



# **City of Texarkana, Texas**

## **2020 Annual Action Plan**

The Annual Action Plan for the City of Texarkana, Texas  
Community Development Block Grant Program  
Prepared in Accordance with the  
United States Department of Housing & Urban  
Development's Planning Requirements

# **Executive Summary**

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

### **1. Introduction**

The City of Texarkana, TX became a federal entitlement program grantee in 1987. As an entitlement grantee, the City receives an annual share of federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds authorized under Title I of the Housing & Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. The Planning & Community Development department is responsible for administering CDBG grants for areas within the city limits of Texarkana.

The purpose of this Action Plan is to identify housing & community development needs & to develop specific goals & objectives to address those needs over a one-year period. This Plan for Texarkana covers the period October 1, 2020, to September 30, 2021. The Plan enables the City to continue to receive federal housing & community development funds & according to regulations CFR 91.200(a), must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) no less than 45 days prior to the start of the grantee's program year.

### **2. Summary of the objectives & outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment**

#### **Overview**

Based on a detailed analysis of data describing community characteristics & housing market conditions, a survey of available community resources, & an extensive community participation process, the following were identified as priority needs for Texarkana:

1. Rehabilitation of existing affordable owner-occupied housing units
2. Public improvements & infrastructure
3. Homeless/Continuum of Care (CoC) services that benefit adults, families with children, & other special needs homeless populations
4. Homeownership assistance
5. Collaboration with community partners to coordinate development activities
6. Renovation of the Grim Hotel
7. Public services
8. Public Facilities & Parks

### **3. Evaluation of past performance**

In partnership with other public, private, & non-profit housing providers & service agencies, Texarkana has worked to increase & preserve the available stock of affordable, safe & decent housing; helped ensure a suitable living environment for city residents; & contributed to expanding economic opportunities. The City has affected change in the Rose Hill Neighborhood, Downtown Texarkana & the Beverly Neighborhood, addressing concentrations of poverty & proliferation of Brownfields. The 2019 Action Plan will continue to guide the City in addressing these neighborhoods as well as other low mod areas of the city.

Texarkana has consistently allocated funds to address the highest strategic plan priorities. The City has met all requirements as an entitlement grantee including administrative & public services caps. City policies & procedures comply with federal requirements to ensure that programs & activities benefit low- to moderate-income individuals & families & that community development projects are developed to provide the maximum benefit to low-moderate income residents.

The Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Review (CAPER) will provide an assessment of progress towards meeting the five-year goals of the Consolidated Plan & one-year goals of the Action Plan adopted. The CAPER is due annually to HUD on December 30.

### **4. Summary of citizen participation process & consultation process**

The City of Texarkana actively promotes collaboration & coordination among public, private, & non-profit organizations providing housing & non-housing community development services in the city. The City strives to maintain open communication with partner agencies & organizations as well as Texarkana residents.

Citizen & stakeholder input was crucial to the identification of community development needs & priorities for this Action Plan. The City solicited public & stakeholder input through public meetings, stakeholder focus groups, meetings with a neighborhood associations & a booth at a neighborhood event. These meetings/events were advertised on the city website, social media accounts, &/or in the Texarkana Gazette & Amigo News.

Surveys were requested at all meetings & events. Fourteen residents responded to an electronic survey. The survey provides direct feedback from residents on housing needs, factors that affect housing choice, & non-housing community development needs.

### **5. Summary of public comments**

Public input has shaped the priorities & goals adopted in this Action Plan. City residents had numerous opportunities to provide input on their community development priorities. All comments received as well as survey results are provided in the Attachments.

## **6. Summary of comments or views not accepted & the reasons for not accepting them**

All survey, public hearings, focus groups, stakeholder & community meeting responses have been accepted & appended to the Action Plan.

## **7. Summary**

This Action Plan was developed based on input from Texarkana residents, community partners, & stakeholders as well as a thorough analysis of data available from reliable sources. Significant sources of data for this report include the 2011-2015 American Community Survey (ACS) estimates, 2010-2014 Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the 2010 Census, the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) & local data sources.

The 2020 Action Plan will guide the community development efforts of Texarkana over the year concluding on September 30, 2021. The strategy outlined in the plan is focused on decent, safe, & affordable housing, a suitable living environment, & economic opportunity. Adhering to this fundamental community development strategy will lay a secure foundation for growth & prosperity for all Texarkana residents.

## The Process

### PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies 24 CFR 91.200(b)

#### 1. Describe agency/entity responsible for preparing the Action Plan & those responsible for administration of each grant program & funding source

The following are the agencies/entities responsible for preparing the Action Plan & those responsible for administration of each grant program & funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	City of Texarkana, Texas	Department of Planning & Community Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

#### Narrative

The City of Texarkana Department of Planning & Community Development is the Lead Agency in the preparation & implementation of this 2020 Action Plan which describes the strategy for the City of Texarkana, Texas in PY2020 & is prepared in accordance with the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development's Action Plan requirements. The City would like to express our appreciation to the individuals, agencies, departments & committees who participated in developing the City of Texarkana 2020 Action Plan.

#### Action Plan Public Contact Information

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Mayor  
Bob Bruggeman

City Council  
Jean H. Matlock – Ward 1  
Mary Hart – Ward 2  
Betty Williams – Ward 3  
Christine Alcorn – Ward 4  
Bill Harp – Ward 5  
Jay Davis – Ward 6

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

### **1. Introduction**

The City of Texarkana has implemented actions to develop institutional structures & enhance coordination between city departments, housing providers & social service agencies, & foster assisted housing improvements & resident initiatives. Through public hearings & meetings held throughout the year, the City continues to utilize a network of contacts, referrals, & partnerships to implement the strategies outlined in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan & re-enforced in each Annual Action Plan.

