assessment published by the organization.
6.	Agency/Group/Organization	Family Promise of St. Tammany
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	- Services-homeless - Business and Civic Leaders - Foundation
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	- Housing Need Assessment - Infrastructure Need Assessment - Health Care Gap Assessment - Anti-Poverty Strategy - Community Needs Assessment
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated	Organization was engaged with at community organization meetings where the Community Needs

	outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Assessment, Consolidated Plan, and CDBG Funding process were presented. Community organizations were asked to fill out and distribute Community Needs Survey to clients and constituents.
7.	Agency/Group/Organization	Northshore Resource Roundup
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	- Regional Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	- Housing Need Assessment - Infrastructure Need Assessment - Health Care Gap Assessment - Anti-Poverty Strategy - Community Needs Assessment
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Organization was engaged with at community organization meetings where the Community Needs Assessment, Consolidated Plan, and CDBG Funding process were presented. Community organizations were asked to fill out and distribute Community Needs Survey to clients and constituents.
8.	Agency/Group/Organization	St. Tammany Commission on Families
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	- Regional Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	- Housing Need Assessment - Infrastructure Need Assessment - Health Care Gap Assessment - Anti-Poverty Strategy - Community Needs Assessment
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Organization was engaged with at community organization meetings where the Community Needs Assessment, Consolidated Plan, and CDBG Funding process were presented. Community organizations were asked to fill out and distribute Community Needs Survey to clients and constituents.

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

St. Tammany Parish staff made an effort to alert all local agencies and organizations about the activation of the Community Needs Survey. No agency, group, or organization was prohibited from submitting a public comment or survey to the Parish in regard to this Consolidated Plan or the associated Community Needs Assessment.

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	Northlake Homeless Coalition	Plans created to identify gaps in services for the homeless and present projects, partnerships, and initiatives that may help to address those gaps.
Future Directors for St. Tammany Parish	St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation	The Parish anticipates utilizing CDBG funds to assist in its economic development initiatives by providing support for affordable housing in an effort to stabilize the workforce.
St. Tammany Parish Housing and Homeless Coalition	St. Tammany Parish	Coalition meeting attended by more than 35 stakeholders and representatives of agencies that have an invested interest in addressing the issues of housing, homelessness and quality of life in the Parish.
Behavioral Health Task Force	St. Tammany Parish	Ongoing discussions related to the mental and emotional health of Parish residents.
Community Assessment Steering Committee	St. Tammany Parish	Community meeting attended by more than 40 stakeholders and representatives of agencies that have an invested interest in addressing the issues of housing, homelessness and quality of life in the Parish with the goal of creating a Community Needs Assessment.
Hazard Mitigation Plan	St. Tammany Parish	This hazard mitigation plan is a comprehensive plan for disaster resiliency in St Tammany Parish. Produced by LSU, with participate from all municipalities and parish administration, this plan identified the natural hazards that threaten communities and the likely impacts of those hazards.
Safe Haven Campus Master Plan and Implem. Strategy	St. Tammany Parish	Parish hires a consultant to develop a master plan and implementation strategy to accommodate a comprehensive, multi- pronged behavioral health facility with defined services.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

The Parish publicized the date and time of the public hearings to encourage representatives from local governments to attend. Notice regarding the hearing was run in the local newspaper, on the Parish’s Website, and through E-mails distributed by partner agencies and contacts.

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

Citizen participation through the data collection period of the Community Needs Assessment, this Action Plan, and 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan occurred primarily through a Community Needs Survey and public meetings. The survey was crafted to mimic previous public surveys employed by St. Tammany Parish's Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to bring a familiarity of civic duty to respondent residents. The Community Needs Survey was available in-paper at public and community-focused locations around the Parish, such as Parish buildings, St. Tammany Parish Public Library branch locations, and the Northshore Community College campus, as well as digitally. St. Tammany Parish utilized its official social media platforms to push out the Community Needs Survey and made all social media posts 'sharable' so that followers could share the call for survey responses further to expanded circles. Survey results were collected and analyzed to determine which areas of need St. Tammany Parish residents most identify with – and how they believe funding should be prioritized. It is vital to St. Tammany Parish staff that residents have an opportunity to impact the goal setting of CDBG funding allocations and program development, as residents will be impacted by the quality of program design and overall execution. Representatives on behalf of St. Tammany Parish Department of Grants, Department of Planning, and Department of Health and Human Services presented on the 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan and associated Community Needs Assessment to an annual meeting of St. Tammany Parish employee alumni who all work in fields linked with increasing access and availability of affordable housing in St. Tammany Parish. In July 2023, St. Tammany Parish conducted two public meetings (one in the East of the Parish and one in the West) to explain the process of applying to HUD for CDBG funding, as well as to explain how the Parish came to support the hierarchy of needs that will influence how future Annual Action Plan prioritize funding allocations in coming years. At these meetings, residents had an opportunity to learn about local government processes, ask questions about how priorities were decided, and to give feedback on how they would like CDBG funding to be allocated in the future. Meetings will be advertised in the St. Tammany Farmer (newspaper of record), and on social media posts.

A discussion session was allowed for citizen input. Written, phone-in, and E- mailed comments also encouraged. Public hearings scheduled held in order to solicit community input:

[INSERT DATES]

In accordance with the planning process, public hearings are held during the Plan development and evaluation stages. Meeting notices for the public hearings are be publicized in the St. Tammany Farmer (the official St. Tammany Parish journal) and on the Parish's website. E-mails are also distributed to local government agencies and nonprofit organizations to alert them of the hearings as well. An additional 5-day public review process was provided for the public to review and comment upon the Annual Action Plan document before it was sent to HUD.

