

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

This Middlesex County PY2023 Annual Action Plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as a prerequisite for participating in several key HUD programs, specifically the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) program.

The Middlesex County Consolidated Plan is developed by the County's Department of Housing and Community Development on behalf of the County and eighteen municipalities which together comprised the Urban County for HUD entitlement purposes. In addition, the municipalities of Edison, Old Bridge, Piscataway, Sayreville and Woodbridge are included as members of the HOME consortium

Edison, New Brunswick, Old Bridge, Perth Amboy, Piscataway, Sayreville and Woodbridge receive CDBG entitlement funding individually from HUD, and each prepares a Consolidated Plan with its own community development priorities and projects. New Brunswick and Perth Amboy also are entitlement communities for HOME funding, and thus are not part of the County's HOME consortium.

Urban County CDBG funding for PY 2023 will be \$1,684,062 for the program year July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. This is a small increase of less than \$6,000 from 2023. HOME consortium funding is \$1,854,358, which is an approximate \$26,000 increase from 2022 and the most HOME funding received by the jurisdiction since 2011. There was no ESG funding for PY2022, but the jurisdiction is receiving \$147,551 in PY2023.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

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

The 2023 Annual Action Plan has as its primary objectives to provide a suitable living environment, to create and preserve decent housing for Consortium residents and others who choose to live here, and to create economic opportunity.

This 2023 Annual Action Plan covers three U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) FFY 2023 grants: the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) of \$1,684,062 shared by eighteen “Urban County” municipalities; the 2023 HOME Investment Partnerships grant of \$1,854,358 for twenty-three “HOME Consortium” municipalities and the 2023 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) of \$147,551 to serve the whole county, including the cities of New Brunswick and Perth Amboy.

The CDBG activities selected for 2023 cover a wide range. Most of these have as their objective creating or enhancing a suitable living environment. However, within this objective, their proposed outcomes include enhancing availability/accessibility, affordability, and sustaining livable/viable communities. There are a few CDBG activities that have decent housing as their objective, with the intention of outcomes of improved affordability and sustaining livable/viable communities.

Middlesex County’s HOME activities have long had as their main objective providing additional decent housing for very low income renters, who are not served by the market. In Spring 2006, the County began the American Dream Down-payment Initiative (ADDI) program, providing down-payment and closing cost assistance to low income first-time homebuyers and has continued as the American Dream Down-payment program with HOME funds. Both rental and homeowner programs have as their objectives providing decent housing in a suitable living environment and improving the affordability and livability of communities for people of all incomes.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

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Middlesex County’s Urban County has carried out the CDBG program since its inception in 1975, bringing in over \$96 million (through PY2023) in federal funds to improve the life of its residents. These funds have overwhelmingly been spent to benefit low income residents, the elderly and the disabled in a variety of ways. The CDBG activities carried out by municipalities and non-profit agencies are completed in a relative timely manner. Due to various pandemic related challenges, CDBG spending and expenditures drawn were less than normal and the County is in danger of not meeting the HUD’s CDBG timeliness requirement. This was also due to the decrease in the baseline year measurement, which was

much lower due to Piscataway being their own CDBG entitlement as of 2021. The County staff have created a new quarterly reporting process as of 4th quarter 2022 and is offering more technical assistance and outreach to municipalities proactively to help aid in projects being done in a more timely manner. The County has also designated staff as representatives to each of the 18 CDBG communities, so they have a first point of contact for questions and challenges in operating their CDBG activities. County staff insures that CDBG activities chosen by the participating municipalities unquestionably meet HUD's eligibility requirements and HUD's desired objectives and outcomes.

Each year, many CDBG and HOME activities are designed to make life better for the County's growing population of senior citizens, many of whom are low income. CDBG funds help expand senior centers, provide a variety of services and enhance senior transportation. In the past ten years HOME funds have helped finance projects containing over 500 units of very low income rental housing, with many units dedicated specifically for seniors, disabled and/or homeless populations.

CDBG activities also repeatedly benefit physically, mentally and developmentally disabled persons through program funds and through helping to build better facilities. As with CDBG, all HOME funds have been used for projects responding to HUD's criteria and every unit has been for very low income persons, significantly exceeding HUD's requirements for very low income benefit.

ESG funds have been traditionally used both for shelter activities and for direct financial assistance for homelessness prevention and rapid rehousing.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

At the start of planning for each new HUD program year and prior to deciding on any new activities, Urban County municipalities, which receive different amounts of CDBG funds according to a formula containing several measures of need, individually go through a local citizen participation process, where they solicit comments on proposed activities through at least one public hearing and/or meeting before submitting their desired activities to the County. After widespread notification, the County conducts their own hearing, with an advertisement is placed in the Home News Tribune, the regional daily newspaper with the widest circulation, notifying the public of the opportunity to participate in plan preparation and of the availability of the draft plan for review.

The plan has a 30 day public comment period at which time, comments can be submitted. A Public Hearing will also be held during this time.

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.

Please see attachments on Administration page

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

None

7. Summary

The direction of resources towards specific projects and activities is based on feedback solicited by local community members and put forth by our participating municipalities. The only countywide program is the funding of general Housing Counseling and Fair Housing Activities.

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

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

The following are the agencies/entities 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	MIDDLESEX COUNTY	Division of Housing
HOME Administrator	MIDDLESEX COUNTY	Division of Housing
ESG Administrator	MIDDLESEX COUNTY	Division of Housing

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The Middlesex County Division of Housing, Community Development and Social Services is the designated division of Middlesex County for all responsibilities around the Consolidated Plan process and the division that administers the CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

An important element to the planning process is community outreach, in the form of meetings with local service providers, various local government agencies and departments, and the community in general. These groups offer the most empirical information regarding the community's needs and available resources since they are directly interacting with the various low- and moderate-income populations. These discussions bring to light the growing need for increased funding for service-oriented organizations and the lack of funding sources. Consequently, only a small percent of those having needs are actually able to obtain services or participate in programs due to funding constraints that affect staff levels, supplies, etc. It has also been found that while serving the initial need of the low-income person, secondary issues are occurring requiring a different type of service. For example, an increase in chronic adult illness in young families is affecting the children's lives in terms of quality of life. Especially in single-parent households, there is no adult available to prepare children for school, shop for food, or take care of their medical needs, to name a few. In this type of situation, the adult not only requires assistance, but the children also necessitate having their needs met.

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

The division staff works closely with public and assisted housing providers by providing funding opportunities through CDBG, HOME and the Township's affordable housing funds. These funds are used in the creation of new affordable housing and/or for repairs or replacement systems to existing structures that provide housing for eligible persons and families. These efforts have proven to keep these housing units affordable in the operation of these housing units. Moreover, the municipalities continue to supplement service providers with CDBG funds under the Public Service cap in order to keep programs available for the elderly, severely disabled, and very-, low-income persons. The Division of Housing also coordinates with other county divisions such as the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Human Services Advisory Council to share information and resources among funded agencies.

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.

The Division of Housing, Community Development & Social Service staff coordinated with the local Continuum of Care (CoC) and serves on the Executive Committee of the CoC. Recommendation for ESG funding go before the CoC. The CoC membership is made up of organizations working with chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, unaccompanied youth and persons at

risk of homelessness. The CoC meets monthly and discusses the efforts and progress made towards ending homelessness, informs on current programs, and shares systematic information. The CoC also coordinated with the Middlesex County PHA and other PHAs within the jurisdiction

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

The CoC will solicit proposals for the use the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program funding for eligible activities including traditional emergency shelter eligible activities, homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing activities, and street outreach. Each year the CoC will decide the amount of funding to allocate for each eligible activity, in accordance with established CoC priorities.

The CoC Review Committee will review proposals and make recommendations to the CoC based on ESG program requirements, level of collaboration and coordination with other homeless service program and mainstream resources, agency capacity to administer program activities and meet match requirements, and HMIS compliance. The CoC will review the recommendations at its meeting and vote on a funding proposal to be submitted to the Urban County for inclusion in the Annual Action Plan

2. Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and consultations

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	EDISON HOUSING AUTHORITY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted regarding public housing needs and homelessness
2	Agency/Group/Organization	CATHOLIC CHARITIES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted through CoC and various subcommittee relating to homeless issues and housing. As one of the largest non-profits serving the county, their feedback provides information on system improvements and better communication between government and non-profits serving low/mod populations.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	MIPH
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children HOPWA Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consulted through CoC, especially in role as Chair of Consumer Participation Committee. Provided valuable feedback from consumer prospective to help on system improvements and delivery of services to homeless and participants in Permanent Supportive Housing.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Coming Home of Middlesex County, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Coming Home is the nonprofit establish to coordinate countywide efforts towards ending homelessness, so there is continuous collaboration with the Division of Housing on housing needs. They advocate for system improvements to our homeless system and help publicize the need for housing for the homeless and those at the lowest imcome levels and work with prospective developers on creating same.

5	Agency/Group/Organization	Human Services Advisory Council
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The HSAC is a collaboration of government, non-profit providers, and community members that advises county government on community services needs for all populations, including low income, disabled, children and families, elderly, etc. and are consulted and informed regularly on Division of Housing and Community Development activities and plan. Participation with this group provides needed feedback from consumers and community members on social service needs.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	WOMEN AWARE, INC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Victims of Domestic Violence
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children

<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>As the county's primary DV provider, they are consulted as part of our CoC. Consistent communication provides input on DV needs and allows collaboration on system improvements.</p>
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Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

Between the various providers represented in the Continuum of Care (CoC) and the Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC), there are not any major areas listed above that aren't represented in their bodies.

The jurisdiction did not specifically consult with broadband internet providers or organizations engaged in narrowing the digital divide, but we did disseminate information through our HSAC and CoC on services such as the Emergency Broadband Benefit program, which provides discounts on internet and a one-time discount for certain hardware, like laptop, desktop or tablet, and also Lifeline Service for free or discount phone. Overall, the county has strong broadband coverage, so issues are not regarding availability of broadband, but around access and affordability.

While the jurisdiction didn't meet with agencies in charge of flood prone areas, public land and water resources specifically about this annual action plan, the Division of Housing did take part in numerous planning and implementation meetings with representatives from these groups as part of Middlesex County's Destination 2040 planning process for a comprehensive Master Plan. This included not only other county departments such as Planning, Engineering, and OEM, but also subject matter experts on the plan elements, which included the above topics.

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	County of Middlesex	The CoC's homeless plan and efforts to end homelessness are completely consistent with the homeless portion of this Strategic Plan, since they are developed and implemented in concert together.

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Destination 2040	Middlesex County Office of Planning	Destination 2040 is a comprehensive countywide Master Plan that addresses how the county will be shaped and grow over the next two decades, not just regarding land use and housing, but also in the areas of transportation & mobility; economic and workforce development; healthy, safe, and inclusive communities; and sustainability, especially concerning the environment factoring in climate change and our natural resources. Division staff that are responsible for the Strategic Plan provided input and were consulted during all aspects of D2040. Once D2040 is finalized in 2021/2022, the goals and objectives in D2040 are expected to overlap greatly with the Strategic Plan and also help guide future Strategic Plans.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative

AP-12 Participation - 91.401, 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**

At the start of each Program Year, each of the 18 participating municipalities conducts their own local citizens participation process, which will include at least one public hearing on proposed activities and community needs. The county also held a meeting on March 28, 2023 to solicit comments on overall goals.

The municipal meetings provide direct feedback to municipal officials on what type of projects and what types of needs there exists in their particular community. The municipality then will submit CDBG applications to the county based on this feedback. The aggregate of the municipal projects documents the community priorities. These priorities include programs and services for senior citizens; improvements to facilities serving seniors; increased ADA access to municipal facilities, including parks; general park improvements; code enforcement in low/mod areas; infrastructure improvements in low income areas, including streets and sewers; and addressing food insecurity for low income households. The types of activities done by each municipality helps drive the overall Urban County goals.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response /attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Public Meeting	Non-targeted /broad community	Please see attachments for details on various municipal public meetings and the county meeting.	Please see attachments for details on various municipal public meetings and the county meeting	None	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response /attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
2	Public Hearing	Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Non-targeted /broad community	Please see attachments for details	None to date	None	https://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/government/departments/department-of-community-services/office-of-human-services/division-of-housing-community-devel

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources - 91.420(b), 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

This section will explain how CDBG, HOME and ESG funds will be allocated and utilized.

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 Housing Public Improvements Public Services	1,684,062	0	0	1,684,062	1,684,062	\$1,350,548 in funding will be used for CDBG funded projects. \$333,514 will be used for Planning & General Admin., this includes \$35,000 for Fair Housing Activities. This amount is under the 20% cap.

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: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	1,854,358	0	0	1,854,358	1,854,358	15% of the grant, \$278154 will be used for CHDO activities. \$185,435 will be used for Planning & General Administration.

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: \$		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	147,551	0	0	147,551	147,551	\$66,500 will be used for shelter, \$42,000 for rapid re-housing, \$27,985 for homelessness prevention, and \$11,066 for Admin.

Table 2 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

Most CDBG projects are only partially funded with CDBG funds, with the remaining funds coming from other municipal funds, including annual municipal operating budgets and municipal capital budgets. Some public improvement projects, such as street, sewer, or park improvements could have other funding streams such as State or Federal Dept. of Transportation funding, state/county park and recreation funding, and/or funded by county or state senior citizen program funding. While there is no specific match, CDBG funds are greatly leveraged by other funding sources.

HOME projects are frequently leveraged by Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) funding, other state NJ Housing & Mortgage Finance Agency

funding, NJ Department of Community Affairs funding, municipal affordable housing funds and County Housing First Capital Fund funding, to name a few major sources. Most HOME projects greatly exceed the required 25% match.

ESG funds require a \$1 to \$1 match. Shelter operations are matched with local Board of Social Services EA assistance and state SSH funding. Prevention and Rapid Rehousing funds are matched with other programs including FEMA, state SSH, county funds, and donated funds.

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

While there are no specific planned activities, municipalities will sometimes provide publicly owned land at no or little cost to create much needed affordable housing in their communities.

Discussion

The county will use the available resources throughout the jurisdiction to serve the needs of low- and moderate-income households. It will encourage CDBG and HOME recipients to leverage funds as much as possible and to document same in their reports, so the leveraged funds can be reported in IDIS. ESG funds will be supported by at least a \$1 to \$1 match.

Annual Goals and Objectives

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

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Public Facilities and Improvement	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Public Facilities	CDBG: \$193,253	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1000 Persons Assisted
2	Street Improvements	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Street Improvements	CDBG: \$471,889	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2000 Persons Assisted
3	Water/Sewer Improvements	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Water/Sewer Improvements	CDBG: \$13,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 750 Persons Assisted
4	Senior Centers	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Senior Centers	CDBG: \$55,574	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 600 Persons Assisted
5	Parks/Recreational Facilities	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Parks/Recreational Facilities	CDBG: \$230,892	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5000 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	Senior Services	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Senior Services	CDBG: \$152,373	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2500 Persons Assisted
7	Youth Services	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Youth Services	CDBG: \$33,445	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 200 Persons Assisted
8	Services for persons with Disabilities	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Services for Persons with Disabilities	CDBG: \$45,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Persons Assisted
9	Code Enforcement	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Code Enforcement	CDBG: \$58,575	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 400 Household Housing Unit
10	Housing Rehabilitation	2020	2025	Affordable Housing	Countywide	Rehab; Single Unit Residential	CDBG: \$46,867	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 10 Household Housing Unit
11	General Administration CDBG	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	General Administration CDBG	CDBG: \$333,514	Other: 1 Other
12	First Time Homebuyer Program	2020	2025	Affordable Housing	Countywide	HOME FIRST TIME HOMEBUYERS	HOME: \$200,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 28 Households Assisted
13	Rental Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Countywide	HOME Rehabilitation and / or Acquisition	CDBG: \$30,680	Rental units rehabilitated: 10 Household Housing Unit
14	Affordable Housing Low/Mod Rental	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Countywide	HOME Rehabilitation and / or Acquisition	HOME: \$1,218,923	Rental units constructed: 20 Household Housing Unit Rental units rehabilitated: 8 Household Housing Unit

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
15	Permanent Housing for the Homeless	2020	2022	Homeless	Countywide	Affordable Housing Low/Mod Rental	HOME: \$250,000 ESG: \$42,000	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 20 Households Assisted
16	Fair Housing Activities	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Fair Housing Activities	CDBG: \$19,000	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 50 Households Assisted
17	HOME Administration	2015	2019	Affordable Housing	Countywide	HOME ADMINISTRATION	HOME: \$185,435	Other: 1 Other
18	Shelter & Transitional Housing	2020	2024	Homeless	Countywide	Emergency Solutions Program	ESG: \$65,000	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 350 Persons Assisted
19	Homelessness Prevention Assistance	2020	2024	Homeless	Countywide	Emergency Solutions Program	ESG: \$27,985	Homelessness Prevention: 15 Persons Assisted
20	ESG Administration	2015	2019	Homeless	Countywide	Emergency Solutions Program	ESG: \$11,066	Other: 1 Other

Table 3 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Public Facilities and Improvement
	Goal Description	This includes improvements to public facilities and/or improvements not covered by another category, including libraries and other municipal facilities.

2	Goal Name	Street Improvements
	Goal Description	Street improvements done by municipalities in eligible LMA areas, including facade programs.
3	Goal Name	Water/Sewer Improvements
	Goal Description	Sanitary sewer improvements in LMA eligible areas.
4	Goal Name	Senior Centers
	Goal Description	Various improvements to municipal senior center buildings, including ADA improvements or enhancements.
5	Goal Name	Parks/Recreational Facilities
	Goal Description	Improvements to park facilities, including to recreational facilities.
6	Goal Name	Senior Services
	Goal Description	Various programs and services benefit senior citizens in multiple municipalities, including food pantries.
7	Goal Name	Youth Services
	Goal Description	Programs serving children and youth in multiple municipalities
8	Goal Name	Services for persons with Disabilities
	Goal Description	Programs that serve or benefit adults with disabilities.
9	Goal Name	Code Enforcement
	Goal Description	Code Enforcement activities in multiple municipalities

10	Goal Name	Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	Housing rehabilitation to income eligible homeowners
11	Goal Name	General Administration CDBG
	Goal Description	Planning and general CDBG program administration, including \$35,000 for countywide fair housing activities.
12	Goal Name	First Time Homebuyer Program
	Goal Description	Funding for the American Dream Downpayment program, which provides up to \$5,000 to income eligible first time homebuyers.
13	Goal Name	Rental Housing
	Goal Description	Funds will be used for the rehabilitation of rental housing for low income individuals and families.
14	Goal Name	Affordable Housing Low/Mod Rental
	Goal Description	New Construction, acquisition and/or rehabilitation of rental housing for low and moderate income households, including at least \$278,154 in CHDO funds.
15	Goal Name	Permanent Housing for the Homeless
	Goal Description	HOME TBRA program and also ESG Rapid Rehousing for homeless individuals and families
16	Goal Name	Fair Housing Activities
	Goal Description	Funding to PRAB to do general housing counseling as a public service activity.
17	Goal Name	HOME Administration
	Goal Description	General administration and planning for the HOME program

18	Goal Name	Shelter & Transitional Housing
	Goal Description	ESG funds will be used to support shelter operations for homeless individuals and families.
19	Goal Name	Homelessness Prevention Assistance
	Goal Description	Financial assistance to households that are at imminent risk of homelessness
20	Goal Name	ESG Administration
	Goal Description	Administration of the Emergency Solutions Grant program

AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

Introduction

This section explains the specific projects that will be funded with the CDBG and HOME programs.