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

The City of Texarkana has implemented actions to develop institutional structures & enhance coordination between city departments, housing providers & social service agencies, & foster assisted housing improvements & resident initiatives. Through public hearings & meetings held throughout the year, the City continues to utilize a network of contacts, referrals, & partnerships to implement the strategies outlined in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan & re-enforced in each Annual Action Plan. The City will continue to build its relationship with local housing/service providers & the Housing Authority to ensure that the current limited housing resources are utilized in the most efficient manner possible & to meet the housing needs of extremely low, very low, & low-income renters & homeowners.

Texarkana Government Access Television provides public service & local government programming through Cable One. City Council meetings & other committee meetings are streamed on-line & archived. There is a municipal access channel (government access channel) that serves both Texas & Arkansas. Texarkana, AR manages the channel with Texarkana, TX paying a management fee. The channel divides the time equally for both cities showing meetings, general information, links to resources & documents, PSAs &any other relevant information. The Planning & Community Development department oversees the CDBG grant. The Grant Administrator is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the program. The department works in conjunction with the City's Finance, Inspection, Public Works, Street, & Parks & Recreation Departments to oversee the development of the Action Plan & administer the programs & activities incorporated in the Plan.

Interviews with key stakeholders included CDBG & other City staff, Texarkana Housing Authority staff, Area Office on Aging staff, homeless providers, services providers, Bowie County Veterans Service Officer & banking providers provided the basis for much of the information in the Action Plan.

### **Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care & efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals & families, families with children, veterans, & unaccompanied youth) & persons at risk of homelessness**

Texarkana participates in the Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care that is managed by the Texas Homeless Network. The Texarkana Homeless Coalition holds monthly meetings to discuss & strategize on ways to meet the needs of those experiencing homelessness. The Coalition has developed a Coordinated Entry system that streamlines the process for people experiencing homelessness to access resources. CDBG funding provides for a public service Vista person to work with the coordinated entry process assisting persons experiencing homelessness to attain the services needed.

The Texas Homeless Network provides data from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), Point-In-Time Count (PIT), the Housing Inventory Count & the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR). This information is utilized to assist in determining the nature & extent of homelessness in Texarkana & identifying potential projects that will eliminate gaps in housing & services.

### **Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance st&ards & evaluate outcomes, & develop funding, policies & procedures for the administration of HMIS**

The City of Texarkana is an integral part of the Continuum of Care. The Randy Sams' Outreach Shelter is currently the only emergency homeless shelter for homeless persons in Texarkana, Texas. Randy Sams receives Emergency Solutions Program funds through the Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs. The Coalition worked with the City to develop the Doorways Home project that assists homeless families &individuals to receive supportive housing through the Continuum of Care grant award.

HMIS responsibilities are shared among homeless assistance providers & City staff in the city. HMIS is administered by the Texas Homeless Network (THN) & serves the Texarkana, Texas population. THN has developed policies & procedures for the administration of HMIS. THN provides training & technical support to agencies participating in HMIS.

**2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations & others who participated in the process & describe the jurisdictions consultations with housing, social service agencies & other entities**

**Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated**

1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Randy Sams' Outreach Shelter
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-homeless Emergency Shelter
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted &amp; what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Consultation through homeless providers focus group; provided data. Better understanding of the needs of people experiencing homelessness for future planning & projects.
2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Habitat for Humanity Texarkana
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted &amp; what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Consultation through focus groups for input. Better understanding of the needs of first-time homebuyers, the need for additional affordable housing & housing rehabilitation.
3	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Mission Texarkana
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted &amp; what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Consultation through focus groups for input. Better understanding of the needs of people experiencing homelessness & at-risk of homelessness.
4	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Community Advisory Committee
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Business & Civic Leaders Advisory
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing need Assessment
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted &amp; what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Quarterly meetings attended by city staff to discuss housing needs & services needed for LMI households. Networking with service agencies to meet needs.
5	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Salvation Army-Texarkana
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Services-Employment Services-Education Emergency Shelter
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Anti-poverty Strategy

	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted &amp; what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Consultation through homeless providers focus group; provided data. Better understanding of the needs of people experiencing poverty & homelessness in the City
6	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Ark-Tex COG Area Office on Aging
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Elderly Persons Regional organization Planning organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted &amp; what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Consultation through focus groups for input. Better understanding of the needs of the senior population for planning future projects.
7	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Amigo News
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Spanish Newspaper
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty Strategy Needs of Spanish speaking residents
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted &amp; what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Publication of public meetings translated into Spanish to publicize to Latino community
8	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Bowie County Veterans Service Office
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Needs - Veterans
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted &amp; what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Information provided on the needs of veterans in Texarkana will assist the City in future planning activities & projects.
9	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Housing Authority of Texarkana, Texas
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing PHA

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted &amp; what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Focus groups at housing properties. Better understanding of the improvements at the HA properties & future needs of residents
10	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Texarkana Homeless Coalition
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted &amp; what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Consultation through homeless providers focus group; provided data. Better understanding of the needs of people experiencing homelessness. Information on how the Coalition & the Texas Homeless Network are collaborating with publicly funded institutions to develop plans so people are not discharged into homelessness.
11	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Community Resource Council - Helping Hands
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-homeless Services-Health Services - Victims
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-Homeless Special Needs

	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted &amp; what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Provided information on service needs of low-moderate income residents.
12	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Texas Homeless Network
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless Planning organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted &amp; what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Provided PIT & HMIS data analysis. Better understanding of the needs of people experiencing homelessness will help focus funding where most needed.
13	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Believe In Beverly
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Neighborhood Improvement Neighborhood Organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted &amp; what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Consultation through focus group; better understanding of the needs of the Beverly Neighborhood. The City has recognized the Beverly neighborhood as a targeted area for CDBG funded projects.
14	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	City of Texarkana, Texas
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Other government - Local Economic Development

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Economic Development Market Analysis Business Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted &amp; what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Provided information on business needs, education & training for workforce; general economic outlook for the City.
15	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Texas Department of State Health Services
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Health Other government - State
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Lead-based Paint Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted &amp; what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Reviewed Lead-Based Paint statistics for Bowie County; website provided information on the number of children tested & identified with elevated lead blood levels
16	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Community HealthCore (Formerly Sabine Valley)
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Health Health Agency Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted &amp; what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	Discussed medical & mental health needs of low-moderate income residents & prevalence of children with elevated blood lead levels.