Input from the community will be contributed to the establishment of housing and community development goals. Parish staff will review public input and comments as they are submitted. Staff will weigh the priorities of Parish Administration in concurrence with citizen input, and then present a proposed project plan to Parish Administration for consideration and approval. A draft of the Annual Action Plan and the projects proposed for the Annual Action Plan was posted on the Parish's Website on [DATE]. A 30-day comment period will run through [DATE]. Citizens, public agencies, or other interested parties wishing to comment on the plans can do so by E-mail, or by mail to the Department of Grants.

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Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of Response / Attendance	Summary of Comments Received	Summary of Comments Not Accepted & Reasons	URL (if Applicable)
1.	Public Organization Meeting	Nonprofit Service Providers	25 Organizations in Attendance	Comments received in Community Needs Survey	All comments accepted	(2) Northshore Nonprofit Resource Roundup Facebook
2.	Public Organization Meeting	Nonprofit Service Providers	20 Organizations in attendance	Comments received in Community Needs Survey	All comments accepted	St. Tammany Commission on Families (stcof.org)
3.	Digital Survey	Non-Targeted / Broad Community	87 Digital Survey Responses	Comments received in Community Needs Survey	All comments accepted	2023 St. Tammany Parish Community Needs Assessment Survey (arcgis.com)
4.	Paper Survey	Non-Targeted / Broad Community	Returned Paper Survey Responses		All comments accepted	N/A
5.	Newspaper Ad	Non-Targeted / Board Community	St. Tammany Farmer public notice	Comments received at public meetings	All comments accepted	N/A

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The St. Tammany Parish Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Grants will continue to support these projects with their equipment, personnel, and expertise. See additional resources in the table below.

Anticipated Resources:

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan: \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources : \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	Public Federal	Acquisition, Admin and Planning, Economic Development, Public Improvements, Housing, Public Services	\$1,262,960.00	\$1,108,171.63	\$0	\$2,371,131.63	\$5,051,840	The Parish anticipates receiving \$1,262,960 a year in CDBG Entitlement funding from HUD each year for the next five years. The Parish also anticipates receiving \$1,108,171.63 in reallocated funds from Katrina-Rita DR program income to the CDBG program for the Cardinal Cove project at the Safe Haven campus in year 1.
Continuum of Care	Public Federal	Housing	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	The Northlake Homeless Coalition receives CoC funding from HUD and then disperses those funds to local agencies.
HOME Grant	Public Federal	Housing,	\$500,000	\$0	\$0	\$500,000	\$2,000,000	Creation of affordable housing.
Emergency Solutions Grant Program	Public Federal	Public Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	Assistance for homeless shelters and homeless individuals
Community Service Block Grant	Public Federal	Other- LMI Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	LWC - Community Service Block Grant to assist with Utility and housing cost assistance for low-income individuals and families
<i>Other</i>								

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

- There are currently no entitlement fund matching requirements that need to be addressed. However, CDBG funds that are used to administer the STAR Transit voucher program will contribute to STAR Transit's FTA match requirements

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

- St. Tammany Parish is continually pursuing supplemental grant opportunities for public facilities improvement projects that will take place on Parish owned property. Safe Haven, a Parish owned property, continues to be a high priority for funding over the next five years, including in year 1 with the implementation of the Cardinal Cove project to provide housing services to Veterans experiencing homelessness. With a rising suicide rate, St. Tammany Parish is experiencing a pressing need for behavioral health intervention. The Covid-19 pandemic and recent hurricanes (such as 2022's Hurricane Ida) have created increased need for homeless prevention in the Parish.

Discuss

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographical Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1.	Public Service	2023	2024	- Non-Homeless Special Needs - Non-Housing - Community Development	- Highway 190/433 Area - Browns Village Road Area - West 30's -Parish-Wide*	- Affordable Housing - Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG \$: \$189,444	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 30 Persons Assisted Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 20 Persons Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 40 Persons Assisted Mental Health Care Services Provided
2.	Program Administration	2023	2024	- Planning	- Highway 190/433 Area - Browns Village Road Area - West 30's - Parish-Wide*	- Affordable Housing - Infrastructure Improvements - Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG \$: \$252,592	Other
3.	Homelessness Prevention	2023	2024	Homelessness Prevention	Parish-Wide	Homelessness prevention	CDBG \$: 1,108,171.63 (from PI transfer from Katrina-Rita DR)	Number of units renovated: 30
4.	Public Facilities and Improvements	2023	2024	- Non-Housing Community Development	- Highway 190/433 Area - Browns Village Road Area - West 30's -Parish-Wide*	- Infrastructure Improvements - Non-Housing Community Development - Transportation Access	CDBG \$: \$820,924	Number of Sewer Upgrades/Replacements

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Public Service
	Goal Description	Public service programs that have an emphasis on affordable housing accessibility, homeless prevention and housing aid, homeownership education, and aging in place service programming for LMI residents of St. Tammany Parish.
2	Goal Name	Program Administration
	Goal Description	CDBG FY 2023-2024 Admin
3	Goal Name	Homelessness Prevention
	Goal Description	Programs to reduce the incidence of homelessness or aid those experiencing homelessness.
4	Goal Name	Public Facilities and Improvements
	Goal Description	Programs involving public facilities and improvements help to allow residents to age in place, securing long-term housing options and increasing housing affordability. Public infrastructure programs will ensure that St. Tammany Parish experiences smart-growth patterns ensuring sewer connectivity.