#	Project Name
1	2023 Street Improvements
2	2023 Park Improvements
3	2023 Facade Improvements
4	2023 Senior Center Improvements
5	2023 Sewer Improvement
6	2023 Youth Center Improvements
7	2023 ADA Public Facilities Improvements
8	2023 Senior Services
9	2023 Services for Adults with Disabilities
10	2023 Childcare Services
11	2023 Youth Services
12	2023 Food Pantries
13	2023 CDBG Housing Rehabilitation
14	2023 CDBG Affordable Rental Housing
15	2023 Code Enforcement
16	2023 CDBG Fair Housing Counseling
17	2023 CDBG Administration
18	2023 HOME New Construction
19	2023 HOME Acquisition & Rehabilitation
20	2023 HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance
21	2023 HOME First Time Homebuyer
22	2023 HOME Administration
23	2023 ESG Emergency Solutions Grant

Table 4 – Project Information

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

Priorities for allocation were based on assisting the neediest and most underserved populations in the County. This was largest determined by the individual municipalities through their local Citizens Participation process.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	2023 Street Improvements
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Street Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Street Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$369,263
	Description	Street improvements in multiple municipalities
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 2500 persons will benefit from these street improvements and curb cuts in their neighborhoods.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Activities will include road improvements in LMA areas in South River and ADA curb cuts in Milltown, Monroe, and South Plainfield.
2	Project Name	2023 Park Improvements
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Parks/Recreational Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Parks/Recreational Facilities
	Funding	CDBG: \$230,892
	Description	Improvements to parks and recreation facilities
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	5000 people will benefits from these activities including disabled persons, senior citizens and low income families.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Improvements to various parks and recreation facilities in Dunellen, East Brunswick, Highland Park, Jamesburg, Middlesex Borough and North Brunswick. All improvements are for parks/facilities located in LMA eligible census tracts or are ADA improvements benefiting disabled adults.
3	Project Name	2023 Facade Improvements
	Target Area	Countywide

	Goals Supported	Street Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Street Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$102,626
	Description	Facade improvements to businesses in LMA areas
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	500 persons living in these low/mod area (LMA) neighborhoods will benefit from improvements to local businesses
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Facade improvements to businesses located in eligible LMA areas in Carteret Borough
4	Project Name	2023 Senior Center Improvements
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Senior Centers
	Needs Addressed	Senior Centers
	Funding	CDBG: \$55,574
	Description	Improvements to senior center facilities in multiple municipalities
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	500 persons in elderly households will benefit from these activities.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Senior center improvements in Dunellen, East Brunswick, and Middlesex Borough.
5	Project Name	2023 Sewer Improvement
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Water/Sewer Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Water/Sewer Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$13,000
	Description	Sanitary sewer improvements in LMA areas in Dunellen Borough

	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 100 low and moderate income households in LMA area including seniors and families with minor children.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Sanitary sewer improvements in LMA areas
6	Project Name	2023 Youth Center Improvements
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Public Facilities and Improvement
	Needs Addressed	Public Facilities
	Funding	CDBG: \$5,000
	Description	Improvements to community youth center serving low and moderate income middle and high school students in Highland Park
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 100 low and moderate income families with minor children in middle school and/or high school will benefit.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Improvements to community youth center serving low and moderate income middle and high school students in Highland Park
7	Project Name	2023 ADA Public Facilities Improvements
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Public Facilities and Improvement
	Needs Addressed	Public Facilities
	Funding	CDBG: \$188,253
	Description	ADA improvements to municipal facilities including libraries and municipal buildings.
	Target Date	6/30/2024

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	500 persons with disabilities will benefit directly from these improvements, including seniors and disabled adults.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	ADA improvements to Helmetta municipal building and Metuchen public library. Also includes tentative ADA activities for Plainsboro and South Amboy.
8	Project Name	2023 Senior Services
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Senior Services
	Needs Addressed	Senior Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$119,289
	Description	Public services for senior citizens in various municipal programs.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1000 low and moderate income families consisting of seniors or containing a senior will benefit.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Senior services conducted in Dunellen, Highland Park, Middlesex Borough, Milltown, North Brunswick and South Plainfield. They include staffing at senior centers, transportation programs, and meal programs. Also includes tentative activity for seniors in Plainsboro.
9	Project Name	2023 Services for Adults with Disabilities
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Services for persons with Disabilities
	Needs Addressed	Services for Persons with Disabilities
	Funding	CDBG: \$45,000
	Description	Public services for adults with disabilities
	Target Date	6/30/2024

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	75 low and moderate income families with a disabled adult member will benefit from these activities.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Programs in South Brunswick Township including Pioneer Recreation program for disabled adults, the CIL social services provider, and large print books for visually impaired adults.
10	Project Name	2023 Childcare Services
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Youth Services
	Needs Addressed	Youth Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	Description	Childcare services for minors under the age of 13 years old.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	There will be approximately 20 low income households with minor children that benefit from these activities.
	Location Description	Highland Park
	Planned Activities	Summer Camp program in Highland Park that will provide assistance to low income households with minor children.
11	Project Name	2023 Youth Services
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Youth Services
	Needs Addressed	Youth Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$13,445
	Description	Activities that are targeted for youth (ages 13-18) from low and moderate income households.
	Target Date	6/30/2024

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	There will be approximately 40 households with teenagers that will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	Highland Park Teen Center
	Planned Activities	Services to be provided at Highland Park Teen Center to benefit low and moderate income households with teenagers.
12	Project Name	2023 Food Pantries
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Senior Services Services for persons with Disabilities
	Needs Addressed	Senior Services Services for Persons with Disabilities
	Funding	CDBG: \$33,084
	Description	Food pantry and food distribution programs.
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 100 households, including senior and disabled households, will benefit from the proposed activities.
	Location Description	Activities are planned in Highland Park and in South Brunswick.
	Planned Activities	Food pantry programs operating in Highland Park and South Brunswick.
13	Project Name	2023 CDBG Housing Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Rehab; Single Unit Residential
	Funding	CDBG: \$46,867
	Description	Housing rehabilitation done for low income homeowners
	Target Date	6/30/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 12 households, including senior and disabled households, will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	Spotswood Borough
	Planned Activities	Activities include Spotswood's safe housing program that makes needed repairs to low/mod income homeowners.
14	Project Name	2023 CDBG Affordable Rental Housing
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing Low/Mod Rental
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing Low/Mod Rental
	Funding	CDBG: \$30,680
	Description	Rehabilitation made to multi-family housing projects for low income renters.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4 low income households, which may include senior, disabled, and families iwth minor children will benefit
	Location Description	Cranbury Township
	Planned Activities	HVAC replacement at Parkside Afforable Housing complex in Cranbury Township.
15	Project Name	2023 Code Enforcement
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Code Enforcement
	Needs Addressed	Code Enforcement
	Funding	CDBG: \$58,575
	Description	Code enforcement activities in eligible Low Mod income areas (LMA).
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 500 households will benefit from these activities, including senior and households with minor children.

	Location Description	Dunellen Borough, Middlesex Borough, and North Brunswick Township
	Planned Activities	Code enforcement activities in eligible LMA areas in Dunellen, Middlesex Borough, and North Brunswick.
16	Project Name	2023 CDBG Fair Housing Counseling
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Fair Housing Activities
	Needs Addressed	Fair Housing Activities
	Funding	CDBG: \$19,000
	Description	Fair housing counseling done by HUD approved housing counseling agency under Public Services
	Target Date	6/30/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Low and moderate income households including those with seniors, disabled adults, and minor children will benefit from these activities.
	Location Description	Countywide
	Planned Activities	Fair housing counseling done by PRAB, a HUD approved housing counseling agencies to advise households that may have had their tenant rights discriminated against by landlords.
17	Project Name	2023 CDBG Administration
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	General Administration CDBG
	Needs Addressed	General Administration CDBG
	Funding	CDBG: \$333,514
	Description	Administration of the CDBG program, including \$35,000 for fair housing activities.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	Countywide

	Planned Activities	General planning and administration of the CDBG program, including \$35,000 for fair housing activities.
18	Project Name	2023 HOME New Construction
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Rental Housing
	Needs Addressed	HOME Construction of Housing
	Funding	HOME: \$750,000
	Description	New construction of affordable housing units utilizing HOME funding.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 40 low income renter households will benefit from these activities including senior, disabled, and households with minor children.
	Location Description	Countywide
	Planned Activities	New construction of both large scale projects (40+ units) and smaller projects (5 and under) that will be rented to low income households.
19	Project Name	2023 HOME Acquisition & Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Rental Housing
	Needs Addressed	HOME Rehabilitation and / or Acquisition
	Funding	HOME: \$468,923
	Description	HOME funded projects that include acquisition and/or rehabilitation of housing units to create affordable rental housing for low income households.
	Target Date	6/30/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 5 households will benefit from these activities, which may include senior, disabled, or households with minor children.
	Location Description	Countywide

	Planned Activities	HOME activities that include acquisition and/or rehabilitation to create additional affordable rental housing or preserve existing affordable housing stock. This includes projects by small non-profit housing developers.
20	Project Name	2023 HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Permanent Housing for the Homeless
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing Low/Mod Rental
	Funding	HOME: \$250,000
	Description	Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) for low income renters, including those who are homeless or formerly homeless.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 10 households, mainly consisting of homeless or formerly homeless individuals and families will benefit.
	Location Description	Countywide
	Planned Activities	TBRA program for homeless and formerly homeless individuals and families.
21	Project Name	2023 HOME First Time Homebuyer
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	First Time Homebuyer Program
	Needs Addressed	HOME FIRST TIME HOMEBUYERS
	Funding	HOME: \$200,000
	Description	Downpayment and closing cost assistance to income eligible first time homebuyers.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 30 low/mod income households would benefit from this program, including individuals, single parents, and other households with minor children.
	Location Description	Countywide

	Planned Activities	Downpayment and closing cost assistance to income eligible first time homebuyers who are purchasing in Middlesex County, except New Brunswick and Perth Amboy, which are outside our HUD HOME consortium.
22	Project Name	2023 HOME Administration
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	HOME Administration
	Needs Addressed	HOME ADMINISTRATION
	Funding	HOME: \$185,435
	Description	Administration of the HOME program
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	Countywide
	Planned Activities	General planning and administration of the HOME program.
23	Project Name	2023 ESG Emergency Solutions Grant
	Target Area	Countywide
	Goals Supported	Shelter & Transitional Housing Homelessness Prevention Assistance Permanent Housing for the Homeless ESG Administration
	Needs Addressed	Emergency Solutions Program
	Funding	ESG: \$147,551
	Description	Activities under the ESG program, including shelter, prevention, rapid re-housing and administration.
	Target Date	6/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 800 families including chronically homeless households, single individuals, and families with minor children will benefit from these activities.
	Location Description	Countywide

	Planned Activities	Shelter activities, homelessness prevention, rapid re-housing, and administration.
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AP-50 Geographic Distribution - 91.420, 91.220(f)

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

All CDBG activities will be undertaken in the 18 municipalities that make up our Urban County, with many in target areas using uncapped income data. HOME activities are for the full geographical region of Middlesex County, except the more urban cities of New Brunswick and Perth Amboy. ESG will be done countywide, including New Brunswick and Perth Amboy.

These municipalities are considered part of the greater suburban areas outside New York City. While a few municipalities in the southern part of the county have less population density per square mile and more open space than some of the more northern municipalities, most of the geographical area served has a high population

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Countywide	100

Table 5 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Investments will be in target areas to serve senior citizens, low-income and disabled persons and families. The Urban County approved a formula allocation used to decide funding to each of the 18 participating municipalities. The municipalities then recommend local projects that target community needs.

Discussion

Each municipalities will have some level of investment and activities benefitting their low and moderate income populations for activities that were discussed and selected as part of their local citizens participation process.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing - 91.420, 91.220(g)

Introduction

Affordable housing needs will be addressed through HOME and a portion of CDBG funding.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	10
Non-Homeless	80
Special-Needs	5
Total	95

Table 6 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	10
The Production of New Units	40
Rehab of Existing Units	15
Acquisition of Existing Units	30
Total	95

Table 7 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

This summarizes are Affordable Housing goals using HOME and CDBG resources.

HOME TBRA will be used to assist 10 homeless households.

HOME will be used to construct approximately 40 new rental units

CDBG will be used to rehabilitate 12 units and HOME approximately 3 units

HOME will be used to acquire 30 units, including 28 for the first time homebuyer program and approximately 2 through acquisition for rental housing.

AP-60 Public Housing - 91.420, 91.220(h)

Introduction

This section will discuss the annual plans around Public Housing.

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

PHA's will continue with regular maintenance and improvements to their housing facilities to keep public housing stock in decent, safe and sanitary condition.

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

Public Housing Authorities within the jurisdiction will continue their efforts to outreach to residents to become more active. This includes publicizing their meetings, newsletters, and community activities. Some PHA's offer a Homeownership program and all PHA's are informed about the Middlesex County American Dream Down payment program, which provides down payment assistance to low income households.

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

N/A

Discussion

In addition to the five Public Housing Authorities that operate public housing, the Sayreville PHA, Old Bridge PHA, and the county's PHA operate Section 8 programs.

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities - 91.420, 91.220(i)

Introduction

This will discuss the plans the jurisdiction will take to assist homeless and special needs activities for this year.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

The CoC has expanded its Coordinated Entry system to have physical access points in an effort to provide improved access for the unsheltered and chronic homeless population. It is currently being piloted in Perth Amboy at the RBAYMCA Center and will expand after July 1st into a site in New Brunswick at Unity Square and also include other locations elsewhere in the community on a rotating basis. Previously, the main access to the Coordinated Entry system was through calling 211 and being screened for services. Coordinated Entry then prioritizes based on need for both shelter opportunities and for permanent housing opportunities.

Homeless outreach programs, RBAYMCA Center and the two PATH programs operated by Catholic Charities and by Rutgers UBHC will continue their work to engage unsheltered homeless and mentally ill homeless with the goal of placing into shelter and ultimately permanent housing, using available resources. The CoC continues to use its By Name List to know and document efforts to reach chronically homeless persons, even if not enough information is known to formally enter them into the HMIS database. Outreach teams work on continuous engagement with unsheltered and chronically homeless individuals and families.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The county's emergency shelters and transitional housing programs will continue their efforts to reduce the length of stays in their program and increase the number of individuals and families that are exiting into permanent housing. There are 3 main emergency shelters, two operated by CCDOM (Family Shelter for single women and families with minor children and the Mens Shelter) and one by Women Aware, serving families impacted by domestic violence. A significant portion of HOME-ARP funding (\$3.5M) has been allocated for the development of Non-Congregate Shelter and will be used to expand the shelter capacity of the county.

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

Through Continuum of Care funding, there are different programs that provide permanent supportive housing through leasing funds or rental assistance, most of which are targeted to chronically homeless individuals and families. These programs have been very successful with assisting those placed in housing to remain stably housed and not enter back into the homeless system. The Rapid Re-housing programs target families with minor children and provide the short-term assistance needed to move families out of shelter quickly and stabilize their housing situation. While veterans are eligible for the above programs, they can also utilize two Support Services for Veterans Families (SSVF) operating in the county, access VASH vouchers, and/or receive financial assistance from the County's Veterans Housing Assistance Program. These programs all couple some level of case management with financial assistance to help individuals and families remain stably housed and prevent recidivism.

Using CDBG-CV funds, the county will be establishing a program that will provide dedicated Housing Navigation services to not only locate vacant units, but also to build relationships with local landlords to encourage the renting of units to formerly homeless households that might not always meet their established background and credit checks requirements. It will also establish a program that provides Comprehensive Case Management to homeless and those at risk of homelessness to help access and navigate mainstream resources, including resources made available in response to the COVID pandemic.

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.

Within the county there are many Homelessness Prevention programs, funded by ESG, State HPRP, FEMA, SSH, State HPP, and state and county Treasury Dept. funded ERAP that provide assistance to households that are at risk of homelessness by providing rental arrears or funds for securing new housing. Most have income limits targeting extremely low and low income households.

The county's CoC has outreached to various institutions to assist with discharge planning, including hospitals and correctional facilities and encourages their participation in the CoC.

Discussion

The county's Continuum of Care has adopted Performance Standards for all emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent housing programs receiving funding through the CoC program and

county funding. These Performance Standards will provide concrete measures of a program's success in shortening lengths of stay in shelters, increasing income and connection to mainstream resources, exiting to permanent housing, and remaining stably housed.

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing -91.420, 91.220(j)

Introduction

This section will discuss the barriers to affordable housing that exist.

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

As previously noted, certain areas of public policy, most notably various regulations, negatively but unintentionally affect housing affordability. Regulations which benefit the public in many ways also make it harder and more expensive to build anything, including affordable housing. As new housing increases in cost, so does the value of existing housing. The 5 year Consolidated Plan had analyzed the increasing gap between income and housing costs and the greatest negative effects are on those households least able to bear higher cost.

Planned activities include, through Destination 2040 Master Plan, the development of sample land use ordinances and other tools developed and endorsed by Middlesex County that municipalities could use in support of Smart Growth strategies, that support building of affordable housing in areas that have adequate transportation, close proximity to employment opportunities, school, and other community resources. The County will also continue to operate it's Housing First Capital Fund, which provides capital towards the creation of affordable housing dedicated to homeless households. This fund, coupled with HOME funding, often provides the needed "gap" financing for large Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) projects, which are funded by NJ Housing and Mortgage Finance (HMFA) agency to come to fruition.

Because each municipality controls it's own land use and zoning, the county can't directly control municipal zoning ordinances and building codes, but can offer the aforementioned samples. The county's Office of Public and Government Affairs can work in conjunction with the Divisions of Housing and of Planing on this advocacy.

Discussion

One improvement would be to streamline the development process at all levels, so that the time to development approval or disapproval is reduced and holding costs from time delays lowered. This could be done within existing public policy objectives. Through its Destination 2040 Master Plan, the county has established guidance that could be followed by municipalities to encourage affordable housing through smart growth policies.

AP-85 Other Actions - 91.420, 91.220(k)

Introduction

The County is dedicated to assisting the most underserved residents for programs and services

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The pandemic has exacerbated conditions for many low-income individuals and families, especially those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. One of the biggest challenges concerns food security. The county is utilizing state CDBG-CV funds for services to our food pantry network to continue to address record demand. Other CDBG-CV funds are being dedicated to legal services for low-income populations. The county will be establishing a Comprehensive Case Management program to help low income families access and utilize mainstream resources.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

Coming through the pandemic, the biggest challenge revolves around housing, both in maintaining and obtaining affordable housing for those at the lowest income level. There are still remaining COVID funded rental assistance and prevention resources that can be used to keep low-income households stabled housed through both federal Emergency Rental Assistance Program funds and the ESG-CV program. To assist people with finding this housing the county will implement both a Housing Navigation program, with dedicated staff to help find vacant units. There are also homeless dedicated vouchers and rapid re-housing programs to help those who experienced homelessness to be quickly rehoused

Middlesex County has long had a housing preservation program providing low-interest loans, up to \$25,000, to help low- and moderate-income homeowners make repairs to keep their homes in safe and sound condition.