### **Identify any Agency Types not consulted & provide rationale for not consulting**

No agencies were excluded in the development of the plan. Domestic Violence, Inc. opted not to participate in the planning process for the Plan.

**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	Texarkana Homeless Coalition	Both plans analyze homeless needs & solutions.
PHA Consolidated 5 Year Plan	Housing Authority of Texarkana, TX	Both plans address public housing needs.
MPO Texarkana Regional Transportation Plan	Metropolitan Planning Organization	Transportation planning for the region & city is essential in meeting the needs of low-moderate income residents

**Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts**

**Describe cooperation & coordination with other public entities, including the State & any adjacent units of general local government, in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan (91.215(l))**

**Narrative (optional):**

The City of Texarkana, Texas enjoys a unique & challenging position in that it is a twin city to the City of Texarkana, Arkansas. The two cities share many things including infrastructure (roads, bridges, potable water systems, storm water systems, & sewage systems), planning organizations (MPO, Ark-Tex Council of Governments), health care agencies (Wadley Regional Medical System, Christus St. Michael Health System), economic development (Chamber of Commerce) & other non-profit agencies (Randy Sams Outreach Shelter, Salvation Army, Harvest Texarkana, Volunteer Center, Literacy Council, unique bi-state Workforce Development efforts). Consequently, collaborative planning is a necessity for the City & common practice. These agencies provide continual collaboration with the City in all aspects of community planning, including this Action Plan. Additionally, the City works closely with the Texarkana Housing Authority & has collaborated & provided funding for the renovation of existing public housing units.

The Action Plan was developed in consultation with a wide range of public & private entities, including governmental & non-profit organizations knowledgeable about the needs of the low & moderate-income residents of Texarkana, & private citizens interested in, or affected by, the housing & community development activities discussed in the Plan. These contacts are part of a continuous process conducted in order to involve the broader community in assessing priority housing & community development needs; developing priorities, goals & objectives for addressing identified needs; & allocating available CDBG & other federal, state & local funding to activities that address priority needs.

## **AP-12 Citizen Participation**

### **1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process & how it impacted goal setting**

The City of Texarkana has implemented actions to develop institutional structures & enhance coordination between city departments, housing providers & social service agencies, & foster assisted housing improvements & resident initiatives. Through public hearings & meetings held throughout the year, the City continues to utilize a network of contacts, referrals, & partnerships to implement the strategies outlined in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan & re-enforced in each Annual Action Plan. The City will continue to build its relationship with local housing/service providers & the Housing Authority to ensure that the current limited housing resources are utilized in the most efficient manner possible & to meet the housing needs of extremely low, very low, & low-income renters & homeowners.

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Interviews with key stakeholders included CDBG & other City staff, Texarkana Housing Authority staff, Area Office on Aging staff, homeless providers, services providers, Bowie County Veterans Service Officer, banking providers provided the basis for much of the information in the Plan.

## 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	Internet Survey	Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish  Non-targeted/broad community	32 surveys were completed	See Citizen Participation Attachment for comments	All comments were accepted	<a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M797R7M">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M797R7M</a>
2	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community		See Citizen Participation Attachment for comments	No comments received	
3	Newspaper Ad	Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish	Public notices for meetings, comment period, survey link & availability of draft Annual Action Plan were placed in Amigo News, a local Spanish newspaper.	No written comments received	N/A	
4	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Public notices for meetings, comment period, survey link & availability of draft Annual Action Plan were placed in the Texarkana Gazette	No written comments received	N/A	
5	Social Media	Non-targeted/broad community	Public notice for the comment period, survey link & availability of the draft Action Plan for review on City's website & Facebook page	No written comments received	N/A	

<b>Sort Order</b>	<b>Mode of Outreach</b>	<b>Target of Outreach</b>	<b>Summary of response/attendance</b>	<b>Summary of comments received</b>	<b>Summary of comments not accepted &amp; reasons</b>	<b>URL (If applicable)</b>
6	Information Dissemination	Non-targeted/broad community	Public notice for the comment period, survey link & availability of the draft Action Plan for review sent to Neighborhood Associations		N/A	

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**

## Expected Resources

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

#### Introduction

The City of Texarkana will receive a CDBG allocation of \$372,144 for PY 2020; \$159,447 from Revolving Loan Fund; \$2,500 Program Income; \$100,000 in CDBG-CV funds with the reallocated funds from previous years of \$61,909 for a total of \$696,000 to be used for eligible CDBG activities & for loan repayment.

#### Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 3				Expected Amount Available Remainder of Con Plan	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation	Program Income	Prior Year Resources	Total		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin & Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	372,144	2,500	61,909	436,553	499,681	Expected Amount Available based on yearly allocation plus program income
CDBG	public - federal	Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund	0	159,447	0	159,447	150,000	Funds used for economic development in downtown area
CDBG-CV	public - federal	Cares Act funding	0	0	100,000	100,000		Funds used for Covid related issues

**Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table**

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

The City recognizes the importance of leveraging resources. It is estimated that over the course of the 5 Year Plan, these community development projects will bring \$1.75 in private resources spent in the local economy for each grant dollar invested. Matching requirements will be met by in-kind donations of labor &/or materials. The programs listed above do not require matching funds. When matching funds are required, the City usually provides in-kind matching through labor & supplies or provides cash matches from the City's general funds.

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

Publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction includes housing lots owned by the city, city parks, & scattered properties may be used to promote economic development, provide support for homeless programs &/or affordable housing in Texarkana. Additionally, publicly owned land may also be used to support public health activities, infrastructure & public services.