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

St. Tammany Parish will prioritize programs that increase the quality-of-life and self-sustainability for low- and moderate-income residents. Projects that support housing affordability for Parish residents increase the ability for an individual to age in place, by ensuring that their accommodations are safe and structurally sound. Additionally, programs that increase the likelihood of individuals on fixed incomes being able to financially navigate rising and fluctuating insurance costs (including flood insurance) will help ensure housing affordability and will increase the probability that residents can age-in-place. Investing in programs that support mental and physical wellbeing, the Parish can ensure that residents are able to chart a course where they can take care of themselves, addressing compounding factors which could lead to a diminished unhoused population in future years. Economic development programs ensure that residents who would like to enter and reenter the work force are about to navigate possible obstacles, which may include childcare coverage and reliable transportation options. Tackling Parish challenges from several fronts at once, the Parish hopes to utilize CDBG funding to help as many families and individuals as possible with a long-term impact on affordable housing, economic stability, and ultimately creating a foundation on which self-reliance will be achieved. Additional programs include homeownership education, aid for unhoused residents, childcare programming expansion, and transportation solutions.

#	Project Name
1	Program Administration
2	Individual Sewer Repair
3	Residential Rehab
4	Childcare Assistance
5	Homelessness Prevention at Safe Haven + Mental Health / Suicide Prevention
6	Homeless Prevention
7	Transportation Assistance
8	Veterans Services
9	Healthcare Clinic Access
10	Behavioral Health
11	Flood Insurance Assistance
12	Homeownership Education

13	Food Bank
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Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserves needs.

Allocation is based on current needs identified in the discovery phase of the development of the 2023 Community Needs Assessment, with results reflected by participant input within the Community Needs Survey. All program areas with intended allocation were prioritized based on determined current and historic needs. Obstacles addressing underserved populations’ needs may include limitations on inclusion of all who have needs, and limitations on being able to address all needs fully, regardless of population size.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Program Administration
	Target Area	Parish-Wide
	Goals Supported	Program Administration
	Needs Addressed	Administrative duties to support the distribution of CDBG funding from St. Tammany Parish staff.
	Funding	CDBG: \$252,592
	Description	Funds used to support program staff
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Est. # & type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A - This portion of the funds will be used to support Parish operations to ensure that STP CDBG funds are accurately and efficiently distributed.
	Location Description	Parish-wide
Planned Activities	Program and grant administration	
2	Project Name	Individual Sewer Repair
	Target Area	Highway 190/433 Area, Browns Village Road Area, West 30's, and Parish-Wide*
	Goals Supported	Public Facilities and Improvements, Public Service
	Needs Addressed	Basic Housing Facilities, Affordable Housing, Age-In-Place
	Funding	CDBG: \$287,323.40

	Description	Sewer connection for residential developments and sewer upgrades to ensure complete plumbing facilities.
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Est. # & type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	40 families/households will benefit from this program. Families and households who are recipients of this program will be LMI.
	Location Description	Targeted areas with high saturation of LMI households, however participants will not be denied if they live outside of LMI areas, as long as they meet program requirements.
	Planned Activities	Completion of sewer facility connection within residential structures that do not have sewer access.
3	Project Name	Residential Rehab
	Target Area	Highway 190/433 Area, Browns Village Road Area, West 30's, and Parish-Wide*
	Goals Supported	Infrastructure, homelessness prevention, housing affordability
	Needs Addressed	Housing Affordability, Age-In-Place
	Funding	CDBG: \$287,323.40
	Description	Home restoration services, repairs, and ADA compliant upgrades for LMI households in need.
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Est. # & type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	20 LMI households will be able to participate in this program annually. Households will be classified as LMI and will show the need for residential rehabilitation, either through storm damage or ADA compliant upgrades.
	Location Description	Targeted areas with high saturation of LMI households.
	Planned Activities	Construction on private homes in the form of repairs, refurbishment, and ADA compliance.
4	Project Name	Childcare Assistance
	Target Area	Highway 190/433 Area, Browns Village Road Area, West 30's, and Parish-Wide*
	Goals Supported	Public Service, Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Job access, childcare facilities
	Funding	CDBG: \$0
	Description	Increased childcare options for LMI families with young children in St. Tammany Parish.
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Est. # & type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	LMI families with young children who have not been accepted into State-run childcare facilities thereby hindering parents/guardians from entering/reentering the workforce. If funding is identified, St.