In addition to the use of Federal CDBG and HOME funds, as previously cited, to promote and maintain affordable housing, the County Board of County Commissioners has made available \$11,000,000 from 2009-2019 for permanent housing for homeless households and \$500,000 from 2003-2007 for other very low-income housing targeting senior or disabled. These funds provide gap financing for affordable rental housing and thus help to leverage significant State and local dollars.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, part of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, required HUD to amend its lead-based paint regulations in order to provide for more rigorous identification, testing and removal of lead –based paint hazards in residential structures involved with HUD’s programs, including CDBG, HOME and Section 8 Rental Assistance.

The Middlesex County Department of Housing and Community Development have developed procedures to ensure that its programs comply with the HUD regulations which were effective 15 September 2000. All Section 8 landlords are sent EPA handbooks on how to minimize lead-based paint hazards and all Housing Preservation Program contractors working on projects involving lead paint must complete a course in the regulations and the steps necessary to comply with them. The Department has offered training sessions on the current regulations to rehab contractors and will offer future courses as needed.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

In addition to the below typical activities, the county will continue to administer different state and federal COVID related programs that will impact and reduce the number of poverty-level families. This includes the Middlesex County Emergency Rental Assistance Program (MCERAP), food security programs using state CDBG-CV funds, and it's own ESG-CV and CDBG-CV funding.

During the FY 2022 program year, the County will operate the following programs aimed at reducing poverty and encouraging self-sufficiency:

1. Work First New Jersey (WFNJ) has supplanted earlier County and State programs designed to increase the employability and self-sufficiency of persons receiving welfare funds. WFNJ seeks to get all appropriate welfare recipients into appropriate job training, with the objective of moving them into the workforce, since most now face time limits on their benefits.

The County also is a major participant in the non-profit Workforce Investment Board (WIB) serving the region. The WIB, working with both private industry and training programs, seeks to identify the employee needs of regional businesses and industries and then to coordinate with workforce readiness institutions to ensure that the needed training is provided in a collaborative and non-duplicative way.

3. The County's Department of Employment and Training, which serves a three-county region, matches individuals in need of job skills training with providers of training and pays for the training.

4. The County's Economic Development Department, acting as liaison between private sector and

various governmental representatives, seeks to encourage existing businesses and industries to remain and expand in Middlesex County, advertises the County nationally, and serves as County contact point for business location inquiries.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

During the FY 2022 year, the County staff will continue to work with staff of related agencies at all governmental levels to improve communication and to coordinate decision-making and program implementation. Staff also will work with non-profits and, where, appropriate, with the for-profit sector to ensure that activities which can implement the Consolidated Plan are strengthened and supported.

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

Middlesex County does not own or operate any public housing. The Urban County municipal housing authorities of Carteret, Highland Park and South Amboy own and operate a total of 528 public housing units. The additional HOME consortium municipalities of Edison and Woodbridge have housing authorities which own and operate a total of 725 units of public housing. Each of these public housing authorities makes physical improvements to its properties where needed. The consortium's public housing authorities indicate that their units are in standard condition and that they seldom require extensive rehabilitation which takes a unit off-line. All housing authorities are working with their residents to encourage their greater involvement in housing operations. All have been contacted about the American Dream Down-payment program and residents have been encouraged to see if this program is right for them.

Discussion

The county strives to serve those most in need through the funded services and to coordinate and leverages those services.

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements - 91.420, 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%

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

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

N/A

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

For its homebuyers' activities, Middlesex County will use recapture. This program currently provides up to a \$5,000 deferred loan to income eligible first-time homebuyers to be used for down-payment and closing costs. The county will use HUD's HOME affordable homeownership limits in determining if the property is eligible and uncapped income limits to determine the household's income eligibility. Each homebuyer signs an agreement with Middlesex County that states that Middlesex County will recapture the entire amount if the property does not continue to be the principal residence of the family for duration of the term of affordability, which is 5 years. The agreement further states that in situations where the net proceeds are insufficient to repay the HOME investment due, Middlesex County will only recapture the net proceeds, if any. The net proceeds are the sales price minus superior loan repayment (other than HOME funds) and any closing costs. Similar language is also in the recordable mortgage signed by the homebuyer at closing. This language is in compliance with Section 92.254.(a)(5)(ii).

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

Middlesex County will use recapture for ensuring the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds. All projects will have a deferred loan agreement and will execute a mortgage that will be recorded after closing. The terms of the mortgage require the recapture of the full amount of HOME funding if the property ceases to serve as affordable housing during the term of affordability or isn't in compliance with the HOME agreement during the term of affordability.

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

N/A

5. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of the preference for persons with special needs or disabilities. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(i) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).
6. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of how the preference for a specific category of individuals with disabilities (e.g. persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness) will narrow the gap in benefits and the preference is needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(ii) and 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).
7. If applicable, a description of any preference or limitation for rental housing projects. (See 24 CFR 92.253(d)(3) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)). Note: Preferences cannot be administered in a manner that limits the opportunities of persons on any basis prohibited by the laws listed under 24 CFR 5.105(a).

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

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

While new ESG funds aren't provided as part of this Annual Action Plan, the "ESG Policies & Procedures" will be attached.

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

The Middlesex County Continuum of Care implemented Coordinated Assessment in 2015. The Coordinated Assessment system meets HUD requirements including that homeless households should have access to the assessment point, that a standardized assessment tool be used to assess the needs and barriers of each household, and that the referral system be standard no matter where the household enters the system and is based on the needs of the consumer. For PY2022, the Coordinated Assessment Leadership Team is reviewing the existing system and will suggest improvements, including providing multiple in person sites to access the homeless systems and have an assessment done.

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

In years with ESG funding, the ESG allocations will be made in consultation with the Continuum of Care. The CoC will recommend what activities to fund and the allocation for each activity in accordance with the above listed written ESG standards.

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

Funding recommendations and policies on ESG are voted on by the full Continuum of Care (CoC).

While there are currently homeless or formerly homeless individuals represented on the full CoC, if that were not to be the case, the CoC would instead:

- Through the Consumer Participation Subcommittee solicit input from homeless or formerly homeless individuals through surveys and/or facilitated group meetings.
5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

There are separate performance standards for the Emergency Shelter, Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing activities funded by ESG.

For Emergency Shelter activities:

- >30% will move to permanent housing.
- <20% remain homeless or are discharged to "unknown"
- Average length of stay is <60 days="" li="">
- >54% will maintain or increase income by program exit
- 56% will maintain or obtain non-cash benefits by program exit
- 18% will have employment income by program exit (for all staying at least 30 days
-

- For Prevention activities:
- >50% will maintain or obtain permanent housing

- For Rapid Re-housing activities:
- >85% will remain housed for 6 months or obtain other permanent housing
- <10% exiting rapid re-housing return to homelessness
- 85% will maintain or increase income at program exit or annually
- 40% of non-SSI/D adults will be employed at program exit or annually

The ESG program is operated in great consultation with the continuum and is integrated in the homeless system.

The ESG programs are being evaluated based on performance standards adopted by the local Continuum of Care. The ESG program is operated in great consultation with the continuum and is integrated in the homeless system.

Attachments

2023
ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL ACTION PLAN PUBLIC COMMENTS

On March 28, 2023, the Division of Housing held a Public Hearing to solicit public input about drafting the 2023 Annual Action Plan and to the relevant needs of Urban County CDBG and HOME consortium municipalities. The meeting was attended by Melissa Bellamy, Tracy Hamm, and David Solis. There were no public comments made or questions asked.

On June 21, 2023, the Division of Housing held a Public Hearing on the draft Annual Action Plan. There were no public comments made. The Hearing was attended by Melissa Bellamy, Tracy Hamm, and Melyssa Lewis.

On June 15, 2023, the authorization of the submission of the Annual Action Plan was on the agenda and part of the public hearing on agenda items for the Middlesex County Board of County Commissioners. There were no specific questions or comments made by members of the public. The authorization to submit the plan was authorized by the Middlesex County Board of County Commissioners.

The Public Comment period was from June 2, 2023 through July 3, 2023 and was advertised in both English and Spanish in the Home News Tribune. While the original public notice indicated the public comment period would be open through June 30, because the legal ad wasn't run until 6/1/23, a second legal ad was placed on 6/29/23 notifying the public that the public comment period was extended through July 3, 2023. This was done to meet regulations requiring a minimum 30-day comment period. Written public comments were allowed to be submitted by mail, email, fax or dropping off in person at the County Administration Building.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Meeting Middlesex County (Urban County and HOME Consortium)

2023 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

For the 2023 Annual Action Plan, Middlesex County expects to receive federal HUD funding of approximately \$3,685,971 in three grants:

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) - \$1,684,062
HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) - \$1,854,358
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) - \$147,551

The County is preparing a draft Plan identifying affordable housing and community development needs for 2023 and also preparing proposed activities for the program year, July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024.

To obtain public input about the 2023 Annual Action Plan and to the relevant needs of Urban County CDBG and HOME consortium municipalities, a public meeting will be held as stated below. (Please note: New Brunswick and Perth Amboy are not included in the CDBG and HOME portions of the plans because they run their own programs. Edison, Old Bridge, Piscataway, Sayreville and Woodbridge are included in the County's HOME program which finances affordable housing, but not in the County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, because these towns run their own CDBG programs and will hold their own hearings. All 25 Middlesex County municipalities are included in the ESG program, which is focused on activities for homeless households and those at imminent risk of homelessness.

Residents of and agencies serving the 18 Urban County municipalities (CDBG, HOME & ESG); Edison, Old Bridge, Piscataway, Sayreville and Woodbridge (HOME and ESG); and New Brunswick and Perth Amboy (ESG only) are encouraged to attend and voice their views on the 2023 Annual Action Plan and on the affordable housing and community development needs of the included municipalities, and on how these needs should be met in this plan.

DATE: Tuesday, March 28, 2023
TIME: 2-3:30 PM
PLACE: County Administration Building (1st Floor Commissioners meeting room)
75 Bayard Street, New Brunswick, NJ

If you have questions about the Public Meetings or need any reasonable accommodations to attend or participate fully, please contact the Middlesex County Division of Housing and Social Services at (732) 745-3025 or by emailing housing@co.middlesex.nj.us

NOTICIA PÚBLICA

Reunión pública Condado de Middlesex (Condado Urbano y Consorcio HOME)

PLAN DE ACCIÓN ANUAL 2023

Para el Plan de acción anual de 2023, el condado de Middlesex espera recibir fondos federales de HUD de aproximadamente \$3,685,971 en tres subvenciones:

Subsidio en bloque para el desarrollo comunitario (CDBG) - \$1,684,062
Programa de asociaciones de inversión HOME (HOME) - \$ 1,854,358
Subsidio de Soluciones de Emergencia (ESG) - \$147,551

El Condado está preparando un borrador del Plan que identifica las necesidades de vivienda asequible y desarrollo comunitario para 2023 y también está preparando las actividades propuestas para el año del programa, del 1 de julio de 2023 al 30 de junio de 2024.

Para obtener aportes del público sobre el Plan de acción anual de 2023 y las necesidades relevantes de los municipios del consorcio HOME y CDBG del condado urbano, se llevará a cabo una reunión pública como se indica a continuación. (Tenga en cuenta: New Brunswick y Perth Amboy no están incluidos en las partes de los planes CDBG y HOME porque ejecutan sus propios programas. Edison, Old Bridge, Piscataway, Sayreville y Woodbridge están incluidos en el programa HOME del condado que financia viviendas asequibles, pero no en el programa de Subsidios en Bloque para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG) del condado, porque estas ciudades ejecutan sus propios programas CDBG y llevarán a cabo sus propias audiencias. Los 25 municipios del condado de Middlesex están incluidos en el programa ESG, que se enfoca en actividades para hogares sin hogar y aquellos en riesgo inminente de quedarse sin hogar.

Residentes y agencias que prestan servicios en los 18 municipios del condado urbano (CDBG, HOME y ESG); Edison, Old Bridge, Piscataway, Sayreville y Woodbridge (HOME y ESG); y New Brunswick y Perth Amboy (solo ESG) alentados a asistir y expresar sus puntos de vista sobre el Plan de Acción Anual 2023 y sobre las necesidades de vivienda asequible y desarrollo comunitario de los municipios incluidos, y sobre cómo se deben satisfacer estas necesidades en este plan.

FECHA: martes, 28 de marzo de 2023
HORA: 2-3:30 PM
LUGAR: Edificio de la Administración del Condado
(sala de reuniones de los Comisionados del 1er ^{piso})
75 Bayard Street, Nuevo Brunswick, Nueva Jersey

Si tiene preguntas sobre las reuniones públicas o necesita adaptaciones razonables para asistir o participar plenamente, comuníquese con la División de Vivienda y Servicios Sociales del condado de Middlesex al (732) 745-3025 o envíe un correo electrónico a housing@co.middlesex.nj.us

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Meeting Middlesex County (Urban County and HOME Consortium) 2023 CONSOLIDATED PLAN ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

For the 2023 Consolidated Plan Annual Action Plan, Middlesex County expects to receive federal HUD funding of approximately \$3,685,971 in three grants:

Community Development Block Grant - \$1,684,062
HOME Investment Partnerships Program - \$1,854,358
Emergency Solutions Grant Program - \$147,551

The County has prepared the 2023 Consolidated Plan Annual Action Plan for submission to HUD that identifies affordable housing and community development needs, strategies and proposed activities utilizing these funds for the program year, July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. Copies of the plan are available at the Middlesex County Division of Housing, 75 Bayard Street, 2nd Floor, New Brunswick, NJ and are also found at the county website at:

<https://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/government/departments/department-of-community-services/office-of-human-services/division-of-housing-community-development-and-social-services>
www.middlesexcountynj.gov

Comments will be accepted until Friday, June 30, 2023 at 4pm.

To obtain public input about the 2023 Consolidated Plan Annual Action Plan, a public meeting will be held as stated below. Please note: New Brunswick and Perth Amboy are not included in these plans because they run their own programs. Edison, Old Bridge, Piscataway, Sayreville and Woodbridge are included in the County's HOME program which finances affordable housing, but not in the County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, because these towns run their own CDBG programs and will hold their own hearings. All municipalities in the county are included for the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program.

Residents and agencies serving the 18 Urban County municipalities (CDBG and HOME) and Edison, Old Bridge, Piscataway, Sayreville and Woodbridge (HOME only) are encouraged to attend and voice their views on the 2023 Consolidated Plan Annual Action Plan.

DATE: Wednesday, June 21, 2023
TIME: 1-3 PM
PLACE: County Administration Building (1st Floor Commissioners meeting room)
75 Bayard Street, New Brunswick, NJ

If you have questions about this Public Meeting or need any reasonable accommodations to attend or participate fully, please contact the Middlesex County Division of Housing and Social Services at (732) 745- 3025.

AVISO PÚBLICO

Reunión pública

Condado de Middlesex (Condado Urbano y Consorcio HOME) PLAN DE ACCIÓN ANUAL CONSOLIDADO 2023

Para el Plan de Acción Anual del Plan Consolidado 2023, el Condado de Middlesex espera recibir fondos federales de HUD de aproximadamente \$ 3,685,971 en tres subvenciones:

Subvención en bloque para el desarrollo comunitario (CDBG): \$1,684,062
Programa de Asociaciones de Inversión (HOME) - \$1,854,358
Programa de Subvenciones para Soluciones de Emergencia (ESG) - \$147,551

El Condado ha preparado el Plan de Acción Anual del Plan Consolidado 2023 para su presentación a HUD que identifica las necesidades de vivienda asequible y desarrollo comunitario, las estrategias y las actividades propuestas utilizando estos fondos para el año programático, del 1 de julio de 2023 al 30 de junio de 2024. Las copias del plan están disponibles en la División de Vivienda del Condado de Middlesex, 75 Bayard Street, 2nd Floor, New Brunswick, NJ y también se encuentran en el sitio web del condado en: <https://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/government/departments/department-of-community-services/office-of-human-services/division-of-housing-community-development-and-social-services>
www.middlesexcountynj.gov

Se aceptarán comentarios hasta el viernes 30 de junio de 2023 a las 4pm.

Para obtener la opinión del público sobre el Plan de Acción Anual del Plan Consolidado 2023, se llevará a cabo una reunión pública como se indica a continuación. Tenga en cuenta: New Brunswick y Perth Amboy no están incluidos en estos planes porque ejecutan sus propios programas. Edison, Old Bridge, Piscataway, Sayreville y Woodbridge están incluidos en el programa HOME del Condado que financia viviendas asequibles, pero no en el programa de Subvención en Bloque para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG) del Condado, porque estas ciudades tienen sus propios programas CDBG y celebrarán sus propias audiencias. Todos los municipios del condado están incluidos en el programa de Subvención para Soluciones de Emergencia (ESG).

Se alienta a los residentes y agencias que sirven a los 18 municipios del condado urbano (CDBG y HOME) y Edison, Old Bridge, Piscataway, Sayreville y Woodbridge (solo HOME) a asistir y expresar sus puntos de vista sobre el Plan de Acción Anual del Plan Consolidado 2023.

FECHA: miércoles, 21 de junio de 2023
HORA: 1-3 PM
LUGAR: Condado Edificio de Administración (sala de reuniones de comisionados del 1er piso)

75 Bayard Street, Nuevo Brunswick, Nueva Jersey

Si tiene preguntas sobre esta Reunión Pública o necesita alguna adaptación razonable para asistir o participar plenamente, comuníquese con la División de Vivienda y Servicios Sociales del Condado de Middlesex al (732) 745-3025.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Comment Period Extended Middlesex County (Urban County and HOME Consortium) 2023 CONSOLIDATED PLAN ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

For the 2023 Consolidated Plan Annual Action Plan, Middlesex County expects to receive federal HUD funding of approximately \$3,685,971 in three grants:

Community Development Block Grant - \$1,684,062
HOME Investment Partnerships Program - \$1,854,358
Emergency Solutions Grant Program - \$147,551

The County has prepared the 2023 Consolidated Plan Annual Action Plan for submission to HUD that identifies affordable housing and community development needs, strategies and proposed activities utilizing these funds for the program year, July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. Copies of the plan are available at the Middlesex County Division of Housing, 75 Bayard Street, 2nd Floor, New Brunswick, NJ and are also found at the county website at:

<https://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/government/departments/department-of-community-services/office-of-human-services/division-of-housing-community-development-and-social-services>

Public Comments will now be accepted until **Monday, July 3, 2023 at 4pm**. Written public comments may be submitted by email to tracy.hamm@co.middlesex.nj.us, by fax to 732-745-4117, or by mail or dropped off in person at Middlesex County Division of Housing, County Administration Building, 75 Bayard Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901.

Please note: New Brunswick and Perth Amboy are not included in these plans because they run their own programs. Edison, Old Bridge, Piscataway, Sayreville and Woodbridge are included in the County's HOME program which finances affordable housing, but not in the County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, because these towns run their own CDBG programs and will hold their own hearings. All municipalities in the county are included for the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program.

Residents and agencies serving the 18 Urban County municipalities (CDBG and HOME) and Edison, Old Bridge, Piscataway, Sayreville and Woodbridge (HOME only) are encouraged to submit public comment and voice their views on the 2023 Consolidated Plan Annual Action Plan.