**Discussion**

Texarkana anticipates receiving federal funding over the next year from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. These funds will be used to fund projects which advance the goals identified in the 2020 Action Plan. Projects carried out using these federal funds over the next year will leverage additional funds from state & local government as well as private funding sources.

## Annual Goals & Objectives

### AP-20 Annual Goals & Objectives

#### Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding- Year 2	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Home Ownership Assistance	2018	2022	Affordable Housing	City-Wide	Homeownership Assistance	CDBG: \$10,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 2 Households Assisted
2	Public Services	2018	2022	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide, Beverly, Downtown Area	Public Services	CDBG: \$56,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Persons Assisted
3	Public Services-CV	2019	2022	Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide	Public Services	CDBG-CV: \$94,500	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate for Covid-19 related issues. Income Housing Benefit: 100 Persons Assisted
4	Section 108 Loan - Repayment	2018	2022	Affordable Housing	Downtown Area	Section 108 Loan - Repayment	CDBG: \$460,000	Rental units constructed: 20 Household Housing Unit
5	Program Administration, Fair Housing Activities & Lead based paint information	2018	2022	Administration	City-Wide		CDBG: \$70,000	Other: 1 Other
6	Program Administration, Fair Housing Activities & Lead based paint information	2019	2022	Administration	City-Wide		CDBG-CV: \$5,500	Administration of the Cares Act funding for Covid-19 related issues. Other: 1 Other

Table 6 – Goals Summary

## Goal Descriptions

<b>1</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Down Payment Assistance
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Funding for 50% of the down payment & all the closing costs for low-moderate first-time homebuyers.
<b>2</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Assistance will be provided to public services agencies that provides services to low-income families & those experiencing homelessness. Agencies providing services may include but not limited to Texas Homeless Network, R&y Sams' Outreach Shelter, Amachi Vision Corps & Boys & Girls Club.
<b>2</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Services-CV
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Assistance will be provided to public services agencies that provides services to low-income families & those experiencing homelessness related to Covid-19 related issues. Agencies providing services may include but not limited to Mission Texarkana, Texarkana Homeless Coalition, Randy Sams' Outreach Shelter, Salvation Army, & Texarkana Emergency Operations Center/Health Dept.
<b>3</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Section 108 Loan - Repayment
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Completion of Grim project & repayment of Section 108 loan.
<b>4</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Program Administration, Lead Based Paint info & Fair Housing info
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Management & oversight of the CDBG program. Fair Housing activities to be conducted or attended during Fair Housing month, April 2021 to distribute information. Lead based paint information will be distributed at all events attended by CDBG staff.
<b>4</b>	<b>Goal Name</b>	Program Administration-CV
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Management & oversight of the Cares Act Funding program. Oversight of Covid-19 related services that may include but not limited to food boxes, care supplies, PPE, quarantine assistance, displacement of homeless assistance, & testing for Covid-19.

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

Down payment & closing cost assistance will be provided to 2 LMI families & upon completion of Grim Lofts, the project will provide 20 new units of affordable housing.

# Projects

## AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

### Introduction

The City of Texarkana will undertake activities that meet the needs & objectives established by its Consolidated Plan & approved by City Council. As shown below, the City will provide down payment & closing costs assistance, public services, public services-CV, Section 108 loan repayment, administration & administration-CV.

### Projects

#	Project Name
1	Down Payment Assistance
2	Public Services
3	Public Services - CV
4	Section 108 Loan Repayment
5	Administration
6	Administration - CV

Table 7 – Project Information

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

The City of Texarkana responds to the needs expressed in public hearings & stakeholder meetings. Affordable housing (rental & homeownership) & public improvements were listed as high priorities. To improve the quality of life of all citizens in Texarkana, the City will work with service & housing providers to address both the need for additional affordable housing & supportive service needs. Construction of 20 affordable housing units is underway with the Grim project & the City has drawn all remaining Section 108 loan funds in PY2019. The City also plans to pay off \$460,000 of the loan in PY2020. The geographic areas of Beverly & Downtown were chosen because they have the greatest potential & greatest need.

The lack of additional funding is the major obstacle faced by the City when meeting underserved needs. The City will continue to investigate funding opportunities as they are identified.

## AP-38 Project Summary

### Project Summary Information

1	<b>Project Name</b>	Down Payment Assistance
	<b>Target Area</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Down Payment Assistance
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homeownership Assistance
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$10,000
	<b>Description</b>	Down payment requirement & closing costs assistance to low-moderate first-time homebuyers.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2021
	<b>Estimate the number &amp; type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Two first-time homebuyers will be assisted with 50% of the down payment & all of the closing costs.
	<b>Location Description</b>	The program will be offered city-wide to income-eligible first-time homebuyers.

	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Two homebuyers will be assisted with down payment & closing costs during the program year.
<b>2</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Services
	<b>Target Area</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$56,000
	<b>Description</b>	Funding to non-profit agencies that provide services to low-moderate income individuals & families.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2021
	<b>Estimate the number &amp; type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	It is estimated that 100 individuals will benefit from the services offered by local non-profit agencies.
	<b>Location Description</b>	The programs are offered city-wide to income eligible clients.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Supportive services including but not limited to life skills/job training classes, youth programs & coordinated entry vista program for persons experiencing homelessness, youth & low-moderate income individuals & families.
<b>2</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Services – CV
	<b>Target Area</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG-CV: \$94,500
	<b>Description</b>	Assistance will be provided to public services agencies that provides services to low-income families & those experiencing homelessness related to Covid-19 related issues. Agencies providing services may include but not limited to Mission Texarkana, Texarkana Homeless Coalition, Randy Sams' Outreach Shelter, Salvation Army, & Texarkana Emergency Operations Center/Health Dept.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2021
	<b>Estimate the number &amp; type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate for Covid-19 related issues. Income Housing Benefit: 100 Persons Assisted
	<b>Location Description</b>	The programs are offered city-wide to income eligible clients.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Covid-19 related services that may include but not limited to food boxes, care supplies, PPE, quarantine assistance, displacement of homeless assistance, & testing for Covid-19.
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Section 108 Loan Repayment
	<b>Target Area</b>	Downtown Area
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Section 108 Loan - Repayment
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Section 108 Loan - Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$460,000