		Tammany estimates that funding of \$162,000 could support childcare subsidies or support for 20 families with children for approximately 9 months of enrollment for each child.
	Location Description	Targeted areas with high saturation of LMI households, however participants will not be denied if they live outside of LMI areas, as long as they meet program requirements.
	Planned Activities	Opening new childcare facilities or funding for more positions at existing childcare facilities in St. Tammany Parish to accept new children into early childhood programs.
5	Project Name	Homelessness Prevention at Safe Haven + Mental Health / Suicide Prevention
	Target Area	Parish-Wide*
	Goals Supported	Homelessness Prevention
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Prevention Support
	Funding	CDBG: \$1,108,171.63
	Description	Funding for the implementation of Cardinal Cove at the Safe Haven Campus – providing housing assistance to 30 LMI individuals, including Veterans experiencing homelessness.
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Est. # & type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	30 LMI households including Veterans
	Location Description	Safe Haven Campus
	Planned Activities	Renovate six Parish owned buildings (Cardinal Cove) on the Safe Haven Campus in Mandeville. Upon completion, the buildings will be used to house homeless veterans. Of the six buildings, five are residential and one is common. Each of the five residential buildings include six client rooms, three bathrooms, and a laundry room. The community or shared space (the sixth building) will include a common recreational area, cafeteria and offices for staff. Renovations will make the buildings suitable live/work space for clients and employees. In addition to the building renovations, the project will include constructing a driveway and parking lot for the structures. The project will consist of design and construction costs. The Safe Haven Campus is a network of facilities and services aimed at providing a collaborative healing environment for the behavioral health continuum by creating a high-quality, coordinated, sustainable and humane network of care anchored in St. Tammany Parish. Safe Haven has a wide variety of partners, on and off campus, all working together for the betterment of mental health in our community. Upon completion, the facility can provide 30 moderate, low, or extremely low-income individuals levels of housing assistance including emergency, short-term, and long-term. Participating veterans to be provided with housing, transportation, and employment. St. Tammany Parish Department of Health and Human Services will procure a service provider to create a program in

		line with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Small House Model https://www.cfm.va.gov/til/dGuide/dgSHModel.pdf . Intake documentation, including income verification will be required of each resident. Clients will be referred from programs around the Parish or surrounding Parishes. It's anticipated that the largest number of referrals for the program will come from the 22nd JDC Specialty Veterans Court, the Northlake Homeless Coalition, the New Orleans VA Medical Center and Covington Behavioral Health (provides inpatient and outpatient treatment specifically for Veterans).
6	Project Name	Homeless Prevention
	Target Area	Highway 190/433 Area, Browns Village Road Area, West 30's, and Parish-Wide*
	Goals Supported	Public Service, Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Prevention Support
	Funding	CDBG: \$0
	Description	The CDBG funds supply bedroom furnishings to help those families transition into a home environment. CDBG also supplies part of the case management money for the two-year period after homelessness.
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Est. # & type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	If funding is identified, \$40,000 in program funding could support the provision of 60 beds for approximately 20 families who have graduated from the Family Promise program (a shelter/transitional case management program for homeless families) to receive stabilization and supportive services for a period of two years to keep them from experiencing homelessness again.
	Location Description	Family Promise
	Planned Activities	The CDBG funds supply bedroom furnishings to help those families transition into a home environment. CDBG also supplies part of the case management money for the two-year period after homelessness.
7	Project Name	Transportation Assistance
	Target Area	Highway 190/433 Area, Browns Village Road Area, West 30's, and Parish-Wide*
	Goals Supported	Public Service, Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Transportation Access, Re-entry, Recidivism Rate Reduction
	Funding	CDBG: \$0

	Description	In partnership with LA Prisoner Reentry Initiative, NAMI will use this funding to provide transportation to reentry services for formerly incarcerated individuals that without LA-PRI would otherwise not have access to reliable transportation services.
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Est. # & type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	With funding, this program could support LMI individuals who have court obligations at the 22 nd JDC Specialty Court. St. Tammany estimates that if funding were identified, approximately \$105,000 could provide approximately 55 rides for participating individuals.
	Location Description	Targeted LMI Communities would be primarily served, however individuals outside of Target Area may be included in the program. Destination of transportation services would be Specialty Courts at 22 nd JDC.
	Planned Activities	Program would provide funding to NAMI to help fund two vans and two buses for transportation services to six specialty courts at the 22 nd JDC
8	Project Name	Veterans' Services
	Target Area	Highway 190/433 Area, Browns Village Road Area, West 30's, and Parish-Wide*
	Goals Supported	Public Service, Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Veterans' Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$0
	Description	Coordination with St. Tammany Parish Veteran outreach services to ensure veteran inclusion into CDBG-funded programs.
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Est. # & type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Services provided based on changing needs based on population trends, and availability of other resources targeted to veterans and their families.
	Location Description	Targeted areas with high saturation of LMI households.
	Planned Activities	At this time, there are no planned activities. Future activities should reflect the needs of target populations.
9	Project Name	Health Care Clinic Access
	Target Area	Parish-Wide
	Goals Supported	Public Service, Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Public health access for Parish residents
	Funding	CDBG: \$0