AVISO PÚBLICO

Período de comentarios públicos extendido Condado de Middlesex (Condado Urbano y Consorcio HOME) PLAN DE ACCIÓN ANUAL CONSOLIDADO 2023

Para el Plan de Acción Anual del Plan Consolidado 2023, el Condado de Middlesex espera recibir fondos federales de HUD de aproximadamente \$ 3,685,971 en tres subvenciones:

Subvención en bloque para el desarrollo comunitario (CDBG): \$1,684,062
Programa de Asociaciones de Inversión (HOME) - \$1,854,358
Programa de Subvenciones para Soluciones de Emergencia (ESG) - \$147,551

El Condado ha preparado el Plan de Acción Anual del Plan Consolidado 2023 para su presentación a HUD que identifica las necesidades de vivienda asequible y desarrollo comunitario, las estrategias y las actividades propuestas utilizando estos fondos para el año programático, del 1 de julio de 2023 al 30 de junio de 2024. Las copias del plan están disponibles en la División de Vivienda del Condado de Middlesex, 75 Bayard Street, 2nd Floor, New Brunswick, NJ y también se encuentran en el sitio web del condado en: <https://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/government/departments/department-of-community-services/office-of-human-services/division-of-housing-community-development-and-social-services>

Los comentarios públicos ahora se aceptarán hasta **el lunes 3 de julio de 2023 a las 4 p.m.** Los comentarios públicos por escrito pueden enviarse por correo electrónico a tracy.hamm@co.middlesex.nj.us, por fax al 732-745-4117, o por correo o en persona en la División de Vivienda del Condado de Middlesex, Edificio de Administración del Condado, 75 Bayard Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901.

Tenga en cuenta: New Brunswick y Perth Amboy no están incluidos en estos planes porque ejecutan sus propios programas. Edison, Old Bridge, Piscataway, Sayreville y Woodbridge están incluidos en el programa HOME del Condado que financia viviendas asequibles, pero no en el programa de Subvención en Bloque para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG) del Condado, porque estas ciudades tienen sus propios programas CDBG y celebrarán sus propias audiencias. Todos los municipios del condado están incluidos en el programa de Subvención para Soluciones de Emergencia (ESG).

Se alienta a los residentes y agencias que sirven a los 18 municipios del condado urbano (CDBG y HOME) y Edison, Old Bridge, Piscataway, Sayreville y Woodbridge (solo HOME) a enviar comentarios públicos y expresar sus puntos de vista sobre el Plan de Acción Anual del Plan Consolidado 2023.

Minutes of 2023 Carteret Community Development Board Public Meeting

Mayor Daniel J. Reiman: Carmela, are you on?

Carmela Pogorzelski: Yes.

Mayor Reiman: Right. Taqualla, are you on? Bob Makin are you here?

Bob Makin: I am here.

Mayor Reiman: Okay. Okay. Today is March 24, 2023. This is the Borough of Carteret Community Development Board, the 2 p.m. meeting. This is a teleconference meeting. And we're here to hold a public hearing on the application for our CDBG funding of \$101,000. And this is also to approve the plan.

So for a roll call. I am present. Councilmember Diaz?

Councilmember Jorge Diaz: Here.

Mayor Reiman: Carmela Pogorzelski?

Carmela Pogorzelski: Here?

Mayor Reiman: Joe Norris?

Joe Norris: Here.

Mayor Reiman: Taqualla Lowman? Brian Chen?

Brian Chen: Here.

Mayor Reiman: Bob Makin?

Bob Makin: Here.

Mayor Reiman: Please acknowledge a moment of silence, prayer or reflection. Councilmember Diaz, our vice president, liaison to the council, will lead us in the pledge.

Councilmember Diaz: I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Mayor Reiman: The Public Notice was emailed to the Home News Tribune and the Star-Ledger on March 8, 2023, was posted on Carteret.net and published in the Home News Tribune and the Star-Ledger on March 17, 2023. Our plan was published on the Borough Web page for today's meeting and the public hearing item, date and application. The Community Development Block Grant is for \$101,626. This says it's for a Riverwalk extension.

Bob Makin: Oh, I sent you the wrong one.

Mayor Reiman: So the funding amount is the same. The funding amount is correct. But the agenda I have actually is 22-23, and it should be 23-24, and this is for a small business grant that is ADA-compliant within the business district. The program will allow for a minimum grant of \$25,000 with a 3-to-1 pair.

So for every \$25,000 in grant money we give out, the applicant must spend a total of \$100,000 matching it 3-to-1 of which at least dollar-for-dollar has to be used toward the match of ADA or facade. And the balance of the money from their rent can be used towards other improvements to the building. This is geared toward improving ADA compliance to decide improvements within the commercial corridors of corporate is open to the public.

Councilmember Diaz: I make a motion to amend the agenda to reflect the correct allocation.

Mayor Reiman: Let's do that. Will you make a motion?

Councilmember Diaz: I make a motion to amend the agenda.

Mayor Reiman: A second?

Joe Norris: I second.

Mayor Reiman: All in favor.

All: Aye.

Mayor Reiman: Is there a motion to open to the public? It is so moved. Second?

Brian Chen: Second.

Mayor Reiman: All in favor.

All: Aye.

Mayor Reiman: Anyone wishing to address the Community Development Board on this project? Again, this appropriation is \$101,626 for a facade and ADA compliance grant for businesses within the commercial corridor. Is there anybody else on?

Is there a motion to close? A second? So all in favor?

All: Aye.

Mayor Reiman: Is there motion to adopt? It is so moved. A second? All in favor? Any abstentions, any nays? Reflect that the motion carries unanimously with no business to be added. Is there a motion to adjourn? Motion to adjourn. Second? All right. All right. Have a great day, folks.

**Classified Ad Receipt
(For Info Only - NOT A BILL)**

Customer: BOROUGH OF CARTERET
Address: 61 COOKE AVE
CARTERET NJ 07008
USA

Ad No.: 0005624049
Pynt Method Invoice
Net Amount \$10.14

Run Times: 1

No. of Affidavits: 0

Run Dates: 03/17/23

Text of Ad:

PUBLIC NOTICE
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Carteret Community Development Board will hold a meeting on Friday, March 24, 2023 to discuss the 2022-24 Community Development Block Grant Plan in regard to ADA accessibility. The meeting will be held via teleconference at 2 pm.

Call in number: 732-442-9901
Access code: 920718

Formal action may be taken.

Bob Makin
Board Director

(\$10.14)

0005624049

3600 Highway 66, Neptune, NJ 07753



TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK

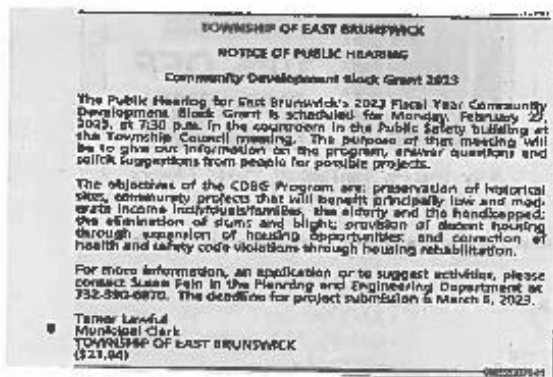
Tamar Lawful, RMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

State of New Jersey
County of Middlesex

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

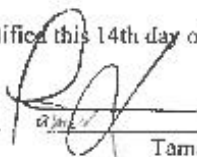
I, Tamar Lawful, Municipal Clerk for the Township of East Brunswick, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, hereby certify that the attached Legal Notice was published on February 14, 2023, in the **Home News Tribune**, a newspaper published and circulated daily in the Township of East Brunswick, County of Middlesex, and State of New Jersey.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

RE: 2023 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Certified this 14th day of February 2023



Tamar Lawful, RMC
Municipal Clerk
Township of East Brunswick

Township of East Brunswick, Township Clerk's Office, 1 Civic Center Drive, East Brunswick, NJ 08816
(T): 732-390-6850 --- (F): 732-238-8848 --- (E) T.Lawful@Eastbrunswick.org

**Township Council Meeting
February 27, 2023**

Thank you for the opportunity to hold a public hearing at this Council meeting. My name is Susan Fein and I am the Housing Specialist for the Township.

This public hearing is a requirement of the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Its purpose is to provide information, answer questions, and solicit suggestions for potential grant recipients. My goal is to generate involvement in and establish the township's commitment to proposed solutions for our community.

The Community Development Block Grant is a federally funded program. The annual CDBG appropriation is allocated between States and local jurisdictions. Excluding entitlement cities, Middlesex County qualifies as an urban county with a population of 200,000 or more. Federal CDBG funding is allocated directly to Middlesex County for projects in 18 municipalities, including East Brunswick. We expect that East Brunswick's CDBG Grant this year will be around \$125,000, which may be divided among several worthy projects. While there is no guarantee that this program will be continued in the 2023 federal budget, we are operating optimistically.

The objectives of the Community Development Block Program are to support community activities that will benefit principally low and moderate income individuals and families, the elderly, and those with disabilities. For instance, American with Disabilities Act compliance is an approved activity. The preservation of historical sites, elimination of slums and blight, expansion of housing opportunities, and correction of health and safety code violations through housing rehabilitation are also eligible activities.

Prior East Brunswick projects under this program include, but are not limited to: ADA modifications to municipal buildings; programs as well as transportation for the Senior Center, improvements to our historic and affordable housing buildings; improvements, repairs and capital improvements for nonprofits serving the developmentally disabled, seniors, and low income residents.

Projects must be completed within 18 months of the grant allocation, otherwise, funds may be transferred to other ongoing eligible projects.

The Township welcomes comments and suggestions and for the spending of the potential CDBG funds.

I can be reached at 732-390-6870 or by email at sfein@eastbrunswick.org. Submissions are due by March 6, 2023.

**EAST BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL,
MEETING MINUTES
February 27, 2023**

Township of East Brunswick
1 Jean Walling Civic Center Dr.
East Brunswick, New Jersey



Regular Meeting: X
Special Meeting: N/A
Meeting Time: 7:30 P.M.

Council President McEvoy called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The Governing Body and its audience proceeded with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a Moment of Silence.

The Township Clerk, Tamar Lawful, called the roll:

Present: Councilman Behal
Councilman Wendell
Councilwoman Winston
Councilwoman Zimnicki
Council President McEvoy

Also Present: Mayor Brad Cohen
Michael Baker, Township Attorney
Joseph Criscuolo, Administrator
Tamar Lawful, Township Clerk

The Township Clerk, Tamar Lawful, read the Statement of Adequate Notice:

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided as required under Chapter 231, P. L. 1975, by specifying the time, date, location, and to the extent known, the agenda, by posting a copy on the Bulletin Board located in the main lobby of the East Brunswick Municipal Building, providing a copy to the Home News Tribune and Sentinel newspapers, posting a copy on the Township's website and by filing a copy in the office of the Township Clerk which will be entered into the minutes.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Resolution # 23-94 Resolution Adopting Meeting Minutes – February 13, 2023

Councilwoman Zimnicki moved the adoption of Resolution #23-94 seconded by Councilman Behal. With no recommended changes to the Minutes, Council President McEvoy requested a roll call vote:

RECORDED VOTE OF COUNCIL						
Council Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Behal			X			
Wendell	X		X			
Winston		X	X			
Zimnicki			X			
McEvoy			X			

By a unanimous Roll Call Vote, the resolution adopting the meeting Minutes was approved.

PROCLAMATIONS

- Proclamation acknowledging Ken Freedman for his services to the Township.

Dr. Ken Freedman came forward to accept a commemorative proclamation for his years of service to the Township of East Brunswick. Mayor Brad Cohen spoke of his contribution to the community, both professionally and as a volunteer citizen. He was commended for his years of dedication to the township.

Council President McEvoy proceeded to read a proclamation acknowledging Ken Freedman for his outstanding service and dedication to the Township of East Brunswick.

Mr. Freedman gave a brief speech, acknowledging the Governing Body, the Advisory Health Council, to which he served, and his family for their continuous support as he passionately supported the community of East Brunswick for many years. He also acknowledged the newly appointed Advisory Health Council president. It is an honor to serve this community, stated Mr. Freedman!

PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION ITEM

Presentation

2023 Community Development Block Grant
Presented by: Susan Fern

Susan Fern, Housing Specialist for the Township of East Brunswick, gave a brief presentation explaining the purpose and benefits of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The purpose of this presentation is to provide information to the public, answer questions, and solicit suggestions. CDBG is a federally funded program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The benefit of the program is to provide communities with resources to address a wide range of community development needs, specifically in low-to-moderate income communities, to assist families, the elderly, and people with disabilities. Funding can be used to facilitate a wide range of activities, such as housing rehabilitation, code enforcement, the acquisition of real property, the preservation of historical sites, the elimination of slums and blighted areas, the expansion of housing opportunities, demolition, infrastructure, public facilities, economic development, social services, and more.

Ms. Fern will apply for the Community Development Block Grant with Middlesex County and encouraged the public to come forth and provide recommendations on how best to use the resources. The application submission deadline is March 6, 2023. Ms. Fern provided her contact information so the public could reach out prior to the submission deadline.

PUBLIC HEARING

Council President McEvoy opened the floor to the public to comment or recommend possible projects to consider.

There being no members of the public wishing to be heard, Council President McEvoy closed the public hearing.

AGENDA SESSION (DISCUSSION ONLY- NO VOTE)

There were none.

**ORDINANCE(S) FOR SECOND READING
*** PUBLIC HEARING *****

Township Clerks, Tantor Lawful, read the following ordinance by title.

ORDINANCE # 23-07

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK AMENDING CHAPTER 42, ALARM SYSTEMS, OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK

Councilman Wendell moved that the ordinance be adopted on second and final reading, and that the ordinance be submitted to the Mayor for approval, and thereafter published according to law. Councilwoman Winston seconded the motion.

PUBLIC HEARING

Council President McEvoy opened the meeting to the public for discussion.

There being no members of the public wishing to be heard, Council President McEvoy closed the public hearing.

RECORDED VOTE OF COUNCIL						
Council Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Behal			X			
Wendell	X		X			
Winston		X	X			
Zimbiaki			X			
McEvoy			X			

By a unanimous Roll Call Vote, Ordinance # 23-07 was adopted on second reading.

Township Clerk, Tamar Lawful, read the following ordinance by title:

ORDINANCE # 23-08

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 209 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK, ENTITLED "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC" TO ESTABLISH A TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL AT THE INTERSECTION OF CHURCH LANE AND FRESH PONDS ROAD

Councilman Wendell moved that the ordinance be adopted on second and final reading, and that the ordinance be submitted to the Mayor for approval, and thereafter published according to law. Councilwoman Winston seconded the motion.

PUBLIC HEARING

Council President McEvoy opened the meeting to the public for discussion.

There being no members of the public wishing to be heard, Council President McEvoy closed the public hearing.

RECORDED VOTE OF COUNCIL						
Council Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Behal			X			
Wendell	X		X			
Winston		X	X			
Zimbiaki			X			
McEvoy			X			

By a unanimous Roll Call Vote, Ordinance # 23-08 was adopted on second reading.

REPORTS

Brad Cohen, Mayor: Mayor Cohen reported on a number of emails and complaints concerning speeding vehicles on Sumburst Drive. The Police Department has monitored Sumburst Drive, and to date, they have only found one track and stopped a few cars for speeding. The concerns about

noise disturbance are unsubstantiated within the community. Unfortunately, our Police Department cannot be omnipresent throughout this vast community. The Township Police Department will continue to enforce traffic laws, as public safety is taken seriously. However, we can no longer deploy resources and further manpower to address this unsubstantiated complaint. Thus far, it appears that the complaint is from an unidentified source. Mayor Cohen requested that the individual cease this unacceptable behavior, as making false allegations or claims can be dangerous to public safety. Mayor Cohen also mentioned remediating the issue by either ignoring future complaints or by closing off the intersection from River Road through Sunburst Drive.

Joseph Criscuolo, Administrator: Mr. Criscuolo had nothing new to report.

Michael Baker, Township Attorney: Mr. Baker had nothing new to report.

Tamar Lawful, Township Clerk: Ms. Lawful had nothing new to report.

Dinesh Behal, Councilman: Councilman Behal had nothing new to report.

James Wendell, Councilman: Councilman Wendell had nothing new to report.

Dana Winston, Councilwoman: Councilwoman Winston had nothing new to report.

Dana Zimlicki, Councilwoman: Councilwoman Zimlicki had nothing new to report.

Kevin McEvoy, Council President: Council President McEvoy had nothing new to report.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Township Clerk read the following statement:

PUBLIC COMMENT STATEMENT

The public comment portion of our meeting is to allow the public to bring to the Council's attention their concerns or comments. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(a) and the East Brunswick Rules of Council, the Council asks the public to limit their comments to **five (5) minutes or less**. At the conclusion of the statements or questions from a member of the public, the Council President, at his or her discretion, may choose to respond, or not respond, or to ask the Administration to respond.

Council President McEvoy opened the meeting to the public.

Wilbur Pan – 223 Milton Road

Mr. Pan inquired on the reasoning for the temporary closure of the library and its current status. Mayor Cohen explained the library is temporarily closed to test a specific area for asbestos. Several tests have been made, all of which came back negative. The vinyl floor tiles were removed and out of caution, they were tested.

Thomas Ingrisani – 58 Deerfield Drive

Mr. Ingrisani commented on the potential tax impact to build a new High School. He recommended installing a traffic camera on Sunburst Drive to remediate the complaints about speeding trucks. He further recommended that a sign be installed at the entrance and exit of the school's parking lot to prohibit anyone from making U-turns.

There being no further members of the public wishing to be heard, Council President McEvoy closed the Public Session of the meeting.

RESOLUTION(S) [Requiring a separate vote]

Resolution # 23-95 Resolution Requesting Approval for Authorizing an Emergency Temporary Appropriations in Accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 [No less than 2/3 vote of full membership required].

Councilman Wendell moved the adoption of Resolution # 23-95, seconded by Councilman Behal

RECORDED VOTE OF COUNCIL						
Council Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Behal		X	X			
Wendell	X		X			
Winston			X			
Zimbiicki			X			
McEvoy			X			

By a unanimous Roll Call Vote, the Resolution # 23-95 was approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution # 23-96 through Resolution # 23-102

The following items are considered to be routine and non-controversial items by the Township Council and will be enacted upon by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member so request, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda to be discussed, and voted on, following the approval of the remaining items listed on the Consent Agenda.

- Resolution # 23-96 Resolution Authorizing the Award of Contract for the Furnishing and Delivery of Apparel for the Department of Recreation and Parks to Dev Designing, LLC in the Amount Not to Exceed \$37,162.62
- Resolution # 23-97 Resolution Authorizing Refunds to be Issued Related to Tax Title Lien Redemptions
- Resolution # 23-98 Resolution of the Township of East Brunswick Authorizing the Tax Collector to Refund Tax/Utility Overpayments
- Resolution # 23-99 Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Duplicate Tax Sale Certificates Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:5-52.1
- Resolution # 23-100 Resolution Authorizing the Refund of Vacant and Abandoned Property Registration Fee (Block 828 Lot .6)
- Resolution # 23-101 Resolution Authorizing the Refund of Vacant and Abandoned Property Registration Fee (Block 320.16 Lot 16)
- Resolution # 23-102 Resolution to Approve the Bill List

CONSENT AGENDA VOTE

Councilwoman Zimbiicki moved the adoption of the resolutions listed on the Consent Agenda, Resolution # 23-96 through Resolution # 23-102. Councilman Behal seconded the motion.