	<b>Description</b>	Repayment of Section 108 loan for the Grim Hotel project.
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2021
	<b>Estimate the number &amp; type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	It is estimated that 20 households will be provided with new affordable rental units.
	<b>Location Description</b>	The Grim Hotel is located in downtown Texarkana, but income-eligible tenants can come from other areas of the City.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Upon completion, the project will provide 20 new units of affordable housing.
<b>4</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Administration
	<b>Target Area</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Program Administration, Fair Housing info, Lead based paint info
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Program Administration, Fair Housing info, Lead based paint info
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$70,000
	<b>Description</b>	Management & oversight of the CDBG & Section 108 Loan Programs
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/30/2021
	<b>Estimate the number &amp; type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	City-wide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Management & oversight of the CDBG & Section 108 loan programs.
<b>5</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	Administration – CV
	<b>Target Area</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Program Administration of Cares Act Funding
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Program Administration
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG-CV: \$5,500
	<b>Description</b>	Management & oversight of the CDBG-CV Program
	<b>Target Date</b>	9/20/2021
	<b>Estimate the number &amp; type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	
	<b>Location Description</b>	City-Wide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Management & oversight of the CDBG-CV Program

## **AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)**

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

CDBG funds area allocated city-wide to projects & activities that benefit low-moderate income persons & households or provide services to residents in a low-moderate income area. The Beverly, Rosehill, Liberty-Eylau neighborhoods & the Downtown area are the target areas that are selected for projects during PY20. The City has also elected to provide Down Payment Assistance city-wide for income eligible applicants.

#### **Geographic Distribution**

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Beverly Community	
Rosehill Community	
Liberty-Eylau Community	
Downtown Area	73%
City-Wide	27%
Total	100%

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

#### **Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically**

The City of Texarkana responds to the needs expressed in public hearings, focus groups, surveys & stakeholder meetings. The Downtown area, Beverly community, Rosehill community & Liberty-Eylau community have been identified as areas where CDBG funds can be used for revitalization activities. The City will work with service & housing providers to address both the need for additional affordable housing & supportive service needs. The City will use CDBG funds to provide down payment & closing cost assistance to low-moderate income homebuyers & continue supportive services programs.

#### **Discussion**

The lack of additional funding is the major obstacle faced by the City when meeting underserved needs. The City will continue to investigate funding opportunities as they are identified & to expand programs when financially feasible.

## Affordable Housing

### AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

#### Introduction

Affordable housing remains a high priority. Rising costs of construction, the availability of financing & the demand for a limited amount of land have combined to constrain affordable housing production. The result is significantly higher costs for housing when incomes are not rising at the same pace.

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

Table 9 - 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	20
Rehab of Existing Units	0
Acquisition of Existing Units	2
Total	22

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

#### Discussion

The City will provide CDBG funding in Program Year 2020 for twenty new units of affordable housing being developed through the Grim Hotel project. The City will provide down payment & closing costs assistance to two homebuyers.

## **AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)**

### **Introduction**

HATT has systematically replaced or revitalized aging inventory through the HOPE VI grant & currently through the Rental Assistance Demonstration program. Robison Terrace is the last property to be renovated through RAD. During the RAD conversion, all residents were relocated to other HATT properties & relocation expenses were provided by HATT.

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

HATT will continue the conversion to RAD & project-based vouchers to meet the housing needs of its residents. HATT will continue to improve the living environment of its residents by:

- Expanding public housing security efforts & continuing to work with the City's Police Department
- Developing educational, cultural, & supportive service programs to further foster social & economic independence for its residents
- Implementing programs that promote a healthy lifestyle
- Increasing youth programs for public housing residents by fostering partnerships in the community
- Increasing resident participation in the Resident's Executive Council.

### **Actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management & participate in homeownership**

HATT actively promotes resident involvement through Resident Councils, targeted outreach via website, flyers, emails, mailing lists, & community notice boards at all community centers on Housing Authority properties. HATT has a homeownership program & provides homebuyer education classes for public housing residents. Residents are encouraged to attend public hearings & meetings during the City's public participation process.

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

The Housing Authority of Texarkana is not designated as a troubled public housing authority.

### **Discussion**

Not Applicable

## **AP-65 Homeless & Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)**

### **Introduction**

The Texarkana Homeless Coalition meets monthly to discuss issues & challenges in meeting the needs of those experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness. Members of the Coalition represent service & housing providers, public housing staff, emergency services & city staff. The Texarkana Homeless Coalition is part of the Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care & that is managed by the Texas Homeless Network (THN), a statewide nonprofit agency. The Texas Balance of State CoC is made up of all service providers, advocates, local government officials, & citizens who work to eliminate homelessness in over 216 counties in Texas outside of most major metropolitan cities. THN assists local homeless coalitions with community-based planning to develop plans to end homelessness & new projects to fill gaps in housing & services.

### **Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals & actions for reducing & ending homelessness including:**

#### **Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) & assessing their individual needs**

The City supports the Texarkana Homeless Coalition in its outreach & assessment efforts for homeless persons in the community by participating in Texarkana Homeless Coalition. The City will continue to organize stakeholder meetings to discuss & plan for more intensive outreach to those experiencing homelessness. There are no agencies in Texarkana that provide only outreach activities. Many agencies provide outreach to the specific population that they serve. The City uses CDBG funds to support these agencies in their efforts.