	Description	Reestablishment of an Office of Public Health in St. Tammany Parish. Investigation into developing new methods for increasing health care access for LMI residents of St. Tammany Parish.
	Target Date	Date TBD
	Est. # & type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	LMI families and individuals around the Parish will likely benefit from having increased access to health care clinics and a public health office in the parish.
	Location Description	Location to be determined by St. Tammany Parish staff
	Planned Activities	Reestablishment of an Office of Public Health in St. Tammany Parish.
10	Project Name	Behavioral Health
	Target Area	Highway 190/433 Area, Browns Village Road Area, West 30's, and Parish-Wide*
	Goals Supported	Public Service
	Needs Addressed	Mental health services, Suicide prevention
	Funding	CDBG: \$75,777.60
	Description	Program funding for the continuation of Safe Haven's campus expansion, program operation, and project development that benefit the needs of LMI patients.
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Est. # & type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The estimated number of families and individuals who will benefit from proposed activities will depend on the operation capacities of Safe Haven at the time of funding allocation.
	Location Description	Safe Haven Campus, 63069 Hummingbird Ln, Mandeville, LA 70448
	Planned Activities	Planned activities will be submitted to Parish staff prior to funding allocation. Programs will benefit LMI patients who reside in St. Tammany Parish.
11	Project Name	Flood Insurance Assistance
	Target Area	Highway 190/433 Area, Browns Village Road Area, West 30's, and Parish-Wide*
	Goals Supported	Public Service, Public Facilities and Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing, Age-In-Place, Homeless Prevention
	Funding	CDBG: \$246,277.20
	Description	Assistance in cost subsidization for rising, and fluctuating, flood insurance rates in St. Tammany Parish for LMI residents on fixed incomes. This program will work in tandem with the Parish's existing home-elevation program to more quickly identify families and households who are in most need of this type of assistance.
	Target Date	12/31/2024

	Est. # & type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	An estimated 60 LMI Families/Households will be assisted (est. \$2,000 per household) with Flood Insurance cost assistance.
	Location Description	Targeted areas with high saturation of LMI households.
	Planned Activities	Financial assistance to LMI families and households who need help to cover rising costs of flood insurance for their homes.
12	Project Name	Homeownership Education
	Target Area	Highway 190/433 Area, Browns Village Road Area, West 30's, and Parish-Wide*
	Goals Supported	Public Service, Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing, Homeless Prevention
	Funding	CDBG: \$0
	Description	Educational programming for LMI households and individuals who are not yet homeowners.
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Est. # & type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Educating LMI families and individuals on resources and programs available to them. This programming will increase homeownership legibility and will provide guidance towards long-term affordable housing solutions.
	Location Description	Targeted areas with high saturation of LMI households, however participants will not be denied if they live outside of LMI areas, as long as they meet program requirements.
	Planned Activities	Training and education services.
13	Project Name	Food Bank
	Target Area	Highway 190/433 Area, Browns Village Road Area, West 30's, and Parish-Wide*
	Goals Supported	Public Service
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing, Homeless Prevention
	Funding	CDBG: \$75,777.60
	Description	Programmatic support to provide funding to support LMI residents.
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Est. # & type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Based on United Way publications, St. Tammany estimates that this funding allocation could provide one month of meals for 1,120 families.
	Location Description	Targeted areas with high saturation of LMI households.
	Planned Activities	Financial support for food bank operations.

AP-50 Geographic Description – 91.220(f)

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

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	% of Funds
Highway 190/433 Area	15
Browns Village Road Access	36
West 30's	9

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically.

Infrastructure Improvements

CDBG funds have been and will continue to be invested in planning, engineering, and design of infrastructure improvements in the Hwy 11 area. St. Tammany Parish identified two neighborhoods requiring upgrades to sewer and water systems.

- In the Ben Thomas neighborhood, master planning and design work for sub surface drainage are in process. “Shovel ready plans” for a community treatment plant were completed and the project will be constructed in phases, pending availability of funds. A waterline redundancy study is complete for Ben Thomas and Alton communities.
- St. Tammany Parish has signed a contract with the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation to study the Hwy 433/Thompson Road for the purpose of improving the water quality. CDBG funds are currently allocated for replacement of outdated and non-compliant septic systems, and the repair non –functioning aerator treatment units and pump out of exiting tanks.

Behavioral Health

In May 2015, St. Tammany Parish acquired the site of the Southeast Louisiana Hospital, located near Hwy 190 in Mandeville. The Hospital was formerly operated by the State of Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals which served as a respite and rehabilitation facility for the mentally ill. CDBG funds were reprogrammed from residential rehabilitation to fund the demolition and clearing of four Hurricane Katrina damaged buildings on Martin Drive within the Hospital site. A section of the Hospital campus is operated by the National Alliance of Mental Illness-St. Tammany for sheltering severely disabled and chronic, behaviorally ill patients. As part of the Parish’s long-term investment in the

Hospital campus and a commitment to support behaviorally or mentally disabled persons, CDBG funds will be used to rehabilitate a building for use as a homeless center for persons recently released from parish prison with addiction or mental illness.

The remaining funds will be spent on LMI residents across the Parish also funds will be spent on issues related to the recent pandemic of COVID. When appropriate, the needs of the disabled, special needs and elderly populations will receive priority in obtaining services.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

One Year Goal for the # of Households to be Supported	
Homeless:	180
Non-Homeless:	100
Special Needs:	20
Total:	300

One Year Goal for the # of Households to be Supported	
Rental Assistance:	0
Production of New Units:	0
Rehab of Existing Units:	20
Acquisition of Existing Units:	0
Total:	20

Discussion

The “Food Bank” program will support residents who are unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused. The “Flood Insurance Assistance” and “Individual Sewer Repair” programs will support approximately 120 LMI families who are in homes by supporting their long-term use of their homes and ability to remain in their homes on a fixed or low income. Rehabilitation of existing units will largely take place within the “Residential Rehab” program which aims to assist 20 LMI households (included in the 120 total listed above).

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

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

To address the needs of public housing residents, the Parish will:

- Contact housing authority staff about the applicable events or services that may be helpful to their residents
- The St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance meetings of which housing authority staff are invited members

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

The Parish will distribute information about homeownership assistance programs and services to the housing authority staff so that they may be distributed to residents.