RECORDED VOTE OF COUNCIL						
Council Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Behal		X	X			
Wendell			X			
Winston			X			
Zimbiicki	X		X			
McEvoy			X			

By a unanimous Roll Call Vote, the resolutions listed on the Consent Agenda were approved.

RESOLUTION(S) REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION AND VOTE

There were none.

ORDINANCE(S) FOR INTRODUCTION Scheduled Public Hearing Date: N/A
--

There were none.

ADD-ON RESOLUTION

There were none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

There were none.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CAUSE

Kevin McEvoy, Council President: Council President McEvoy informed the public that the East Brunswick Arts Commission will host a photography project, themed "Ordinary to Extraordinary." The public may submit their photos at arts.eastbrunswicknj.org by March 20th. The Youth Council will be hosting a fundraising event for Earth Day on April 22, 2023, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. The event will be held at the Community Park, Pickleball Court. He encouraged the public to support the event and enjoy a pickleball tournament.

CLOSED SESSION

There are none.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no other business to conduct, Councilman Wardell moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Winston seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

KEVIN MCEVOY, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

TAMAR LAWFUL, MUNICIPAL CLERK

MEMORANDUM

February 13, 2023

TO: Executive Staff
FROM: Susan Fein, Housing Specialist



RE: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

East Brunswick Township is expecting the CDBG funds for 2023. According to Middlesex County, the amount the County will be getting from the Fed to allocate to the towns has not yet been determined. The County is maintaining the same time line for the towns to apply for funds and in order to do this we have been told to assume the amount will be equivalent to the 2022 amount which was about \$125,000. We will prepare for this allocation although it is subject to change or cancellation.

This will be divided among several selected projects. There will be considerable competition for this money. Not all requests will be funded this year. However, it may be an opportunity for your department to get projects into the pipeline for future years. The projects must be capital projects rather than funding for programming or staff funding as future funding is not guaranteed.

The objectives of the CDBG Program are: preservation of historical sites, improvement of community facilities that will principally benefit low and moderate income individuals/families, the elderly and the handicapped (ADA compliance) and the provision of decent housing for low income families through expansion of housing opportunities and the correction of health and safety code violations through rehabilitation.

The county has yet to provide us with the request form for the 2023 CDBG funds. However, in order to meet the timeline I was provided, I think it is best if you have a departmental project that you feel is appropriate for this grant, to please respond to me with the general info of the request and the \$ amount you want to request.

The funds must be expended in a timely manner, therefore, only projects that can be completed within 18 months of receiving the funds (December 2024) will be considered.

Please respond to this as soon as you are able. Your project will be reviewed by the Housing and Community Development Committee and the Mayor if it meets the CDBG guidelines. I will keep you apprised of any changes in the formalized timeline as soon as I receive it from the county.

If you have questions or need further assistance with this, call me at 732-390-6870.

Distribution:

Mayor Brad Cohen
Michael Baker
Mike Reussner
John Arthur
Dan Losik
Adel Youssef

Joe Criscuolo
Angel Albanese
Frank LoSacco
Tamar Lawful
Lizandra DiAngelis
David Ambrosy

Frank Colon
Keith Kipp
Danielle Micale
Robert Zuckerman
Jennifer Stenson
Sylvia Eryan-Hawilch

Middlesex County Community Development Block Grant Program

Citizen Participation Checklist

This checklist has been prepared to assist municipalities in meeting the citizen participation requirements of the Middlesex County Housing and Community Development Program. All items on this checklist must be undertaken in order for your municipal projects to be eligible for funding.

After Completion - Check Each Item on Space Provided

A. Prior To Local Public Hearing

1. Appoint a Municipal Citizens Advisory Committee and forward the list to the HCD Office
2. Publish the public hearing date seven days prior to the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation and include a written statement on the purpose of the hearing and the amount of funds available.
3. Post the hearing notice locally in Libraries, Municipal Building, Senior Centers, etc. to obtain community wide coverage
4. Enclose a copy of the hearing notice with this checklist
5. Make efforts to notify civic organizations, community interest groups, and persons likely to be affected by project activities, i.e. low and moderate income persons, physically challenged persons, minorities, and senior citizens
6. Please include the names of organizations and neighborhoods where residents have been contacted

Reached out to all department heads within
the township as well as Adisgate
Community Outreach, East Brunswick
Community Housing Corp and Disability
Allies

B. During the Local Public Hearing

1. The Housing and Community Development Program was explained, and attendees were advised of the amount of funding your municipality will receive under the CDBG program.
2. Attendees were informed on the scope of eligible activities.
3. Previous revisions to existing projects was discussed and procedures for future revisions was addressed.
4. Citizens were given the opportunity to voice their comments on the program, and ideas on potential projects for funding. Citizens were notified they could submit written comments.

C. After Local Public Hearing

1. Provide a brief narrative explaining your municipality's citizen participation process. What issues were discussed, what questions were raised, and what proposals were recommended, at the local public hearing?

Discussed with seniors and Dept of Aging
Director who all agree with the importance of
electric doors for easier access

2. Submit minutes of public hearing to HCD Office

Municipality East Brunswick

Date of Public Hearing 2/27/23

Estimated number of persons attending 25

Checklist prepared by Susan Fein

Phone # 732-390-6870 Email: sfein@eastbrunswick.org

Date Submitted 3/7/23

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Publisher's Fee \$8.58 Affidavit \$35.00

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Brown County

Personally appeared *D. Roberts* at County of Brown, State of Wisconsin.

Of the **Home News Tribune**, newspaper printed in Freehold, New Jersey and published in East Brunswick, in State of New Jersey and County of Middlesex, and of general circulation in Middlesex County, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith that the advertisement of which the annexed is a true copy, has been published in the said newspaper 1 times, once in each issue dated as follows:

02/07/2023 **A.D 2023**

 Vicky Felty
Notary Public State of Wisconsin County of Brown

 9/19/21
My commission expires

VICKY FELTY
Notary Public
State of Wisconsin

**BOROUGH OF JAMESBURG
PUBLIC NOTICE**

Please be advised that the Borough of Jamesburg Citizens Advisory Committee will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 7:00pm at the regularly scheduled Council meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to provide information and solicit comments regarding the 2023 Community Development Block grant (CDBG) program application. The public is invited to attend and participate.
(58.58)

(2023)

RESOLUTION #065-02-15-23

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF JAMESBURG TO ENDORSE THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATIONS TO ALLOCATE THE 2023 GRANT**

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the governing body of the Borough of Jamesburg to use the Community Development Block Grant for Borough improvement projects; and

WHEREAS, the Middlesex County Housing and Community Development Program requires the governing body to declare by resolution how the grant monies are to be utilized; and

WHEREAS, the Citizen's Advisory Committee held a public hearing on February 15, 2023 to discuss use of said grant; and

WHEREAS, the Citizen's Advisory Committee has recommended using this year's grant monies for Tree Removal at the Bucklew House in the amount of \$43,169.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Jamesburg that the 2023 Community Development Block Grant be allocated for Tree Removal at the Bucklew House in the amount of \$43,169.

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Emens			X			
Council Member Goletz			X			
Council Member Rampacek	X		X			
Council Member Rutsky						X
Council Member Taylor			X			
Council President Spillara		X	X			
Mayor Lowande						

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Jamesburg.



 Susan Boulogne
 Registered Municipal Clerk
 Borough of Jamesburg

**Middlesex County
Community Development Block Grant Application**

**Borough of Jamesburg
Citizen's Advisory Committee Minutes
Public Hearing
February 15, 2023 7:00pm**

Committee Members Present:

Michael Capabianco, William Maresca and Della Fitch

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Committee Member Michael Capabianco. He advised the committee of the funds available (\$43,169) and that the funds would all be used for tree removal and vegetation control at the Bucklew House.

Recommendation to the Borough Council: None

Public Comment: None

Meeting of Committee Adjourned: 7:05 pm

Minutes Prepared By:


Susan Boulogne
Registered Borough Clerk
Borough of Jamesburg

Municipal Building
131 Perrineville Road
Jamesburg, New Jersey 08831



Phone:
(732) 521-2222
Fax: (732) 521-3455
www.jamesburgborough.org

February 1, 2023

Middlesex County Division of
Housing & Community Dev.
75 Bayard Street
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Please find attached the resolution appointing the representative to the Housing and Community Development Committee along with the Mayor's Appointment.

The contact information is:

William Maresca
131 Perrineville Road
Jamesburg, NJ 08831
Email: bmaresca@jamesburgborough.org
Phone: 732-521-2222 ext. 105

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Boulogne".

Susan Boulogne
Registered Municipal Clerk
Borough of Jamesburg

Community Block Grant Development Public Meeting

Housing and Community Development Committee
Monday, February 27, 2023 at 1:00 pm
Metuchen Borough Hall Council Chambers

Attendees:

Melissa Perilstein, Borough Administrator
Deborah Zupan, Borough Clerk

Ms. Perilstein and Ms. Zupan were present at 1:00 p.m. to begin the Public Meeting. As there were no attendees, they adjourned the meeting at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Zupan, Borough Clerk

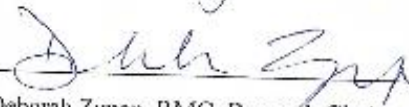
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023 | HOME NEWS TRIBUNE

BOROUGH OF METUCHEN

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Metuchen Housing and Community Development Committee will be held on February 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Metuchen Borough Hall, 509 Main Street, Metuchen, NJ. The purpose of this meeting will be to consider possible uses for the Housing and Community Development Grant funds which will be made available to the Borough of Metuchen on or about July 1, 2023 for the 2023 Federal Community Development Block Grant program. The public is invited to present comments on proposed projects to the Committee.

Deborah Zupan, RMC Borough Clerk
(511.70)

I have personal knowledge that the attached advertisement was published in the Home News Tribune on February 16, 2023.


Deborah Zupan, RMC, Borough Clerk

2/16/2023
Date

April 10, 2023, Regular Council Meeting



**Borough of Milltown
Municipal Building
39 Washington Avenue
Milltown, NJ 08850**

**Borough Council Meeting
April 10, 2023
7:00PM**

Public Business Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mehr at 7:00PM and she announced the meeting was properly advertised in the Home News Tribune of January 6, 2023, according to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

The Mayor announced a moment of silence and flag salute

Roll Call taken by Borough Clerk Marlor: (Present- P, Absent- A)

- Mayor Mehr Councilman Pareti Councilman Revolinsky
- Councilman Collins Councilman Potter Council President Zambrana
- Councilwoman O'Donnell Business Administrator, Jeanette Larrison Borough Clerk, Mimi Marlor
- Attorney, Peter Vignuolo Borough Engineer, Michael McClelland

For the record, Councilman Pareti called in by phone.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Borough Council Meeting: March 27, 2023 – Minutes

Motion/ Second	Roll Call	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Council President Zambrana	X			
	Councilman Collins	X			
Second	Councilwoman O'Donnell	X			
	Councilman Pareti	X			
Motion	Councilman Potter	X			
	Councilman Revolinsky				X

PUBLIC HEARING FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Mayor Mehr stated for the record "The purpose of the public hearing tonight regarding the Housing and Community Development Funds is to receive citizen's input on how the borough should spend any Housing and Community Development that are allocated to the Borough. Housing and Community Development Funds are monies received from the federal government and administered by the County government. The use of Housing and Community Development Funds is limited to certain projects. Monies allocated for this funding round are expected to be approximately \$8,919.00 for Milltown. In the past we have funded educational, recreational and nutritional programs, senior transportation, and building improvements such as new windows and roof. At this time, I will open the floor to public comment. If anyone from the public wishes to comment, please state your name and address for the record."

Seeing no one wishing to speak the Mayor asked for motion to close the Public Hearing. Councilman Potter motioned, and Councilwoman O'Donnell seconded to close the public hearing. ALL in favor.

PRESENTATION: CME, BOROUGH ENGINEER

CME provided a short PowerPoint presentation regarding the Water System Improvement postponed from an earlier date. Engineer Michael McClelland introduced Engineer Keith Chianvallo along with Mackenzie Binder who are the project leaders on this project.

Council Meeting
April 10, 2023

Mackenzie stated the Water Systems Improvements this year for the Borough was funded by a grant during the coronavirus state fiscal recovery grant project. It allocated money to make water improvements in the Borough. The project was previously bid and will be awarded tonight.

There are four components to this project:

The replacement of the existing water main on Highland Drive and Chestnut Street.

Cleaning and lining of existing water main, Oak Ave, East Lawrence Street and Highland Drive.

Reconfiguring water services at Wilson Ave and Centre Street.

Replacement of air release valves between Elkins Lane and North Moetz Drive. Water transmission pipes are proposed to be replaced.

The water main replacement is replacing 958 linear feet of an 8-inch water main. Twenty-five homes will have their water service replaced. Previously water system improvements were installed on Highland Drive between Van Liew Ave and Oak Street. We will be completing the loop on Highland Drive with brand new water main. On Chestnut Street will be 300 feet of an 8-inch water main.

Mackenzie stated this area is a high break area, which is why it is being replaced.

The cleaning and lining effects two areas. One is Highland Drive between Elkins Lane and Harrison Ave and the other is Oak Ave and East Lawrence Street. It will be 800 feet of lining of a 6-inch main that will be cleaned and lined.

Twenty-seven homes will get a new water service between Elkins Lane and Harrison Ave. This will be 1400 feet of lining.

Elkins and Highland will also be milled and paved.

These water quality issues in these areas were identified by the Borough staff.

There are 2 reconfiguration of water services located on the dead end of Wilson Ave and one between Elkins Lane and North Moetz Drive. The one on Elkins Lane we will take the valve and replace with a new valve, the other two we will install new doghouse manholes and air release valve.

Councilman Potter thanked Mackenzie for the presentation Councilman Potter stated there was a calculation error of \$17,000.00 in the Borough's favor on the lowest bid for this project and asked if the contractor had been made aware of this.

Engineer McClelland stated we have not advised the contractor, bids are automatic recalculated.

Councilman Potter asked if the contractor would still accept this bid?

Attorney Vignolo stated the contractor made the error and he will need to correct it. I see no reason he will not accept the bid, but I cannot guarantee.

Councilman Potter stated I do not want to delay any longer.

Councilwoman O'Donnell asked if Barbara from Highland Drive, who has come to a council meeting about her water is in the area where replacing is taking place.

Engineer McClelland stated money did not hold out from the last phase but will be on this phase.

Mayor Mehr stated the area has been having issues with brown water for quite a while. Mayor Mehr asked will air valve replacement help the cul-de sacs on the south side of town with their discoloration of water.

Engineer McClelland stated air valve will help pressure in the areas such as Washington Ave and Ryder's Lane. Dead end issues still exist, not water pressure but water discoloration. The more lining you do, it should get better.

Mayor Mehr asked when will the contract be signed to start this project and to verify this is being paid for by grant money.

Engineer McClelland stated it takes 30-45 days to get started. The project usually takes six months and clarified this project is being paid for by grant money.

Mayor Mehr stated we have been very fortunate, not to impact the taxpayers.

Council Meeting
April 16, 2023

Councilwoman O'Donnell asked if any of these projects are in conjunction with PSE&G. I don't want to see us paving then PSE&G can dig it up.

Engineer McClelland stated Ralph Jasionowski is in contact with them, so this doesn't happen.
Council-President Zambona asked what is a doghouse manhole. McKenzie Binder stated it sits on top of an existing pipe, so we do not have to cut the pipe.

The discussion and presentation concluded.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Mehr stated that next on the agenda are Comments from the Audience. If any member of the public wishes to speak on any of the resolutions, please identify yourself to the Clerk and say your name and address for the record. These comments are limited to resolutions listed on the agenda.

Seeing no one wishing to speak the Mayor closed the comments on the Resolutions.

BILL LIST

The Mayor asked the Clerk to read the Bill List resolution by title only. Borough Clerk Markor read the title of Resolution 117-2023. Mayor Mehr stated having heard the reading of this resolution, what is your pleasure?

117-2023 Authorizing The Payment Of Bills, Claims And Statements Against The Borough Of Milltown In The Total Amount Of \$ 3,171,240.12

Motion/ Second	Roll Call	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Second	Council President Zambona	X			
	Councilman Collins	X			
	Councilwoman O'Donnell	X			
	Councilman Parci	X			
Motion	Councilman Porter	X			
	Councilman Revolinsky				X

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Mehr stated for the record that when voting on Resolutions, all matters listed under the consent agenda are considered to be routine in nature, and having been reviewed by the Borough Council, will be enacted by one motion. Any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of any Council Member and if so removed, will be treated as a separate matter. Any items requiring expenditure are supported by a Certification of Availability of Funds.

Mayor Mehr asked if anyone wished to pull any Resolutions. No resolutions were pulled.

At the request of the Mayor the Borough Clerk read the consent resolution:

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Rules of Council, the Council may establish a Consent Agenda for any regular or special meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Clerk has posted a Consent Agenda for this meeting; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Milltown, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that the Consent Agenda previously prepared by the Borough Clerk be approved without the necessity of having the individual Resolutions read by the Borough Clerk.

Mayor Mehr stated you have heard the reading of this resolution, what is your pleasure?

Council Meeting
April 10, 2023

The Clerk noted that the Council made the motion and second to approve consent resolutions 118-2023 through 125-2023.

Motion/ Second	Roll Call	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Council President Zambrana	X			
	Councilman Collins	X			
Second	Councilwoman O'Donnell	X			
	Councilman Pareti	X			
Motion	Councilman Potter	X			
	Councilman Revolinsky				X

ORDINANCES PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION

Mayor Mehr stated this is the public hearing for Ordinance 23-1521, and since Introduction full copies of Ordinance 23-1521 are presently posted on the Borough website, on the bulletin board at the Borough Hall, and are available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 8:30am and 4:30pm, Monday through Friday.

Councilwoman O'Donnell motioned and Councilman Potter seconded the motion to open the public hearing.

Mayor Mehr, seeing no one wishing to speak, closed the public hearing and asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance 23-1521.

Motion/ Second	Roll Call	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Council President Zambrana	X			
	Councilman Collins	X			
Second	Councilwoman O'Donnell	X			
	Councilman Pareti	X			
Motion	Councilman Potter	X			
	Councilman Revolinsky				X

Councilwoman O'Donnell shared final thoughts before the adoption vote. She thinks we made great strides with this Ordinance. As an active user in recreation, I was very engaged in the discussion of fees. I will be voting to pass this ordinance this evening, but I think there is still room for consideration of some items and possible improvement in the future. We looked at the use of Community Pass allowing Milltown residents to have access prior to anyone else. This is now being implemented. I'm happy to see this. I would like to see further alignment of resident and non-resident fees consistent with all of our programs. I understand we will be experimenting with 10-week sessions for consistent pricing. Next year I'd like to see how this works and maybe come up with a formula to have duration of weeks and pricing match accordingly.

Mayor Mehr stated this is the public hearing for Ordinance 23-1522, and since Introduction full copies of Ordinance 23-1522 are presently posted on the Borough website, on the bulletin board at the Borough Hall, and are available at no cost in the office of the Municipal Clerk between the hours of 8:30am and 4:30pm, Monday through Friday.