#### **Addressing the emergency shelter & transitional housing needs of homeless persons**

Emergency shelter in Texarkana is provided by Randy Sams Outreach Shelter. Randy Sams is a low-barrier homeless shelter & an ID is not required to stay at the shelter. There are 112 emergency beds available for up to 90 days at a time. The shelter also provides showers, food, transportation & case services.

Rapid Re-Housing (formerly transitional housing) is provided by Randy Sams with 22 households receiving assistance & by Doorways Home providing 10 households with housing vouchers. Households in the Rapid Re-Housing programs pay subsidized rent & receive assistance with case management & life skill classes & job training. The development of a family shelter is crucial to meeting the needs of homeless families. In order to make homelessness short-lived & non-recurring, there is a need for additional Rapid Re-Housing vouchers & services.

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

There are no permanent supportive housing programs in Texarkana & the need for such housing is great. The Texarkana Homeless Coalition & the City will continue to identify agencies that have the capacity to expand their programs to provide permanent supportive housing. In order for chronically homeless individuals to maintain permanent housing, supportive services must be a part of their housing plan. Many chronically homeless & special needs populations will require long-term rental assistance since many are on disability incomes which do not cover the cost of housing plus living expenses. The average income for a person receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is \$750 per month. Coordinated Entry has facilitated the access of housing & services for many people experiencing homelessness, but the availability of affordable & decent housing does not meet the need.

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

Individuals with severe mental health challenges often require transitional or permanent supportive housing including ongoing treatment, social services & housing assistance to recover & live independently. Homelessness prevention services are needed for ex-offenders & persons being discharged from mental health facilities for reentry into their communities. Currently in Texarkana, there are no programs targeted to assist these individuals. Randy Sams is a low barrier shelter that provides emergency housing but only for a period of 90 days. The Coalition is discussing how to provide services & permanent housing solutions for these populations as well as unaccompanied youth. Youth aging out of foster care need transitional housing & supportive services. Lack of funding & lack of capacity of local agencies are the challenges to providing this type of housing.

The City will continue to use CDBG funds to support programs that address housing & service issues of those with special needs &/or at risk of becoming homeless. The largest obstacle is a lack of transitional & permanent supportive housing. The City will work with local service providers & provide funding when available & appropriate for programs that serve special needs populations.

### **Discussion**

In PY2020, the City is assisting low-income &/or homeless persons by providing CDBG funding to agencies that provide supportive services to those experiencing homelessness. The challenges for providing an adequate supply of a variety of housing options are lack of funding & lack of capacity of the agencies to expand or create new programs. Efforts will be made during the year to identify ways to provide permanent supportive housing & a family shelter.

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

### **Introduction:**

Many public & private sector policies & factors can create barriers to affordable housing for low- to moderate-income households. In general, the City's policies do not create undue barriers to affordable housing. The City has a fair housing ordinance which indirectly reduces the barriers to affordable housing by ensuring that all protected classes, many of whom are low- to moderate-income have equitable advantages to housing of choice. The City's development & building standards have been established to protect the citizenry & the general welfare of the community, which can result in higher costs for new & rehabilitated structures. The City uses all of the current international & national codes related to residential construction & rehabilitation as a means to protect the residents & the community as a whole. Development impact fees have been established to ensure that the developer carries the cost of development instead of the taxpayers. However, the impact fees & building standards can drive up the cost of new dwellings.

The adherence to building codes & impact fees are necessary & city-wide to protect the safety & wallets of the community as a whole. With the exception of zoning that prohibits development in or around unsafe areas, zoning ordinances are more flexible than building codes & development fees, & each zoning district does not provide a city-wide benefit. The zoning ordinance prohibits manufactured home parks & mobile homes & manufactured homes as fixed dwellings in all zoning districts. Manufactured home parks may be allowed with a specific use permit in districts zoned as agricultural; & HUD code manufactured homes as a fixed dwelling may be allowed in both agricultural & single family 3 zones, also with a specific use permit. Boarding & rooming houses may only be located within townhome & multi-family residential, commercial & planned development districts. This can be a barrier to group homes for special populations to be located single-family districts.

Private sector barriers include:

- Developers reluctant to construct affordable housing or unable to secure Low Income Housing Tax Credit approval;
- Insufficient number of multi-family units;
- High number of vacant housing that is abandoned or uninhabitable, preventing new development on the lots;
- Sellers requiring higher down payments than LMI buyers can afford; &
- Credit & employment histories of many LMI buyers result in mortgage denial.

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

Although policies & ordinances can affect the cost of housing, the City's Analysis of Impediments indicates that there are no significant institutional barriers to affordable housing in Texarkana, Texas. Housing costs in Texarkana are considerably lower than the state as a whole, with the city of Texarkana, Texas averaging \$79 per square foot, the Texarkana metropolitan area averaging \$77 per square foot, & Texas averaging \$124 per square foot. The City is committed to maintaining & enhancing its policies that increase equal opportunity to housing for the lower income & protected classes.

To maintain the City's commitment to prevent barriers to affordable housing the City will:

- Maintain flexibility in zoning & building requirements when appropriate to allow for infill housing development;
- Complete the 20 units of affordable loft housing as part of the Grim Hotel project;
- Conduct outreach efforts to for-profit & non-profit builders & developers through funding & technical assistance to increase the supply of decent, affordable housing within low to moderate income neighborhoods as well as creation of affordable housing on a city-wide basis;
- Maintain an Affirmative Marketing Plan to directly market newly developed City-assisted housing units to minority groups least likely to apply to homeownership programs;
- Meet with local lenders & home builders to encourage the use of non-traditional client loan qualifying & loan products to better serve the needs of homebuyer households with challenges that preclude conventional qualification;
- Support local Continuum of Care efforts for homeless populations & provides ongoing support & technical assistance to the Texarkana Homeless Coalition;
- Work with local agencies that provide financial case management & credit counseling;
- Review & when applicable, revise the Fair Housing ordinance which ensures that fair housing options are available to its citizens;
- Monitor city-sponsored projects for equal access & compliance of the Fair Housing Act;
- Monitor code compliance to HQS & Fair Housing standards;
- Hold periodic Public Hearings providing information & requesting public comment on affordable & fair housing issues;
- Work with local housing service providers to conduct homebuyer & homeowner education;
- Conduct public outreach regarding availability of housing & housing assistance including translation of housing application materials into Spanish & maintains bi-lingual staff to assist applicants & clients who are not English-proficient.