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

Not applicable.

Discussion

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

Introduction

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

Family Promise Affiliate - A Sheltering System for Families

As a sheltering system for families, this program provides shelter, case management, life skills education, and transportation assistance for homeless families. The program is designed to ensure children attend school, families stay together, and assistance is provided so that these families can again become self-sufficient. The initial start-up activities were provided through the Parish and the State of Louisiana Office of Community Development.

Attend NHC Meetings

Department of Grants and CDBG staff continue to attend regular meetings of the Northlake Homeless Coalition. The goal of these meetings is to help the Parish stay current with the issues that are affecting the homeless population and the organizations that serve them.

Provide Information and Referral

Department of Grants will continue to provide resource and referral information to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources. This information is posted on the Parish's website and is regularly updated.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs for homeless persons

Family Promise Affiliate - A Sheltering System for Families

As a sheltering system for families, this program provides shelter, case management, life skills education, and transportation assistance for homeless families. The program is designed to ensure children attend school, families stay together, and assistance is provided so that these families can again become self-sufficient. The initial start-up activities were provided through the Parish and the State of Louisiana Office of Community Development.

Support for Homeownership Center

Residents successfully completing the Homeless and Housing Assistance Program will be directed to the Homeownership Center (HOC) as part of the pathway from homelessness to self-sustainability and home ownership. The HOC will provide homebuyer training and Individual Development Account (IDA) information to families seeking to stabilize their housing situation and aid in the prevention of homelessness. These services include pre-purchase counseling, credit repair, money management classes, and homebuyer training classes.

Attend NHC Meetings

Department of Grants and CDBG staff will continue to attend monthly meetings of the Northlake Homeless Coalition.

Provide Information and Referral

Department of Grants will continue to provide resource and referral information to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources. A new referral directory is now available on the DHHS website.

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

Support for Homeownership Center

Residents successfully completing the Homeless and Housing Assistance Program will be directed to the Homeownership Centers (HOC) as part of the pathway from homelessness to self-sustainability and homeownership. The HOC will provide homebuyer training and Individual Development Account (IDA) information to families seeking to stabilize their housing situation and aid in the prevention of

homelessness. These services include pre-purchase counseling, credit repair, money management classes, and homebuyer training classes.

Family Promise Affiliate - A Sheltering System for Families

As a sheltering system for families, this program provides shelter, case management, life skills education, and transportation assistance for homeless families. The program is designed to ensure children attend school, families stay together, and assistance is provided so that these families can again become self-sufficient. The initial start-up activities are funded through the Parish and the State of Louisiana Office of Community Development.

Community Land Trust

The State Office of Community Development- Disaster Recovery Unit is providing CDBG –DR funds to St. Tammany Parish to underwrite the local land trust, the Northshore Housing Initiative (NHI). This organization makes affordable housing opportunities available to income-eligible clients. St. Tammany Parish has received approval to move forward with HUD’s HOME grant to develop strategies that lead towards greater affordable housing access.

Attend NHC Meetings

Department of Grants and CDBG staff will continue to attend monthly meetings of the Northlake Homeless Coalition.

Provide Information and Referral

Department of Grants will continue to provide resource and referral information to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources. A new referral directory is now available on the Parish’s website.

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.

Infrastructure Improvements- Sewer &Water

St. Tammany Parish targeted infrastructure improvement in 2013-2014’s CDBG program year during which a watershed study was commissioned to evaluate the most needed projects. Once the study was completed in June 2014, an internal review was implemented to identify LMI neighborhoods where infrastructure improvements were needed. The LMI neighborhoods of Bayou Liberty, Ben Thomas, and Slidell Manor were selected for improvements.

Family Promise Affiliate - A Sheltering System for Families

The St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance developed a local affiliate of the national “Family Promise” organization. As a sheltering system for families, this program provides shelter, case management, life skills education, and transportation assistance for homeless families. The program is designed to ensure that children can attend school, that families can stay together, and that assistance

is provided so that these families can again become self-sufficient. The initial start-up activities were funded through the Parish and the State of Louisiana Office of Community Development.

Provide Home Repair Assistance

The Parish will continue to fund minor home repairs targeting LMI households, which can receive necessary repairs that make their homes physically and financially more sustainable. The Parish will collaborate with local non-profit & for-profit organizations to perform health and safety related repairs and promote energy efficient modifications to homes.

For the fourth year, CDBG funds will also be used for the repair and replacement of non-compliant septic systems. This health and safety improvement are needed for the overall water quality of Parish residents.

Attend NHC Meetings

CDBG staff will continue to attend monthly meetings of the Northlake Homeless Coalition.

Provide Information and Referral

Department of Grants will continue to provide resource and referral information to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources. A new referral directory is now available on the Parish's website.

Discussion

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

Introduction

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

Barriers to affordable housing include:

Rising Insurance Costs

According to the Washington Post, nationwide homeowners' insurance premiums climbed 11.4% between 2017 and 2022, outpacing inflation¹. Louisiana and other coastal states have recently struggled with insurance companies abandoning their markets entirely, leaving residents to fall back on the state's Louisiana Citizens Property Insurance Corp. The Louisiana Citizens Property Insurance Corp². is a nonprofit organization created to provide insurance products for homeowners who are unable to procure insurance through the private marketplace. Because it is the insurer of "last resort" for homeowners, the state mandates it to have higher prices, which are typically set 10% above private

¹ [Homeowners insurance premiums are rising fast - The Washington Post](#)

² [Louisiana Citizens rate increases will be as high as 111% in some parishes | Hurricane Center | nola.com](#)

insurance rates³. Policyholders will be seeing Citizens premiums rising by as much as 69% in St. Tammany Parish in 2023.

