

Consolidated Plan

Public Information Session



City of Providence
Dept. of Planning & Development
Division of Housing & Community
Development
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Agenda

- Process Overview
 - What is a Consolidated Plan?
 - What funding is available?
 - What can funds be used for?
- ConPlan Process
- Discussion
 - Updated Goals & Priorities
 - What are we missing?
- Timeline/Next Steps



Process Overview

What is a Consolidated Plan?

- The Consolidated Plan establishes an effective, coordinated strategy for supporting housing and community development efforts over the next five years (FFY2020-2024).
- Citizen participation is a key part of creating the Consolidated Plan, and involves engaging the public to direct Plan objectives, review Plan language, and critique past and future program performance.

Governs investments of following federal \$\$:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)
- Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

CDBG 101

- **Approx. \$4M to distribute/year**
- **History:** CDBG funded through Title I of Housing & Community Development Act of 1974.
- Providence has been an entitlement funding community for over 40 years.
- **Primary Purpose:**
 - Provide Quality Affordable Housing
 - Create Suitable Living Environments
 - Expand Economic Opportunities

CDBG 101

- **4 main categories:**
 - Public Facilities
 - Public Services
 - Economic Development
 - Housing
- **Qualification:**
 - Direct service to low/moderate income clients
 - Service to predominately low/moderate income neighborhood
 - Create or retain jobs for low/moderate income
 - Create or preserve housing for low/moderate income.

HOME 101

- **Approx. \$900,000 to distribute/year**
- **History:** HOME is authorized under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, as amended. Program regulations are at 24 CFR Part 92.
- **Primary Purpose:** HOME provides funds to build, buy, and/or rehabilitate affordable housing for rent or homeownership or provide direct rental assistance to low-income people.
 - Development/Support of Affordable Rental Housing
 - Development of Affordable Homeownership Housing
 - Down Payment or Repair Assistance Programs
 - Tenant-based Rental Assistance Programs

HOME 101

- **Eligible Uses:**

- Development/Support of Affordable Rental Housing
- Development of Affordable Homeownership Housing
- Down Payment or Repair Assistance Programs
- Tenant-based Rental Assistance Programs

- **Eligible Applicants:**

- Qualified developers (for- or non-profit) with proven capacity to develop or rehabilitate housing for the low-moderate income.
- Qualified agencies (“subrecipients”) with proven capacity to deliver housing programs to low-moderate populations.

HOPWA 101

- **Approx. \$1M to distribute/year**
- **History & Purpose:** HOPWA was created by HUD to address the specific needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families, particularly in the area of housing and supportive services.
- **Eligible activities:**
 - Housing information services
 - Resource identification
 - Acquisition, rehabilitation, conversion, lease and repair
 - New construction (single room occupancy and community residences only)
 - Project- or tenant-based rental assistance
 - Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility payments
 - Supportive services
 - Operating costs

ESG 101

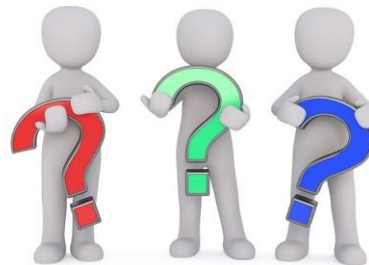
- **Approx. \$400,000 to distribute/year**
- **History & Purpose:** the Emergency Solutions Grant program provides homeless persons with basic shelter and essential supportive services. It can assist with the operational costs of a shelter facility, and short-term homeless prevention assistance to persons at imminent risk of losing their own housing due to eviction, foreclosure, or utility shutoffs.
- **Separate RFP to be issued by the State of RI Consolidated Homeless Fund (CHF)**
 - **Anticipated release-March 2020**

Process Overview, Cont.

- **What can these funds be used for?**
 - Affordable housing development
 - Homeownership programs
 - Rental assistance programs
 - Park improvements
 - Streets, sidewalks, tree planting
 - Improvements to public facilities or recreation centers
 - Public services (such as food pantries, senior services, day care)
 - Community center operations
 - Technical assistance to new and existing businesses
 - Small business lending
 - Housing rehab or lead abatement programs
 - Historic preservation

Development of Goals & Priorities

- Stakeholder interviews; focus groups; neighborhood meetings
 - What should our community development priorities be?
 - Are you seeing emerging trends or areas of need that we should be planning for?
 - What are we missing?



Updated Goals & Priorities

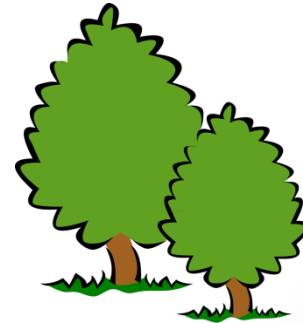
- **Increase Availability of Affordable Housing**
 - Affordable housing development- rental & homeownership
 - Facilitate access to homeownership through down-payment & closing cost assistance programs or land trusts
- **Improve Quality of Occupied Housing Units**
 - Assist homeowners with costs of housing rehabilitation to address code violations, lead hazards, and health & safety issues.
- **Return Abandoned Property to Productive Use**
 - Redevelop vacant & abandoned properties into affordable housing
 - Demolish unsafe structures
 - Redevelop into neighborhood amenities or green space

Updated Goals & Priorities, Cont.

- **Reduce Homelessness**
 - Shelter operations and essential services
 - Street outreach
 - Rapid rehousing
- **Increase Housing Stability for People Living with AIDS**
 - Support services
 - Facility operations
 - Rental and utility assistance
- **Eliminate Accessibility Barriers**
 - Retrofit or improve public facilities to ensure equal access

Updated Goals & Priorities

- **Improve Condition of Public Facilities**
 - Conduct critical repairs at schools, rec centers, and other public buildings.
 - Rehabilitate community non-profit facilities to enable sustainable and continued services.
- **Improve Parks, Recreational Areas, & Develop or Improve Community Gardens**
 - Support the creation of new and improvement of existing parks, open spaces, sports fields, and community gardens.



Updated Goals & Priorities

- **Provide for Basic Needs of LMI Persons**
 - Provide essential social services to ensure basic needs of low/moderate populations are met.
 - Childcare; health services; food assistance; skills training; youth activities; services to domestic violence victims.
- **Facilitate Small Business Development & Growth**
 - Technical assistance programs
 - Provide access to capital (loans or grants)
- **Revitalize Commercial Districts in Low/Mod Areas**
 - Improve blighted facades
- **Effectively Administer Programs & Promote Efficiency Through Planning**

Discussion

- What should our community development priorities be?
- Are you seeing emerging trends or areas of need that we should be planning for?
- What are we missing?



Wrap Up

- **Consolidated Plan**

- Neighborhood meetings, stakeholder interviews, focus groups ongoing
- RFP opens February 3rd
- City-wide survey to launch shortly
- Application Workshop, February 10th
- Applications due February 28th
- Council Urban Redevelopment, Renewal & Planning (URRP) Hearings (March-May)
- The information gathered will help inform the Consolidated Plan & funding decisions
- Public to review Consolidated Plan and offer comments
- Provide us with your contact information so we can contact you to review the Consolidated Plan
- Final draft will be completed in May; submitted to HUD June 2020
- <https://www.providenceri.gov/planning/consolidated-plan/>