Councilwoman O'Donnell motioned and Councilman Potter seconded the motion to open the public hearing.

Mayor Mehr, seeing no one wishing to speak closed the public hearing and asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance 23-1522.

Motion/ Second	Roll Call	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Second	Council President Zambrana	X			
	Councilman Collins	X			
	Councilwoman O'Donnell	X			
	Councilman Pareti	X			

Council Meeting
April 18, 2023

Motion Councilman Porter X
Councilman Revolsky X

Councilwoman O'Donnell shared final thoughts before the adoption vote. She indicated that she likes the idea of capping now that she understands it better. When we didn't spend something, we put it aside toward that same item for a future year. I support the COLA ordinance.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Department of Public Safety – Margaret O'Donnell
Councilwoman O'Donnell reported the following Fire Department report from Chief Jolly:

Monthly Report: for April 16/2023

	Month to Date	Year to Date		Month to Date	Year to Date
Drill	2	6	Man Hours	65.0	153.5
Meetings	1	3	Man Hours	9.5	32.5
Fire Calls	7	37	Man Hours	49	229.5
Special Assignments	2	6	Man Hours	9.5	125.3
Work Details	4	15	Man Hours	108.8	311.8
Total Incidents	16	67	Man Hours	241.8	852.5

FIRE CALLS

Date	Address	Incident Type	Resolution
3/11/23	112 N Main st	Smoke detector activation	Crews investigated the structure and found no issues
3/14/23	300 Crestwood Dr	Odor of natural gas	Crews investigated the structure with meters and scene was turned over to PSE&G
3/20/23	E Lawrence/ Chestnut	Vehicle fire	Crews disconnected battery on vehicle that was damaged in an MVA. Chief BJ stayed on scene while crews relocated to scene of the original MVA
3/22/23	Edison Fire House 2 SB	Standby for Brush Fire	Crews provided fire protection For brush fire in Highland Park
3/22/23	New BRUNE Fire House 2	Stand by for Brush fire	Call was turned over due to lack of manpower (Adequate for Milltown)
3/24/03	24 S. Brook Dr	Smoke Detector	Crews investigated structure

Council Meeting
April 10, 2023

		Activation	and found nothing
3/31/23	296 Crestwood Dr	Odor of Gas	Crews located gas in furnace room of structure, Isolated and turned scene over to PSE&G

Work Detail/Cleaners

Date	Task
3/6/23	Equipment Check
3/13/23	Equipment Check
3/20/23	Equipment Check
3/27/23	Equipment Check

Drills

Date	Location	Subject
3/6/23	Fire House	Fit Testing/Med Eval
3/27/23	Fire House	Forcible Entry, Prop was lent to dept by Old Bridge Fire Dist. 3

Special Assignment

Date	Location	Subject
3/20/23	Firehouse	Youth in Government
3/24/23	Firehouse	Firehouse tour for Girl Scouts

General Information:

Membership: 1 New member came on the tanks, Joshua Alfrey. He's already FF1 certified and will be a probationary member for 6 months, Henry Chang has completed FF1 and started FF2 at MCFA. He has not taken the state test as of yet.

Training: Live burn is scheduled for 4/23/23 at MCFA

Vehicle Maintenance: Repairs on 72-62 are pending.

Equipment Maintenance: 7 SCBA bottles are out for hydro testing, 10 came back and they passed.

Building/Grounds: Footing for memorial is completed along with the installation of the lights. Monument will be completed by mid-April.

Announcement for Council Meeting: Members are needed. Candidates interested in joining the Milltown FD are encouraged to stop by the firehouse Monday nights at 6:30pm or email joinmilltownfire@gmail.com

Department Of Utilities- David Potter

Councilman Potter shared the following reports and comments:

John Eckert utilities reported:

- Streetlights were repaired at the following locations: Albert Avenue, Janet Ct.

Council Meeting

April 10, 2023

- A new streetlight was added on Howard Street.
- Department members responded to several calls for hanging wires.
- Electric Meters were replaced at several locations.
- A pole transfer was completed on Cleveland Avenue. Verizon removed the old pole.
- A pole transfer was completed on Lafayette St. Verizon removed the old pole.
- A new service drop was installed on Desmet Ave. for a service upgrade.
- Numerous work orders associated with billing issues were completed and final readings of closed accounts were performed.
- Substation:
- Daily checks performed. Maintenance of egress lighting is continuing. Courtyard cell sump pumps were checked for proper operation.
- Several poles were inspected for safety issues.
- Rubber goods have been sent out for testing.
- Inventory was reviewed and necessary materials ordered.
- Several power issues were investigated.
- Utilities assisted the billing department with customer issues. Several electric meters were replaced.

Councilman Potter shared the water and sewer report from Don Hermann:

- PSE&G continues the work throughout town that requires mark-outs.
- Monitoring of the pump stations occurs on a regular schedule.
- Daily work orders are completed in a timely manner.
- With assistance from the DPW staff repairs were made to the water main to Borough Park.
- A new water and sewer tap was made to 92 Riva Avenue (new home) and this was used as a training exercise on how to do a live water tap to the main. The training was conducted by an employee of the electric department who has water experience.
- Lafayette Avenue had a pole transfer done and a water department employee and a DPW employee assisted in grounding for the electric department.
- As per the DEP requirements, the lead and copper testing has been completed and we have passed the last four tests in a row, throughout the last two years. The results are being processed and they will be distributed to the residents who participated. We would like to thank the 40 residents who participated in the testing.

Planning Board:

Councilman Potter announced the next regularly scheduled meeting will be on April 12, 2023.

July 4th updates

Councilman Potter announced ticket are on sale for the celebrity bartender fund raiser event. Councilman Potter concluded his reports.

Department Of Public Works And Recycling- Richard Revolinsky

Councilman Revolinsky was absent this evening but Councilman Collins shared the upcoming events on the Library schedule and Councilwoman O'Donnell read the DPW report submitted by Ralph Jasonowski:

The park bathrooms have been cleaned and the floors have been painted in preparation for the upcoming season. All railings at the Little League building have been painted. The flagpole at Michelin field has been painted. New "goose crossing" signs have been installed at Main Street near Mill Pond Park path, Washington Avenue and South Main Street near the Home Depot entrance. DPW staff assisted with the fire department monument project. Street sweeping has begun throughout town. Catch basin cleaning is ongoing. Pothole repair is ongoing.

Council Meeting

April 10, 2023

Several "Stop" signs and various street signs have been replaced.

The broken sign pole at Riva Avenue and North Main Street has been replaced.

The clean-up of vegetation and debris at the Schwendeman's cabin has taken place and will be ongoing.

Work has taken place at all Borough fields in preparation for Little League Opening Day 2023.

Various DPW staff have been CPR and First Aide Certified and the remaining staff will be certified by the end of April 2023.

Road repairs have taken place on Tracey Drive and George Street.

Department Of Environmental, Health and Social Services-John Collins

Councilman Collins announced that Earth Day is April 22, 2023. He urged residents to participate and concluded his comments.

Department Of Recreation -James Pareti

Councilman Potter read the recreation report:

1. Albert Ave. Camp Registration opened on Saturday April 1st. We have 160 youngsters signed up along with summer trips via community pass. This is a more streamlined approach from last year. It creates a one-stop shop for our families when registering.
2. Borough Pool Memberships also opened last week, a month earlier from 2022. We had a great first day of signups with over 135 memberships purchased.
3. Milltown Day Vendor Registration is also live on Community Pass.
4. Tennis court construction is underway. The old surface was totally removed last week. Crack filling and sealcoating will be occurring shortly. Visit our park improvements section on our website to see some of the construction photos.

Councilman Pareti stated over the phone that he had nothing additional to report this evening and concluded his reports.

Department Of Finance, Administration & Planning- Phil Zambrana

Council President Zambrana presented the Senior Center report submitted by Debbie Cuddy.

The following activities take place each week at the Milltown Senior Center. These activities are run through the Office on Aging for those 60 years old.

Some of the activities include: Aerobics, Line Dancing, Aerobics, Line Dancing, Yoga, Billiards, Walk Aerobics, Men's Club, Chorus, Spanish, Arts & Crafts, Bingo, monthly visit from the VNA Nurse, and Sweating with the Oldies.

Our newest class will begin on Wednesday, April 19th @10:30am - "Fun with Robin" taught by Robin Villalona of Kay-Lyn Dance Studio of Milltown. This will be new, creative way to dance and exercise and is very popular in many of our local senior centers.

(There is no cost for Milltown residents to see the VNA Nurse.)

The Senior Center also offers the opportunity to join the Milltown Senior Citizens Club. The fee to join is \$10.00 per year for those 55 years old or older.

For more information, please contact Bob Skazynski at 732 296-1159.

You do not have to join the Senior Citizens Club to participate in The Office on Aging programs & activities.

- On Monday, April 10th @ 11:00am we are having an AARP Presentation in conjunction with the Milltown Library "Fraud Watch-Network Basics."
- On Wednesday, April 12th we are having a bus trip to Christmas tree Shoppe and Job Lot; the bus will be leaving at 9:30am
- On Thursday, April 13th there will be a bus trip to Caro's Restaurant in Monroe Twp. leaving the senior center @ 11:15am.
- On Tuesday, April 18th we are having bus trip to Boscoy's. The bus will be leaving at 9:30am.
- On Tuesday, April 25th we are having a bus trip to The Skylark Diner-the bus will be leaving at 9:30am.
- On Thursday, April 27th we are having a bus trip to the Amish-the bus will be leaving at 9:30am.

Council Meeting
April 10, 2023

- The VNA Nurse will be here on April 18th from 12pm-3pm. Milltown seniors can sign up on the bulletin board if they would like an appointment with her. This is a free service.
- The Senior Center would like to start a Bocce team-if anyone is interested or has some friends who might be interested in playing, please contact Debbie at 732-296-0681.

- *As with all trips and presentations, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board at the Senior Center or if you are interested in participating you can call Debbie at 732-296-0681 or register via email at dcuddy@milltownbor.com

Council President Zambrana announced that the Ford Avenue Redevelopment Agency has cancelled its meeting of April 18th.

He announced that the Budget will be on the agenda for April 24, 2023 for its public hearing. He asked for Council to submit any questions they still have to him prior to the meeting.

Council-President Zambrana concluded his reports.

Administrator Report

Jeanette Larison stated she had no report this evening.

Engineer Report

Engineer Mike McClelland stated he had no report this evening.

Attorney Report

Attorney Vignuolo stated he had no report this evening.

Mayor Mehr's Comments

Mayor Mehr asked for Poll workers for the primary. The Clerk advised how they could sign up. The Mayor also announced that the Milltown Little League first day went well.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Coltin asked when Tracey Drive is expected to be paved. Engineer McClelland stated that Public Works may know that schedule and he would talk to Ralph and get back to him with the findings.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Mayor Mehr stated The public comment portion of our meeting is to allow the public to bring to the Council's attention their concerns or comments. The Council will respect the public's time by refraining any comments until the speaker has finished. It should be further noted that public comment portion of our meeting is not structured as a question-and-answer session. If a member of the public has questions, they seek answers to, an appointment can be made with the appropriate office during regular business hours or with a member of Council during their allotted office/meeting hours. Please state your name and address for the record when you come to the podium.

Joseph Pietanza, 15 Bruce Court, thank the Mayor and Council for the positive response from PSE&G regarding road repairs and patches to the grass edging that was disturbed along the street they have been working on. He also shared that he attended the public forum meeting for the Main Street Rehabilitation program. He noted the great attendance and participation.

Debbie Miller, 92 Ford Ave, asked if there is a phase II in the PSE&G project. The Mayor indicated there was no Phase II scheduled at this time that she is aware of. She also commented that she attended the Main Street Rehabilitation forum and found it very informative.

Council Meeting
April 19, 2023

The Mayor seeing no one else wishing to speak closed the Audience Comments.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Collins thanked Mayor Mehr for meeting with PSE&G about the issues the Borough was having. My neighbor thinks I'm a hero and thanked me for PSE&G coming out to fix her gas main.

Councilman Potter shared that it was a great opening day at Little League and that the Lions Club for putting on the annual Easter Egg Hunt. It takes the volunteers a couple of hours to prepare and it's all over in ten minutes, but the kids have so much fun.

MAYORS COMMENTS

Mayor Mehr in closing shared that while listening to reports and comments tonight she reflected that it's almost three years since Covid began and our lives seem to be reawakening and things are getting back to normal. Events are taking place. The seniors are out and about. Recreation is going on bus trips to NYC. It's all so refreshing. She concluded her closing comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Mehr stated The Borough Council will be entering an Executive Session. The public will be excluded from this portion of the meeting to permit the Borough Council to consider matters appropriate for discussion in such a session. The Borough Council will briefly convene into the Municipal Conference Room and thereafter, will return to the Meeting Room and to Open Session. At this time, I'd like to defer to Attorney Vignuolo for an explanation of the subject matter to be discussed.

Attorney Vignuolo stated we would be discussing two litigation matters this evening. We may take action when we conclude the Executive Session and return to the regular meeting.

Mayor and Council left the dais at 8:00 PM for the Executive Session in the conference room. For the record, Councilman Puzeti left the regular session (by phone) for the evening and did not attend the Executive Session or return for the last vote of the evening.

At 8:40 PM Councilman Potter motioned, and Councilwoman O'Donnell seconded to reopen the regular meeting.

Mayor Mehr asked Attorney Vignuolo for input regarding the Executive Session. He stated we will be introducing Resolution 127-2023 entitled "A Resolution of the Borough of Milltown to Approve and Execute Settlement Agreement and Release of Certain Litigation."

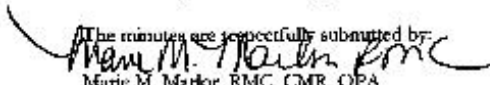
Mayor Mehr asked for the motion to approve 127-2023

Motion/ Second	Roll Call	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Motion	Council President Zambrana	X			
Second	Councilman Collins	X			
	Councilwoman O'Donnell	X			
	Councilman Puzeti				X
	Councilman Potter	X			
	Councilman Revolinsky				X

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Mehr asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Councilman Collins and seconded by Councilman Potter to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM. All in favor. Motioned carried.

The minutes are respectfully submitted by:


Marie M. Markor, RMC, CMR, QPA
Borough Clerk

Proof of Insertion
County of Middlesex

CRANBURY TOWNSHIP
NOTICE
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANT
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023
7:00 P.M.
Town Hall
238 South Main Street
Cranbury, NJ 08512

A hearing will take place on the Community Block Grant Program and the scope of eligible activities. Cranbury Township will receive approximately \$29,680.00 for the 2023 year. The grant is proposed to assist in the development of low to moderate income housing in the Township of Cranbury. The public is urged to attend.

Debra A. Rubin, Esq.
Municipal Clerk
Housing and Community Development
Mayor's Representative
Township of Cranbury
1/26/2023 7:16:18 AM \$13.52

I, Debra A. Rubin, do hereby certify that an advertisement, of which the Annexed is a true copy, was published in The Times, a newspaper circulated in the Township of Cranbury, Counties of Middlesex and Mercer and aforesaid issue(s) as follow(s) to wit:

Date of Publication: 2/6/2023


Debra A. Rubin, Municipal Clerk

Sworn and subscribed to before me

This 6th day of

February A.D. 2023


Notary Public of New Jersey

SCOUT BEYER
NOTARY PUBLIC OF NEW JERSEY
My Commission Expires December 14, 2028

February 13, 2023

The Township Committee Meeting of the Township of Cranbury was held at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of Town Hall. Answering present to roll call were Township Committee members: Eman El-Badawi, Lisa Knierim, Dr. Barbara Rogers, Matthew Scott and Mayor Michael Ferrante. Also present were Denise Marabollo, Township Administrator/CFO and Debra Rubin, Municipal Clerk. Mayor Ferrante led in the salute to the flag, and Ms. Rubin read the following Open Public Meetings Act statement:

In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, it is hereby announced and shall be entered into the minutes of this meeting that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided:

Posted on the Bulletin Board of the Municipal Office at 23-A North Main Street, Cranbury, New Jersey and remains posted at that location.

Communicated to the Cranbury Press, Home News Tribune and Trenton Times on January 8, 2023.

Filed on January 8, 2023 at the Cranbury Municipal Office, 23-A North Main Street, Cranbury, New Jersey, posted on the Township's web site and remains on file for public inspection.

Sent to those individuals who have requested personal notice.

Presentation – De-Mystifying Local Government

Mayor Ferrante provided a presentation for the public titled De-Mystifying Local Government. He instructed the public that the presentation was not a legal document and was meant for informational purposes only. Mayor Ferrante addressed a variety of topics along with common questions about Cranbury Township Municipal Government within the presentation. At the conclusion of the presentation, Mayor Ferrante opened to public comment or questions on the presentation.

Public Comment – De-Mystifying Local Government

- Boy Scout – A local Boy Scout of Troop 52 inquired about the election process. Mayor Ferrante and Ms. Rubin provided a synopsis.
- Ed Kietlinski – Mr. Kietlinski inquired about how the meeting agenda is prepared. Mayor Ferrante provided a summary of how the agenda is prepared.

Approval of Minutes: Mayor Ferrante asked if any members of the Township Committee would like to address changes or amendments to the following minutes. Dr. Rogers asked to amend the minutes to restructure the wording on her report. Hearing no other amendments, Mayor Ferrante asked for a motion to adopt the following minutes as amended:

-- Township Committee Regular Meeting Minutes January 30, 2023

On a motion by Mr. Scott, seconded by Ms. El-Badawi, along with the following roll call vote of the members of the Township Committee;

Ayes: (El-Badawi
(Knierim
(Rogers
(Scott
(Ferrante

Abstain: (None
Absent: (None

Nays: (None

the Township Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of January 30, 2023 were unanimously adopted by members present as amended.

February 13, 2023

Reports and Communications:

Members of Committee

- Mr. Scott – Mr. Scott reported on his attendance to the Parks Commission meeting as the Recreation Commission meeting was cancelled.
- Ms. Knierim – Ms. Knierim reported on her attendance to the Economic Development Advisory Committee, Historic Preservation Commission and Board of Health meetings.
- Dr. Rogers – Dr. Rogers reported on her attendance to the Shade Tree. She attended a meeting with Cranbury School staff to discuss the school referendum auxiliary project. She also reported on her attendance to the New Jersey Watershed Conference.
- Ms. El-Badawi – Ms. El-Badawi offered her condolences to those impacted by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria and encouraged the public to research ways to donate to help those affected. She reported that the boards and commissions she is liaison to did not meet since her last report. She reported on her attendance at the New Jersey Conference of Mayors. She also reported on her upcoming presentation to the Mayor's Wellness Campaign and the new City Health Dashboard Cranbury was selected to be a part of.

Mayor

Mayor Ferrante – The following items were covered under the Mayor's Updates and Upcoming Events:

Reports & Communications:

- Scholarship Opportunities through The Woman's Club of Cranbury and Cranbury Lions
- Cranbury Station - Call for Pictures and Paraphernalia
- New Jersey Broadband Survey
- He also reported on his attendance to the Chinese New Year Celebration at the Public Library, Upcoming Sunday Hours at the Cranbury Public Library and the school referendum auxiliary meeting with the Board of Education.