**Discussion:**

The City is concerned with the shortage of affordable housing units that meet housing quality standards. Many of the units have been lost through abandonment of older properties. One way that the City is directly impacting the problem is the renovation & repurposing of the Grim Hotel. They will be constructing 20 affordable units in the hotel. The project began in PY2018 & will continue through PY2022. The other efforts with greatest effect are those where the City collaborates with the private non-profit & for-profit community as they provide affordable housing solutions.

## **AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)**

### **Introduction:**

The following actions will be undertaken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs, foster & maintain affordable housing, reduce lead-based paint hazards, reduce the number of poverty level families, & develop institutional structure.

### **Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs**

Requests for funding far exceed the available entitlement dollars received by the City of Texarkana. The City will continue to partner with non-profit agencies to leverage its CDBG allocation so that the maximum benefit is achieved. The City will facilitate a stakeholder's meetings & participate in the Texarkana Homeless Coalition to identify unmet needs & to strategize on how to meet those needs.

### **Actions planned to foster & maintain affordable housing**

The City will continue to support development of affordable housing by providing flexibility in its development standards that encourages the industry to seek community partners. The City will fund owner-occupied rehabilitation & improvements geared toward maintaining the house in a decent condition. The City will support Low Income Housing Tax Credit applications when the project is compatible with the City's goals & objectives.

### **Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards**

Lead-based paint hazard identification & reduction strategies include education, outreach, & conformance with 24 CFR Part 35 regulations. The City distributes & maintains documentation of required information for homes built before 1978, including the EPA Lead-based Pamphlet, Notification of Lead Hazard Evaluation, & Notification of Lead Hazard Reduction. Lead-based paint information is included in the application package for housing rehabilitation & down payment assistance as well as distributed at events & neighborhood meetings.

### **Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families**

Texarkana addresses the problem of poverty through its strategic goals. Through a holistic approach that combines safe, decent affordable housing for low to moderate income households with social services, education, access to health & employment. The City, as lead agency in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan, will coordinate with local organizations to ensure that goals are met & will continue to provide assistance to agencies that provide services to poverty level individuals & families.

### **Actions planned to develop institutional structure**

The City will continue to make entitlement funds available to the community through issuance of subrecipient agreements. The City provides subrecipient training during the application phase, prior to the execution of subrecipient agreements & is available for technical assistance, if needed. The City distributes updated information on CDBG funded programs to subrecipients when appropriate. The City will maintain its webpage with up-to-date information as a resource for other city departments, general public & service/housing providers. The City is committed to meeting regularly with interested citizens & stakeholders to discuss community development issues. The City recognizes the need to provide increased outreach to minority & non-English speaking residents. In an effort to reach these populations, the City held public hearings & community meetings with translation services to the Hispanic population at facilities located in low-moderate income areas. Public notices will be in English & Spanish & the City will advertise public hearings in the local newspaper & on their website.

### **Actions planned to enhance coordination between public & private housing & social service agencies**

City staff will continue work with service providers, the local public housing authority, private housing resources & the Continuum of Care to ensure that there is awareness of the available resources & provide a conduit for communication & collaboration.

### **Discussion:**

Since CDBG funding basically remains level, relationships are key to the success of housing, economic & community development efforts within the City of Texarkana. The City will continue to partner with service & housing providers to leverage CDBG funding in assisting the low to moderate residents of Texarkana.

## **Program Specific Requirements**

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

#### **Introduction:**

It is the City of Texarkana's policy that 70% of the CDBG funds will be used to benefit low-moderate income people residing within the city limits. The City sets aside 15% of the allocation to fund public services & 20% to be used for administration of the program.

#### **Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(1)**

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

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year & 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 & 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
<b>Total Program Income:</b>	<b>0</b>

#### **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 & 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 & moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	70.00%

The City anticipates using 70% of CDBG funds for projects involving low-moderate income people or low-moderate areas. Three years will be used to determine the minimum overall benefit.

## **Attachments**

### **Public Notice**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS  
& REQUEST FOR CITIZEN INPUT  
ON THE CITY OF TEXARKANA, TEXAS 2020 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) ANNUAL ACTION PLAN (AAP)**

The City of Texarkana, Texas will receive \$372,144 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2020. As required by federal regulations, CDBG funds must be used to meet one of three National Objectives: 1) Eliminate slum & blight; 2) Assist low-income citizens; or 3) Urgent need/disaster relief. The 2020 Annual Action Plan (AAP) will detail the proposed usage of the CDBG funds for the next year in accordance with The City's Five Year CDBG Consolidated Plan priorities & strategies.

In accordance with the HUD Act of 1974, as amended, & with 24 CFR, Part 91, & in furtherance of the City of Texarkana's commitment to facilitate the exchange of information between the City & its citizens, the City initiated public meetings & opportunities for citizen input & comments regarding the development & adoption of the 2020 AAP Draft.

Citizens from across the city assisted staff through community meetings & surveys & now have the opportunity to comment on the adoption of the 2020 AAP Draft. Upcoming Texarkana, Texas City Council meetings will provide information regarding the range of activities that are expected to be undertaken & the estimated amount of the anticipated funds that will be utilized to benefit low-moderate income persons.

Citizens are encouraged to attend the upcoming Public Meetings to offer input on the 2020 AAP Draft. A First Briefing will be held on July 13, 2020 & a Public Meeting & Council vote will occur on August 10, 2020. All meetings will be at 6 PM at the Texas City Hall located at 220 Texas Blvd, Texarkana, Texas.