In 2021, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) began implementing Risk Rating 2.0, a new methodology for calculating flood risk. While flood insurance premiums were escalating in Louisiana prior to Risk Rating 2.0, premiums will be doubling and tripling for St. Tammany Parish residents in the coming years: Spring 2023 data suggests that only one St. Tammany zip code will see rate increases under 50%⁴. For example, in Mandeville's 70448 zip code, NFIP estimates the average current cost of insurance is \$845 per year and that the average risk-based cost of insurance will be \$1,846, a 118.5% increase⁵.

Cost of Infrastructure and Growth

The cost of providing water, sewer, drainage, and roads to new residential development is substantial, and remains a limiting factor on the construction of affordable housing. In 2005, the St. Tammany Parish Council adopted the policy of imposing mandatory impact fees to offset the strain that new growth puts on Parish roads and drainage. These fees are paid on new residential development that is south of the Parish's Urban Growth Boundary where most of the new residential development is located in the Parish. While some individuals can be granted a waiver of the impact fees if they can demonstrate an income level of "Very Low Income" based on HUD criteria, these fees may be seen as a deterrent to building by individuals who are above the "Very Low Income" level but under the "Moderate Income" level. Parish staff work with homebuyers to identify any opportunity to encourage Parish officials to waive the fees for households at "Moderate Income" level.

Neighborhood Distrust of Affordable Housing

Like many other American communities, St. Tammany has faced pushback from residents about the development of affordable housing. Some residents' concerns about affordable housing surfaced when the Parish conducted a community survey for the St. Tammany Parish 2023 Community Needs Assessment. While most residents who completed the survey expressed support for the development of affordable housing (one even expressed a need for additional education "on NIMBYISM"), some comments included a desire for "less people," especially "those on public dependency."

In recent years, Parish staff have worked with local officials and the Northshore Housing Initiative and local chapters of Habitat for Humanity to work on outreach and education to the community about the benefits and needs of affordable housing.

Discussion:

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³ [Company Overview \(lacitizens.com\)](https://www.lacitizens.com)

⁴ [How much will your flood insurance rise? Check this map | Environment | nola.com](https://www.environment.nola.com)

⁵ [Cost of Flood Insurance for Single-Family Homes under Risk Rating 2.0 | FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov)

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

Provide Information and Referral

Department of Grants will continue to provide resource and referral information to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources such as job training, education, and employment assistance.

Attend NHC Meetings

CDBG staff will continue to attend regular meetings of the Northlake Homeless Coalition. These meetings help the Parish stay current with the issues that are affecting the homeless population and the organizations that serves them. This will also allow the Parish to play a role in the NHC's development of a single point-of-entry system.

Meeting Attendance and Information Coordination

Parish staff will continue to play an active role in the planning and development of our community's delivery system. By attending meetings and staying in constant communication with local service providers, Parish government can assist in addressing the most urgent and current needs of our citizens.

Provide Home Repair Assistance

The Parish will continue to fund minor home repairs targeting LMI households, which can receive necessary repairs that make their homes physically and financially more sustainable. The Parish will collaborate with local non-profit & for-profit organizations to perform health and safety related repairs and promote energy efficient modifications to homes. These efforts will enable elderly and elderly-frail residents to age in place at a greater rate and in greater comfort.

For the current year, previous CDBG funds will also be used for the repair and replacement of noncompliant septic systems. This health and safety improvement are needed for the overall water quality of Parish residents.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

Attend NHC Meetings

CDBG staff will continue to attend monthly meetings of the Northlake Homeless Coalition. These meetings help the Parish stay current with the issues that are affecting the homeless population and the organizations that serves them. This will also allow the Parish to play a role in the NHC's development of a single point-of-entry system.

Provide Information and Referral

The Department of Grants will continue to provide resource and referral information, including contact information to local affordable housing providers, to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources. This information will also be distributed through the Parish's Website.

Support Local Organizations that Provide Affordable Housing

The Parish is collaborating with the local land trust, the Northshore Housing Initiative, by providing them with non-entitlement CDBG funds received from the State Office of Community Development.

Provide Home Repair Assistance

The Parish will continue to fund minor home repair programs targeting LMI households, which can receive necessary repairs and make their homes physically and financially more sustainable. The Parish is again funding local non-profit organizations to perform health and safety related repairs. In previous years the Parish has successfully partnered with Volunteers of America, Northshore Disaster Recovery Initiatives, World Changers and Habitat for Humanity St Tammany West.

The Parish plans to assist qualified LMI homeowners with Non-federal portion of cost share, of elevation of homes that have met FEMA guidelines. The Parish plans to assist qualified LMI homeowners with Flood Insurance cost.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

Provide LBP Educational Information to the Public

The Parish will display LBP posters in its DHHS and CAA offices and will have that information available for distribution to organizations and interested parties. Recipients of the Parish-funded minor home repair program(s) will also receive LBP educational materials. The Parish will inform local organizations that serve LMI populations know that LBP educational materials can be accessed from the DHHS.