Reminders:

- **February 28** – NJ Anchor Program Applications due
- **March 28** – New Neighbor's Reception
- **April 24-30** – Tentative Cranbury School's 125th Anniversary Celebration Week
- **April 29** – Town-wide Garage Sale
- **May 7** – Tour de Cranbury Biking Event and 1713 House Celebration
- **TBD** – Arts in the Park/Walking Trail Celebration Event

Department Heads: Cranbury Housing Associates – Mark Berkowsky

Community Development Block Grant – Public Hearing

Mayor Ferrante opened the public hearing on the Community Development Block Grant.

Mark Berkowsky of the Cranbury Housing Associates was in attendance to respond to any questions from the audience during the public hearing. Mr. Berkowsky explained the responsibilities of the Cranbury Housing Authority. Mayor Ferrante opened public comment on the public hearing. Hearing no questions from the public, Mayor Ferrante closed the public hearing.

On a motion made by Ms. El-Badawi and seconded by Dr. Rogers, the following resolution passed unanimously on a roll call vote of all members present.

February 13, 2023

CRANBURY TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION # R 02-23-025

WHEREAS, Cranbury Township has applied for \$29,608.00 from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) earmarked to be used for its new affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, Cranbury Township supports the need to provide affordable housing for group homes for individual with developmental disabilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury it hereby requests the \$29,608.00 in grant monies be used to defray some of the costs related to assist in the development of or rehabilitation of low-to-moderate income housing in the Township of Cranbury.

Follow-up Items: None.

Agenda Additions/Changes: None.

Boards and Commissions – Mayoral Appointments/Vacancies

Mayoral Appointments: None.

Vacancies:

- Economic Development Advisory Committee:
 - o Member (CBA Representative), expiring 12/31/24;
 - o Member, expiring 12/31/24
- Municipal Alliance:
 - o 1st Alternate, expiring 12/31/23; and
 - o 2nd Alternate expiring 12/31/23.
- Parks Commission:
 - o 2nd Alternate, expiring 12/31/23

Ordinances:

First Reading –

Prior to Ms. Rubin reading the following ordinance by title only, Mayor Ferrante summarized the ordinance for the public. Ms. Rubin then read the following ordinance by title only:

a). **Township of Cranbury Ordinance # 02-23-03 – An Ordinance Adding Chapter 105 of the Township of Cranbury Code Creating Liability Insurance Requirements and Forming an Insurance Registry for Business and Rental Unit Owners Pursuant to P.L. 2022, c.92.**

Mr. Scott made a motion to introduce the following ordinance. Dr. Rogers seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, the ordinance was introduced unanimously. Second reading will be held on February 27, 2023.

Ayes: (El-Badawi
(Knierim
(Rogers
(Scott
(Ferrante

Abstain: (None
Absent: (None

Nays: (None

Prior to Ms. Rubin reading the following ordinance by title only, Mayor Ferrante summarized the ordinance for the public. Ms. Rubin then read the following ordinance by title only:

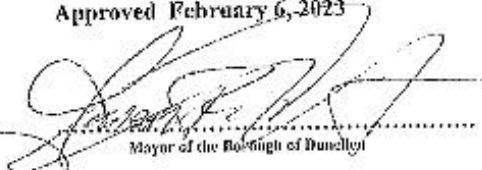
02-06-2023; #13-A

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Joseph Paltjon and Roger Dorubierer are appointed as Dunellen Borough liaisons to the Middlesex County Housing & Community Development Agency.

Approved February 6, 2023

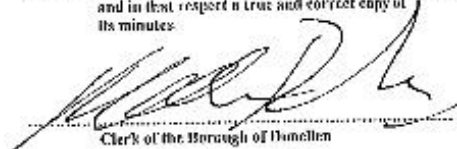

Clerk of the Borough of Dunellen


Mayor of the Borough of Dunellen

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct abstract of a resolution regularly passed at a meeting of the Common Council of the Borough of Dunellen, held

2/6/2023

and in that respect a true and correct copy of its minutes


Clerk of the Borough of Dunellen

355 North Avenue
Dunellen, NJ 08812

BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN
NEW JERSEY

Phone (732) 968-3033
Fax (732) 968-8605



BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN

Matters concerning the Community Development Block Grant Funds for 2023 will be discussed during the regular Dunellen Borough Council Meeting, February 21, 2023, 7:00 p.m., at 355 North Avenue, Dunellen. This public hearing will be available by teleconference: http://www.dunellen.nj.gov/municipal_news/municipal_news_2/index.php. The proposed allocation for 2023 is \$47,665.00. There will be a public portion devoted to this subject.

William M. Robins, RMC, MPA
Dunellen Municipal Clerk

Courier News Central Jersey

A GANNETT COMPANY

Classified Ad Receipt (For Info Only - NOT A BILL)

Customer: DUNELLEN BORO
Address: 355 NORTH AVE.
DUNELLEN NJ 08812
USA

Ad No.: 8025586544
Print Method: Invoice
Net Amount: \$10.14

Run Times: 1
Run Dates: 02/08/23

No. of Affidavits: 0

Text of Ad:

BOUROUGH OF DUNELLEN

Matters regarding the Community Development Block Grant funds for 2023 will be discussed during the regular Dunellen Borough Council Meeting, February 21, 2023, 7:00 p.m., at 355 North Avenue, Dunellen. This public hearing will be available by teleconference: http://www.dunellen-nj.gov/municipal_news/municipal_news_2/municipal_news_2/municipal_news_2. The proposed allocation for 2023 is \$47,665.00. There will be a public portion devoted to this subject.

William M. Robins, BMC, MPA
Dunellen Municipal Clerk
(\$10.14)

8025586544

3800 Highway 66, Neptune, NJ 07753

February 21, 2023

Note: This meeting was in a hybrid format, with limited seating in the Council Chambers supplemented by teleconference for the public who could not attend.

Minutes of the public meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Dunellen held on February 21, 2023.

Mayor Jason F. Cilento called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and he led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Deputy Municipal Clerk Lauren Staats read the Sunshine Statement and called the Roll.

Present: Jason Cilento, Trina Rios, Teresa Albertson, Jessica Dunne, Joseph Paltjon, Daniel Cole Sigmon and Harold VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mrs. Rios it was moved to accept the Minutes of the Meeting of February 6, 2023.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. VanDermark and seconded by Mrs. Rios it was moved to accept the Minutes of the Meeting of February 13, 2023.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

At this point, there was a Proclamation in Honor of Love Your Library Month, read by Elizabeth Lopez-Velez, Library Manager:
Love Your Library Month Proclamation

Whereas, libraries connect people, materials and culture to build and sustain a diverse and vibrant community; and

Whereas, in a world undergoing constant change, libraries provide enduring connections to the past and future of our communities, nations, and civilizations; and

Whereas, the expansion of electronic networks linking libraries and their resources make possible better and more easily accessible information for library users around the world; and

Whereas, libraries provide entry to important research about health, economics, housing, the environment, and countless other areas to support better living conditions and to help people lead longer, more productive and fulfilling lives; and

Whereas, the Dunellen Public Library offers story times, teen programming and summer reading programs to encourage children to begin and continue habits of reading that will benefit their

personal and professional lives; and

Whereas, the Dunellen Public Library supports a competitive workforce with basic literacy programs, computers, small business start-up, job searching and other resources to support businesses and economic development; and

Whereas, the Dunellen Public Library engages the people of Dunellen with services, spaces and resources to enrich their lives and the life of our community; and

Whereas, the Dunellen Public Library creates a welcoming environment for everyone to celebrate the joy of literacy, learning, creating, communicating and cultural exchange.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Mayor Jason F. Cilento, proclaim February 2023 as Love Your Library Month and encourage all residents to visit our library and thank a librarian for making this unique and wonderful institution possible.

February 21, 2023

Jason F. Cilento, Mayor
Borough of Dunellen

At this point, Dr. Robins presented to the Dunellen Borough Council and the public information on the 2023 Community Development Block Grant:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION 2023

The Community Development Block Grant program is an important funding tool for implementing community plans. Municipalities can regularly apply for funding for qualifying activities and projects.

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is federally funded through the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The program awards grants in order to carry out a wide range of community development activities directed toward revitalizing neighborhoods, economic development, and providing improved community facilities and services. The CDBG program is an important tool in helping local governments tackle the most serious challenges facing their communities.

CDBG funds are to be used for activities that benefit low- and moderate-income persons, Senior Citizens, carry out activities which aid in the prevention or elimination of slums and blight, or address existing conditions that pose a serious and immediate threat to the welfare of the community where other financial resources are not available to meet these needs. CDBG funds may be used for activities that include, but are not limited to:

- **Acquisition of Real Property**

- Relocation and Demolition
- Rehabilitation of Residential and Non-Residential Structures
- Construction of Public Facilities and Improvements, such as Water and Sewer Facilities, Streets, Neighborhood Centers, and the Conversion of Schools for Eligible Purposes
- Public Services (within certain limits)
- Restore Historic sites
- Improve housing for low-income and disabled persons
- Repair and rehabilitate Senior related facilities

It has been determined that the areas in Dunellen that are frequented by Senior Citizens or the services that address the needs of Senior Citizens, and Disabled Persons, as well as low-income residents in general, are geographic specific sites to receive CDBG funds, especially the area including and around the Senior Center in Columbia Park.

In 2022, we applied for and received funds for these activities (as noted):

Cameraing and cleaning of Sewer pipes	\$20,000.00
Senior and Disabled Arts Programmer	\$2,665.00
Code Enforcement	\$8,000.00
Senior Citizen Coordinator	\$6,000.00
Senior Citizen Van Driver	\$1,000.00
Park and Open Space Repair and Landscaping	\$5,000.00
Senior Citizen Building Repair and Upgrade	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
	\$47,665.00

Dunellen's grant amount for 2023 will be \$47,665.00.

We are considering applying for funds for these activities:

Cleaning, cameraing and lining of Sewer pipes	\$13,000.00
Senior and Disabled Arts Programming	\$2,665.00
Code Enforcement	\$8,000.00
Senior Citizen Coordinator	\$6,000.00
Senior Citizen Van Driver	\$8,000.00
Morecraft Park landscaping and Facilities repair/upgrade	\$5,000.00
Senior Citizen Building Repair and Upgrade	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
	\$47,665.00

The purpose of the public hearing is to elicit suggestions for CDBG 2023 allocations from community and civic groups.

Dr. Robins then answered questions from Council on where the CDBG area is located and what the specific requests were intended to accomplish. Mayor Cilento then opened this portion of the presentation to the public. No one from the public spoke.

[Ordinances omitted]

On the motion of Dr. Dunne and seconded by Mr. Sigmon it was moved to accept the following:

02-21-2023: #1

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

The bills, as per the attached list, are hereby authorized for payment.

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark

On the motion of Mr. Sigmon and seconded by Mrs. Albertson it was moved to accept the following:

02-21-2023: #2

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

Approval is granted for the Municipal Clerk to make application for the 2023 Community Development Block Grant, for the projects and amounts as listed below:

Cleaning, Cameraing and Lining of Sewer pipes	\$13,000.00
Senior and Disabled Arts Programming	\$2,665.00
Code Enforcement	\$8,000.00
Senior Citizen Coordinator	\$6,000.00
Senior Citizen Van Driver	\$8,000.00
Morcraft Park landscaping and Facilities repair/upgrade	\$5,000.00
Senior Citizen Building Repair and Upgrade	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
	\$47,665.00

Yes: Albertson, Dunne, Paltjon, Rios, Sigmon and VanDermark



THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK

COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221 SOUTH 5TH AVENUE

HIGHLAND PARK, NEW JERSEY 08904

TEL. (732) 777-6014

FAX (732) 777-6006

BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK

PROOF OF INSERTION

State of New Jersey
County of Middlesex

I, Jennifer Santiago, do hereby certify that an advertisement, of which the annexed is a true copy, was published in The Home News Tribune, a newspaper printed in Freehold, New Jersey, and published in Neptune, New Jersey, and circulated in Highland Park, County and State aforesaid, issue(s) as follows(s) to wit:

February 14, 2023

Certified this 14th day of February 2023


Jennifer Santiago, Borough Clerk

Notice Publish Date:
Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Notice Content

PUBLIC NOTICE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park, New Jersey, will hold a public hearing on Monday, February 27, 2023, at 6:00 PM, for the purpose of reviewing programs for allocations of Community Development Block Grant funds for the 2023-2024 funding period. Pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(b), this meeting will be held by means of the use of electronic communications equipment. To attend the meeting, please follow the instructions below: Dial-In: 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 923 5360 7457 Passcode: 346163 <https://zoom.us/j/92353607457?pwd=dEppWltpGclBSNVFMhVjM2VnNjUkOFPDz09> Jennifer Santiago Borough Clerk (\$17.94)

B. During the Local Public Hearing

1. The Housing and Community Development Program was explained and attendees were advised of the amount of funding your municipality will receive under the CDBG program
2. Attendees were informed on the scope of eligible activities
3. Previous revisions to existing projects was discussed and procedures for future revisions was addressed
4. Citizens were given the opportunity to voice their comments on the program, and ideas on potential projects for funding. Citizens were notified they could submit written comments.

C. After Local Public Hearing

1. Provide a brief narrative explaining your municipality's citizen participation process. What issues were discussed, what questions were raised, and what proposals were recommended, at the local public hearing?

There were no members of the public in attendance at the public hearing and no comments or concerns were submitted in writing.

2. Submit minutes of public hearing to HCD Office

Municipality _____

Date of Public Hearing 2/27/2023

Estimated number of persons attending 3

Checklist prepared by Emma Von Thun

Phone # 732-287-5801 Email: evonthun@hpbcro.com

Date Submitted March 15, 2023



Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Hearing
Monday, February 27, 2023 | 6:00 p.m.

To dial in, use the information below:

<https://zoom.us/j/92353607457?pwd=dEFpWHpGclBBNVFMNVW2VmhuK0FPdz09>

Dial-in: 1-929-205-6099
Meeting ID: 923 5360 7457
Passcode: 346163

Agenda

1. Overview of the CDBG Program
 - a. Amount requested: \$76,445
 - b. Scope of eligible activities
2. Proposed Projects
 - a. Highland Park Community Food Pantry - \$3,000
 - b. Summer Camp Program - \$20,000
 - c. Community Youth Outreach Programs - \$13,445
 - d. Senior Transportation - \$15,000
 - e. Senior Outreach - \$13,000
 - f. Improvements to Molimock-Graff Park - \$7,000
 - g. Teen Center Keyless Entry - \$6,000
3. Public Comment
4. CDBG Advisory Committee Official Recommendation to Borough Council



2023 – 2024 HIGHLAND PARK CDBG APPLICATION PUBLIC HEARING

Monday, February 27, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Virtual via Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

In Attendance:

Stephany Kim Chohan - Councilwoman

Deborah Morgan – Committee Member

Emma Von Thun – Assistant to the Borough Administrator

Emma Von Thun opened the public hearing at 6:00 p.m. After thanking members for attending the meeting, Emma explained how the Borough arrived at the request amount of \$76,445. Emma continued to explain the history of the CDBG program and which projects are considered eligible under the program.

Emma then briefly summarized each project proposal and requested allocation. Deborah Morgan asked for clarification on the relevance of the census tracts and how those impact Highland Park's eligibility for CDBG. Emma explained that if projects don't meet one of the other criteria on the project proposals that they must focus on individuals or businesses within an eligible census tract.

After consideration and discussion, the CDBG Advisory Committee recommended the following projects totaling \$76,445 to the Borough Council for approval:

1. Highland Park Community Food Pantry - \$3,000
2. Summer Camp Program - \$20,000
3. Community Youth Outreach Programs - \$13,445
4. Senior Transportation - \$15,000
5. Senior Outreach - \$13,000
6. Improvements to Molimock-Graff Park - \$7,000
7. Teen Center Keyless Entry - \$5,000

With no other business to discuss and no members of the public in attendance, Emma adjourned the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

FY 2023 CDBG Proposals

Project Title	Requesting Department	Description	Amount Requested (2023)	Amount Awarded (2022)
Highland Park Community Food Pantry	Highland Park Community Food Pantry	Purchase of food for pantry to supplement in-kind donations from individuals and County food bank	\$3,000	\$3,000
Summer Camp Program	Department of Recreation	Provide scholarships to low-income youth to attend summer camp; includes partial funding for additional scholarships from the HP Gives a Foot committee	\$20,000	\$20,000
Community Youth Outreach Programs	Department of Recreation	\$12,000 Recreation / \$8,000 HP Gives a Foot Provide fee waivers for various recreation programs and provide funding for Teen Center including offsetting the cost of Teen Center Coordinator's salary and purchasing outdoor furniture for new rain garden	\$18,445	\$18,445
Senior Transportation	Department of Aging	Supplement drivers' salaries to offset cost of fuel and vehicle maintenance	\$15,000	\$15,000
Senior Outreach	Department of Aging	Support Social Worker salary to maintain current level of service and enhance outreach efforts to eligible residents	\$18,000	\$18,000
Sign, Awning & Building Facade Improvement Program	Main Street Highland Park	Provide funds to Woodbridge Avenue businesses to beautify their frontage (planters, landscaping, outdoor seating, etc.)	-	\$12,000
Improvements to Mollmuck-Graff Park	Department of Community Services	Purchase new equipment for Mollmuck-Graff Park to expand accessibility.	\$7,000	-
Keyless Entry - Teen Center	Department of Community Services	Install a keyless entry system at the highly trafficked Teen Center in low-mid area of town.	\$5,000	-
TOTAL			\$76,445	\$76,445

**RESOLUTION NO. 3-23-91
BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX**

**RESOLUTION TO REQUEST APPROVAL FOR 2023 – 2024 CDBG FUND
ALLOCATION**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Highland Park that the following schedule of proposed use of CDBG funds allocated to the Borough of Highland Park for the funding period 2023 – 2024 be and the same is hereby approved and a certified copy hereof be submitted to the Middlesex County Housing and Community Development Committee for their approval. If there is a reduction in the CDBG allocation, the reduction should be divided evenly to each project.

Dept. of Aging: Senior Outreach	\$13,000
Dept. of Aging: Senior Transportation	\$15,000
Dept. of Community Services: Teen Center Keyless Entry	\$5,000
Dept. of Recreation: Molinock-Graff Park Improvements	\$7,000
Dept. of Recreation: Summer Camp Program/IIP Gives A Hoop	\$20,000
Dept. of Recreation: Community Youth Outreach Programs	\$13,445
Highland Park Community Food Pantry	\$3,000
<hr/>	
TOTAL	\$76,445

I, Jennifer Santiago, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Highland Park, New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Highland Park Borough Council at a meeting held on March 14, 2023.


Jennifer Santiago, Borough Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOICES

Council Member	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Conversano			✓	
Georgio				✓
Hink	✓			
Hersh	✓			
Kim-Choiwa	✓			
Postelnik	✓			

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Brown County

Personally appeared D. Roberts at County of Brown, State of Wisconsin.