The Public Comment Period is from July 10, 2020 to August 10, 2020. Written comments regarding the AAP, identified needs, strategies, or the proposed usage of funds should be sent to Betsy Freeman, Grant Administrator, City of Texarkana, 220 Texas Boulevard, Texarkana, Texas 75501 no later than August 12, 2020 at 12pm. Written responses will be provided if name & return address are included. The 2020 AAP Draft is available at the Planning & Community Development Office in City Hall or online at the City's website (<http://www.ci.texarkana.tx.us/>). Comments may also be submitted through survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M797R7M>

All public hearings are held in facilities that are wheelchair accessible & provide handicapped parking. Interpretive services for deaf or non-English speaking citizens will be available with an advance notice of 48 hours. Arrangements for such services can be made by calling the City of Texarkana at 903-798-3902 or through the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 for TTY/Voice communication.

## **Surveys**

**AVISO DE AUDIENCIAS PÚBLICAS Y  
PETICIÓN DE COMENTARIOS DE CIUDADANOS  
SOBRE EL PLAN DE ACCIÓN ANUAL 2020 (AAP)  
DE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)  
DE LA CIUDAD DE TEXARKANA, TEXAS**

La Ciudad de Texarkana, Texas, recibirá \$ 372,144 en fondos del Subsidio de Desarrollo

Comunitario (CDBG) del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de los Estados Unidos (HUD) para el año fiscal que comienza el 1 de octubre de 2020. Según lo exigen las regulaciones federales, los fondos de CDBG deben ser usados en uno de los tres objetivos nacionales: 1) Eliminar barrios marginales y abandonados; 2) Asistir a ciudadanos de bajos ingresos; o 3) Necesidad urgente / ayuda en caso de desastre. El Plan de Acción Anual 2020 (AAP) detallará el uso propuesto de los fondos CDBG para el próximo año de acuerdo con las prioridades y estrategias del Plan Consolidado CDBG de Cinco Años de la Ciudad.

De conformidad con la Ley HUD de 1974, enmendada, y con 24 CFR, Parte 91, y en cumplimiento del compromiso de la Ciudad de Texarkana de facilitar el intercambio de información entre la Ciudad y sus ciudadanos, la Ciudad inició reuniones públicas y oportunidades para Comentarios y aportaciones de los ciudadanos sobre

el desarrollo y la adopción de la propuesta del AAP 2020.

Ciudadanos de toda la ciudad ayudaron al personal a través de reuniones y encuestas comunitarias y ahora tienen la oportunidad de comentar sobre la adopción del Borrador del AAP 2020. Las próximas reuniones del Consejo de la Ciudad de Texarkana, Texas, proporcionarán información sobre el rango de actividades que se espera llevar a cabo y la cantidad estimada de los fondos anticipados que se utilizarán para beneficiar a las personas de ingresos bajos a moderados.

Se pide que ciudadanos asistan a las próximas reuniones públicas para ofrecer su opinión sobre el borrador del AAP 2020. Una primera sesión informativa se llevará a cabo el 13 de julio de 2020 y una reunión pública y votación del Consejo se llevará a cabo el 10 de agosto de 2020. Todas las reuniones serán a las 6 PM en el Ayuntamiento de Texas ubicado en 220 Texas Blvd, Texarkana, Texas.

El período de comentarios públicos es del 10 de julio de 2020 al 10 de agosto de 2020. Los comentarios escritos sobre la AAP, las necesidades identificadas,

las estrategias o el uso propuesto de los fondos deben enviarse a Betsy Freeman, administradora de subvenciones, ciudad de Texarkana, 220 Texas Boulevard, Texarkana, Texas 75501 a más tardar el 12 de agosto de 2020 a las 12 p.m. Se proporcionarán respuestas por escrito si se incluyen el nombre y la dirección del remitente. El borrador del AAP 2020 está disponible en la Oficina de Planificación y Desarrollo Comunitario en el Ayuntamiento o en línea en el sitio web de la Ciudad (<http://www.ci.texarkana.tx.us/>). Los comentarios también se pueden enviar a través de una encuesta en: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M797R7M>

Todas las audiencias públicas se llevan a cabo en instalaciones accesibles para sillas de ruedas y con estacionamiento para discapacitados. Los servicios de interpretación para ciudadanos sordos o que no hablan inglés estarán disponibles con un aviso previo de 48 horas. Se pueden hacer arreglos para tales servicios llamando a la Ciudad de Texarkana al 903-798-3902 o a través del Servicio Federal de Retransmisión de Información al 1-800-877-8339 para comunicación TTY / Voz.

## **Grantee Unique Appendices**

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-075

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TEXARKANA, TEXAS, ADOPTING THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM 2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN SETTING PROGRAM PRIORITIES FOR THE USE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT SAID ACTION PLAN TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has provided the City or Texarkana, Texas, with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds; and

WHEREAS, public review of the 2020 Annual Action Plan draft became available July 10, 2020, and will continue through August 10, 2020, Legal notice was published in the Texarkana Gazette and on the city website. Public meetings were conducted on July 13, 2020, and August 10, 2020, to solicit public comments regarding the Action Plan. A public hearing is scheduled for August 10, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined it to be appropriate to adopt the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2020 Annual Action Plan for the use of Community Development Block Grant Funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TEXARKANA, TEXAS:

**SECTION 1:** That the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2020 Annual Action Plan is hereby accepted.

**SECTION 2:** That the City Manager is hereby authorized to submit said Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2020 Annual Action Plan to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and is authorized to act in connection with the submission of the Annual Action Plan to provide such additional information as may be required.

**SECTION 3:** That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval,

PASSED AND APPROVED in Regular Council Session on this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of August 2020.

ATTEST:



JENNIFER EVANS, CITY SECRETARY

  
BOB BRUGGEMAN, MAYOR

## **Grantee SF-424's & Certification(s)**

## **Appendix**