Provide Affordable Housing Program Information to Affected Households

Households that are affected by LBP are able to contact the Parish for information regarding affordable housing opportunities for homes without LBP hazards. The Parish maintains a current list of affordable housing options in St. Tammany that can be distributed to interested parties. The Parish will let local organizations that serve LMI populations know that affordable housing information can be accessed from the Department of Grants.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Provide Information and Referral

Grants department will continue to provide resource and referral information to citizens and organizations who contact the office looking for resources such as job training, education, and employment assistance. This information will also be distributed through the Parish's Website and monthly electronic newsletter.

Provide Home Repair Assistance

The Parish will continue to fund minor home repairs targeting LMI households (especially for elderly who are on a fixed income), which can receive necessary repairs that make their homes physically and financially more sustainable. The Parish will collaborate with local non-profit & for-profit organizations to perform health and safety related repairs and promote energy efficient modifications to homes.

For the current year, previous CDBG funds will also be used for the repair and replacement of noncompliant septic systems. This health and safety improvement are needed for the overall water quality of Parish residents.

Provide Insurance Cost Assistance

The Parish will utilize CDBG funding to target the rising rates of insurance facing St. Tammany Parish residents; particularly the increasing cost of flood insurance. By helping to cover some of the insurance costs, the Parish can ensure that residents who are living on a fixed income are over inundated by unstable and increasing insurance costs which could impact their available funds for other necessary expenses, such as mortgage payments, rental payments, food, and transportation.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

Development of Single Point of Entry System

The NHC created a single point of entry system for homeless housing and service providers. The system gives providers access to information for homeless persons to receive expedited assistance and information when accessing services.

Family Promise Affiliate- Sheltering System for Families

A local affiliate of the national “Family Promise” organization has been operational since April 2015. As a sheltering system for families, this program provides shelter, case management, life skills education, and transportation assistance for homeless families. The program is designed to ensure that children can attend school, families can stay together, and assistance is provided so that these families can again become self-sufficient. The initial start-up activities are funded through the Parish’s CDBG-DR funds and the State of Louisiana Office of Community Development. A permanent day center is planned for the Safe Haven campus in Mandeville, LA. The local homebuilder’s association has agreed to donate their services to construct the Family Promise of St. Tammany Day Center, for homeless families.

Meeting Attendance and Information Coordination

Parish staff will continue to play an active role in the planning and development of our community’s delivery system. By attending meetings and staying in constant communication with local service providers, Parish government can assist in addressing the most urgent and current needs of our citizens.

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

Parish staff will continue to play an active role in the planning and development of our community’s delivery system. By attending meetings and staying in constant communication with local service providers, Parish government can assist in addressing the most urgent and current needs of our citizens.

National Alliance for Mental Illness-St. Tammany received funds to provide training, educational, and support services to individuals with mental illness and their families; a mental health case manager servicing the Behavioral Health Court clients of 22nd JDC, and support for a Group Home (operations and maintenance) for transitional housing and access to services for individuals with severe behavioral health issues. Louisiana Public Health Institute maintains a “Dashboard” with up-to-date behavioral health information accessible to the public. Access Health supports two full time Licensed Clinical Social Workers and a part time Psychiatrist, who provide counseling services to uninsured individuals at a Medicaid cost. Youth Service Bureau supports case plans, drug screens and counseling for at-risk youth who are receiving behavioral health services at the Youth Service Bureau of St. Tammany. STOPS provides support to groups and services to families of suicide victims. VOA - Crisis Response provides support to law enforcement by providing mental health assessments and support to individuals in crisis along with their families. As of now, these services will not be funded due to funding shortages as a result of a failed tax renewal. The Grants department plans to assist these agencies with finding possible funding to continue their services to the parish.

In 2008, two coalitions were formed to address the predominant social issues: “St. Tammany Behavioral Health Task Force” and “St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance.” These two groups have become excellent planning tools for service coordination for mental health, homelessness, and housing needs in St. Tammany. Mental health and housing/homelessness have become the most important and visible needs of our community; the Alliance and Task Forces have played a role in ensuring that service gaps are identified and that efforts made to address those gaps are non-duplicative and coordinated. The Behavioral Health Task force has been redesigned and restructured into the Safe Haven Advisory Board.

Members of the Safe Haven Advisory Board include representatives from the following organizations: National Alliance on Mental Illness – St. Tammany, the Florida Parishes Human Service Authority, Catholic Charities – Northshore, St. Tammany Outreach for the Prevention of Suicide (STOPS), the St. Tammany Parish Coroner’s Office, the St. Tammany Community Health Center, St. Tammany Parish Hospital, Volunteers of America Greater New Orleans, St. Tammany Parish Sheriff’s Office, Northlake Behavioral Health System, Slidell Memorial Hospital and the St. Tammany Parish Dept. Of Health and Human Services.

Members of the St. Tammany Housing and Homeless Alliance include representatives from the following organizations: the Northlake Homeless Coalition, Volunteers of America Greater New Orleans, Catholic Charities – Northshore, the Samaritan Center, Covington Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity St. Tammany West, Habitat for Humanity St. Tammany East, the Covington Housing Authority, St. Tammany Community Action Agency, Slidell Housing Authority, Northshore Community Foundation, the City of Covington, Community Christian Concern, and the St. Tammany Parish Dept. of Grants.

Discussion:

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Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

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

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 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low- and moderate-income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan: **100.00%**