Of the **Home News Tribune**, newspaper printed in Freehold, New Jersey and published in East Brunswick, in State of New Jersey and County of Middlesex, and of general circulation in Middlesex County, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith that the advertisement of which the annexed is a true copy, has been published in the said newspaper i times, once in each issue dated as follows:

02/07/2023 A.D 2023

Vicky Felty
Notary Public State of Wisconsin County of Brown
9192
My commission expires

VICKY FELTY
Notary Public
State of Wisconsin

**BOROUGH OF JAMESBURG
PUBLIC NOTICE**

Please be advised that the Borough of Jamesburg Citizens Advisory Committee will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 7:00pm at the regularly scheduled Council meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to provide information and collect comments regarding the 2022 Community Development Block grant (CDBG) program application. The public is invited to attend and participate.
DS:SS

Middlesex County
Community Development Block Grant Application

Borough of Jamesburg
Citizen's Advisory Committee Minutes
Public Hearing
February 15, 2023 7:00pm

Committee Members Present:

Michael Capabianco, William Maresca and Della Fitch

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Committee Member Michael Capabianco. He advised the committee of the funds available (\$43,169) and that the funds would all be used for tree removal and vegetation control at the Bucklew House.

Recommendation to the Borough Council: None

Public Comment: None

Meeting of Committee Adjourned: 7:05 pm

Minutes Prepared By:


Susan Boulogne
Registered Borough Clerk
Borough of Jamesburg

RESOLUTION #065-02-15-23

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF JAMESBURG TO ENDORSE THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATIONS TO ALLOCATE THE 2023 GRANT**

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the governing body of the Borough of Jamesburg to use the Community Development Block Grant for Borough improvement projects; and

WHEREAS, the Middlesex County Housing and Community Development Program requires the governing body to declare, by resolution, how the grant monies are to be utilized; and

WHEREAS, the Citizen's Advisory Committee held a public hearing on February 15, 2023 to discuss use of said grant; and

WHEREAS, the Citizen's Advisory Committee has recommended using this year's grant monies for Tree Removal at the Bucklew House in the amount of \$43,169.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Jamesburg that the 2023 Community Development Block Grant be allocated for Tree Removal at the Bucklew House in the amount of \$43,169.

COUNCIL MEMBER	MOTION	2nd	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Council Member Emens			X			
Council Member Golatz			X			
Council Member Rampacok	X		X			
Council Member Rutsky						X
Council Member Taylor			X			
Council President Spillane		X	X			
Mayor Lowande						

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Jamesburg.



 Susan Boulogne
 Registered Municipal Clerk
 Borough of Jamesburg

1200 Mountain Ave
January 23, 2023

A regular meeting of the Housing & Community Development Committee was held on the above date commencing at 7:00 p.m. at 1200 Mountain Avenue, Middlesex N.J.

The following responded to the roll call:

Stephen Greco	Present
Dani Subhash	Absent
Mike Jones	Present
Hardik Shah	Present
Bill Coyle	Present
Carol Schroeder	Present
Bob Dessino	Present
Council Representative	

Secretary Kelsey Meixner opened the meeting with the Sunshine Law Statement saying the meeting had been advertised in the Meeting Notice of January 6, 2023.

Kelsey Meixner requested a nomination for the Chairman of the Housing & Community Development Committee. Mr. Coyle nominated Mr. Greco for Chairman, seconded by Mr. Jones. There were no other nominations, the nominations were closed. Mr. Greco was elected by unanimous consent of members present.

Kelsey Meixner requested a nomination for the Vice Chairman for the Housing & Community Development Committee. Mr. Greco nominated Mr. Coyle for Vice Chairman, seconded by Mr. Jones. There were no other nominations, the nominations were closed. Mr. Coyle was elected by unanimous consent of members present.

Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the February 16, 2022 Meeting Minutes seconded by Mr. Coyle and carried by a unanimous consent of members present.

The Committee secretary discussed how the allocation of funds had been used in the past, and certain salaries that were supplemented with HUD Funding:

The Federal Community Block Grant are funds that Middlesex County gets from the federal government, whom then disburse it to municipalities within the County. Certain regulations and steps must be followed to designate this money, most of which is used for seniors. In addition, it is only for targeted areas around the East bound side of 28 through Mountain Avenue down to South Lincoln. If the funds were/are designated for salaries, the Council would need to fund these items with funds in the current budget. These items included the Senior Van Driver (\$9,205), Code Enforcement Officer (\$10,575), Nutritional Program (\$6,500) and the Senior Coordinator Salary (\$10,000). There will be approximately \$27,000 of grant funds left, and the committee discussed options for these funds.

The 2022 HUD Grant funds included the purchase of Benches and an ADA table for the lot near the American Legion, an awning at the Library and Community room entrances, sliding vestibule doors at main door of Library, and fixing the entrance sidewalk in front of the library where the slant of the walk is allowing water to run into and flood the community room, we are still waiting on information from the County regarding the total funds that the Borough will receive for 2023.

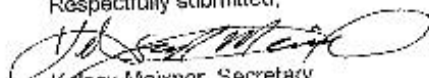
The secretary then discussed suggestions for the 2023 HUD Grant. The Business Administrator and the Senior Coordinator made a few recommendations, such as the repair of the chair lift for the Senior and Disabled Services Bus. They also discussed installing lighting for the parking lot of the Library, by recommendation of the Library Board of Trustees. The Committee discussed these recommendations, and based upon the fact that they are assuming that they have approximately \$27,000 left to distribute (omitting the salaries) they discussed putting the remaining funds towards the recommendations of the Administrator, Senior Coordinator and Library. The Secretary will get quotes for the projects, and the Committee will discuss use of the remaining funds to be used at the next meeting.

Discussion was had on the second HUD meeting date. Mr. Greco made a motion to hold the next meeting on February 13, 2023, seconded by Mr. Coyle and carried by a unanimous consent of members present.

Mr. Greco opened the public portion of the meeting for comments or suggestions. Seeing that there were no public comments Mr. Greco closed the public portion of the meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned on motion of Mr. Greco, seconded by Mr. Coyle.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelsey Meixner, Secretary

Remote Meeting
February 13, 2023

A regular meeting of the Housing & Community Development Committee was held on the above date commencing at 7:00 p.m. at 1200 Mountain Avenue, Middlesex N.J.

The following responded to the roll call:

Stephen Greco	Present
Dani Subhash	Present
Mike Jones	Present
Hardik Sbah	Absent
Bill Coyle	Present
Carol Schroeder	Present
Bob Dessino	Present
Council Representative	

Secretary Kelsey Meixner opened the meeting with the Sunshine Law Statement saying the meeting had been advertised in the Meeting Notice of February 1, 2023.

Mr. Coyle made a motion to approve the January 23, 2023 Meeting Minutes seconded by Mr. Jones and carried by a unanimous consent of members present, excluding Mr. Subhash whom abstained from the vote.

Mr. Greco discussed how the allocation of funds had been used in the past, and certain salaries that were supplemented with HUD Funding.

Mr. Greco then discussed the suggestions for the 2023 HUD Grant. The Committee discussed using the remaining funds to help make ADA improvements at 1190 Mountain Avenue. The Chairman discussed the future plans for the facility as the new Senior Services and Disabled Persons Department office, stating the need to expand the current space and programs. The Committee asked the secretary to find out the eligibility of use for the funds if the Borough does not own the property yet and the sale is pending. The secretary will contact the Borough's Liaison for eligibility. The Committee decided that if the project is eligible, they will allot funds to make the improvements to the property. Mr. Jones suggested the Committee allot funds to the Fitzsimmons Park. Council Representative Dessino stated that the Park is in need of care and is run down. The Committee discussed if the project would be in a target area. After referencing the target area map, the Committee decided to allot funds to make repair to the facility, specifically the basketball court, which is run down and was described as an eye sore, and repaving the walking path, which would allow all residents to enjoy the facility.

Mr. Coyle made a motion to approve the projects discussed, seconded by Mr. Jones and carried by a unanimous consent of members present.

Mr. Greco opened the public portion of the meeting for comments or suggestions. Seeing that there were no public comments, Mr. Greco closed the public portion of the meeting.

The Committee agreed on the following amount to recommend to the Council for the February 14, 2023 Meeting:

Senior Coordinator Salary	\$10,000
Senior van Driver	\$ 9,205
Code Enforcement	\$10,575
Nutritional Program	\$6,500
Fitsimmons Park	\$8,000
ADA Improvements 1190 Mountain Ave	\$21,574
Total	\$63,854

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned on motion of Mr. Coyle, seconded by Mr. Jones.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelsey Meixner, Secretary

Borough of Middlesex
1200 Mountain Avenue
Middlesex, NJ 08846

January 6, 2023

SUNSHINE NOTICE

In compliance with the "Open Public Meeting Law" P.L. 1975 C231, the Housing and Community Development Advisory Committee will hold a public meeting on Monday, January 23, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. in the Municipal Building at 1200 Mountain Avenue, Middlesex, New Jersey to discuss the use of HUD grant money for the Middlesex Borough Housing and Community Development Advisory Committee. All Borough residents are invited to the meeting.


Linda Chismar, Borough Clerk

I hereby certify that copies of this notice were mailed to the Courier News, The Star Ledger, and posted on the website and bulletin board in the Municipal Building on January 6, 2023.


Linda Chismar, Borough Clerk

Borough of Middlesex
1200 Mountain Avenue
Middlesex, NJ 08846

Public Hearing

Middlesex Borough Housing and Community Development
Advisory Committee.

The Committee requests suggestions from the public
regarding use of the HUD grant funds.

All Borough residents are invited to attend the public
meeting.

Monday, January 23, 2023 at 7:00 P.M at the Municipal
Building, 1200 Mountain Avenue, Middlesex, New Jersey.

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF WISCONSIN
BROWN COUNTY

Personally appeared Kathleen Allen

Of the Courier News, a newspaper printed in Freehold, New Jersey and published in Somerville, in the state of New Jersey and County of Somerset, and of general circulation in Somerset County, who being duly sworn, deposes and saith that the advertisement of which the annexed is a true copy, has been published in the said newspaper 1 time(s), once in each issue as follows:

1/11/2023 A.D. 2023

Kathleen Allen
Notary Public, State of Wisconsin, County of Brown

1-7-25
My commission expires

AD NO: GCH002234

KATHLEEN ALLEN
Notary Public
State of Wisconsin

Public Hearing

Middlesex Borough Housing and Community
Development Advisory Committee.

The Committee requests suggestions from the
public regarding use of the HUD grant funds.

All Borough residents are invited to attend the
public meeting.

Monday, January 23, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. at the
Municipal Building, 1200 Mountain Avenue,
Middlesex, New Jersey.

Be it Resolved, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex, New Jersey that:

Resolution #85-2023

APPROVAL OF THE 2023 HUD FUNDS

APPROVAL OF THE 2023 HUD FUNDS

The following items have been approved by the Housing and Community Development Committee to be submitted to the Middlesex County Housing & Community Development for approval for the use of the 2023 Grant Funds:

Senior Coordinator Salary	\$10,000
Senior Van Driver	\$9,205
Code Enforcement	\$10,575
Nutritional Program	\$6,500
Fitzsimmons Park	\$6,000
ADA Improvements 1190 Mountain Ave	\$21,574
TOTAL	\$63,854

I Hereby Certify that the above resolution was duly adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Middlesex, at a meeting of said Borough Council on February 28, 2023.

RESULT:	ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michael Conahan, Council President
SECONDER:	Jack Mikolajczyk, Councilman
AYES:	Conahan, Carnes, Dossino, Mikolajczyk, Rex
ABSENT:	Quinn


CLERK OF THE BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX

TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, MIDDLESEX COUNTY
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Township of Monroe Housing and Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee will hold a Public Hearing to discuss plans for using the 2023 Housing and Community Development funds which have been allocated to the Township under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. This year the Township will receive \$166,380.00 in CDBG funds.

The public hearing will be held on Wednesday, February 22, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Conference Room at the Municipal Building, One Municipal Plaza, Monroe Township, New Jersey. Township residents are invited to attend the public hearing.

Stephen Dalina, Mayor
Township of Monroe



Township of Monroe

County of Middlesex

PATRICIA REID
Township Clerk

Municipal Complex
1 Municipal Plaza
Monroe Township, NJ
08831-1900
Phone (732) 665-4873
Fax (732) 624-3140

Affidavit of Publication

I, Christine Robbins, Deputy Township Clerk, of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the attached legal notice is a true copy of such notice, which was published in the Home News Tribune, the official newspaper of Monroe Township and a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Middlesex on February 10, 2023.

Christine Robbins, Deputy Township Clerk

Ad Number: D005584951 Run Dates: 02/10/2023

TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, MIDDLESEX COUNTY HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Township of Monroe Housing and Community Development Advisory Committee will hold a public hearing to discuss the proposed 2023 Housing and Community Development Fund which has been allocated to the Township under the US Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development (CDBG) program. The year the Township will receive \$182,500.00.

The public hearing will be held on Wednesday, February 22, 2023 at 10:00 am in the Council Conference Room of the Municipal Building, One Municipal Plaza, Monroe Township, New Jersey. Township residents are invited to attend the public hearing.

Stephen Debra, Mayor
Township of Monroe

(1/10/20)

AGENDA

**PUBLIC HEARING-HOUSING AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

February 22, 2023

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

Alan Weinberg, Business Administrator
Councilman Charles Dipierro
George Lang, C/O
Harold Klein, Grants Coordinator
Joseph Strain, Director, Environmental Protection Department
Nancy Harrigan, Senior Center Director
Tanya Pannucci, Affordable Housing Coordinator

3. Reading of the Sunshine Law

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, it is hereby announced and shall be entered into the minutes of this meeting that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided as follows:

- a. Posted on February 3, 2023 on the Bulletin Boards at the Township of the Monroe Municipal Building, Public Library, Senior Center, & Community Center.
- b. Published in the Home News Tribune on February 10, 2023.
- c. Sent those individuals who have requested personal notice.

4. Discussion of the Proposed Use of 2023 Housing and Community Development Block Grant Funds available to the Township-\$166,380.00

5. Public Comments

6. Adjournment

**Township of Monroe
Middlesex County, New Jersey**

**Minutes of Public Hearing
Housing and Community Development
Citizens Advisory Committee**

February 22, 2023

1. Call to Order by Alan Weinberg at 10:00 am
2. Roll Call: Those present were: Alan Weinberg, Councilman Charles Dipierro, Joseph Strain, Harold Klein, and George Lang. Nancy Harrigan and Tanya Pannucci were absent. No members of the public were present.
3. Reading of the Sunshine Law by Mr. Weinberg
In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, it is hereby announced and shall be entered into the minutes of this meeting that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided as follows:
 - a. Posted on February 3, 2023 on the Bulletin Boards at the Township of Monroe Municipal Complex, 1 Municipal Plaza, and at the Library, Senior Center, and Community Center.
 - b. Published as a legal advertisement in the New Brunswick HOME NEWS TRIBUNE on February 10, 2023.
 - c. Sent to those individuals who requested personal notice.
4. Mr. Weinberg announced that construction has begun for ADA site improvements, ADA accessible restroom facilities, and concrete ramp improvements at Veterans Park located at 61 Avenue K. This project should be completed by July 2023. The James Monroe Park project which includes the construction of ADA accessible restroom facilities and concrete ramp improvements will be going out to bid soon. This park, located at 140 Dey Grove Road, is used by disabled children to play baseball. It is expected that this project will be completed later this year.
5. Mr. Weinberg proposed that the 2023-24 funds be used to construct ADA

accessible curb, warning surfaces, and crosswalks at five intersections at the Inwood Estates development. This would be a companion project to the planned reconstruction project which will also include the milling and paving of these streets. This project will provide ADA accessibility without barriers for senior citizens and disabled persons. A motion was made by Mr. Stroin, seconded by Mr. Lang, and approved by unanimous voice vote to support this project.

6. The meeting was opened to the public. There were no members of the public in attendance.

10.. A motion was made by Mr. Lang and seconded by Mr. Dipierro and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 am.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harold Klein". The signature is written in black ink and extends across the line of the typed name below it.

Harold Klein

**NORTH BRUNSWICK CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD
ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING
1460 LIVINGSTON AVE BUILDING 400, 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM,
NORTH BRUNSWICK, NJ
FEBRUARY 22, 2023 5:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

THOSE PRESENT

MICHAEL C. HRITZ
MARK RASIMOWICZ
JANICE LARKIN
MARK FRITSCHÉ
LISA RUSSO

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 5:05 P.M.

MR. HRITZ LEAD DISCUSSION ON LAST YEARS FUNDING AND SPENDING ALLOCATIONS AND ALSO HANDED OUT THE "2023 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROJECT SUMMARY & PROSPECTIVE BUDGET" FOR MOST TOWNS IN MIDDLESEX COUNTY

NORTH BRUNSWICK WILL BE APPLYING FOR \$118,714 THIS YEAR. BOARD MEMBERS AGREED TO THE FOLLOWING DISTRIBUTION:

\$68,714	BABBAGE PARK IMPROVEMENTS
\$40,000	CODE ENFORCEMENT SALARY REIMBURSEMENT
\$10,000	SENIOR PROGRAMS

THERE ARE A FEW PROJECTS THAT THE \$78,714 CAN BE USED TOWARDS. MR. HRITZ SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS BE MADE TO THE FOLLOWING:

- BABBAGE PARK IMPROVEMENTS, BASKETBALL COURT;

MS. LARKIN SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS BE MADE TO THE FOLLOWING:

- NORTH BRUNSWICK SENIOR CENTER PROGRAMS.

MOTION TO APPROVE DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULE (MS. LARKIN, FRITSCHÉ); ALL PRESENT VOTED IN FAVOR, DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULE APPROVED.

5:25 P.M. MEETING OPENED TO PUBLIC (MR. FRITSCHÉ, MS. RUSSO)
5:26 P.M. MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC (MS. LARKIN, MR. FRITSCHÉ)
5:27 P.M. MEETING ADJOURNED (MS. LARKIN, MR. FRITSCHÉ)

NOTICE
NORTH BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP
RESIDENTS

The North Brunswick Community Development Citizens
Advisory Committee will conduct a Public Hearing on
Wednesday, February 22, 2023 concerning 2023 Community
Development Block Grant, North Brunswick Housing
Rehabilitation and Preservation Program.

The Public Hearing will be held at 5:00 P.M. in the 2nd Floor
Conference Room, located at 1460 Livingston Avenue, Building
400, North Brunswick, N.J.

Lisa Russo
Municipal Clerk



South Brunswick Township

Regular Meeting

~ Minutes ~

540 Ridge Road
Monmouth Junction, NJ 08852
www.southbrunswicknj.gov

Tuesday, February, 28, 2023

5:00 PM

Web Meeting Via Zoom

Pledge of Allegiance - Moment of Silence - Roll Call

Mayors Statement

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Carley followed by a salute to the flag.

Moment of Silence

There was a moment of silence for our troops to return home safely to their families.

Roll Call

Attendee Name	Present	Absent
Ken Bierman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joseph Camarota	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Archana "Ann" Grover	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Josephine "Jo" Hochman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Charlie Carley	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Also Present:

Mr. Bidlack, Township Manager/Director of Planning; Mr. Campisano, Assistant Township Attorney; Mrs. Nyitrai, Township Clerk; Mr. Schmalz, Public Affairs Coordinator

Open Public Meeting Statement

Mrs. Nyitrai read the following statement:

In compliance with Chapter 231 of Public Laws of 1975, notice of this meeting was given by way of 48-Hour notice filed with the Township Clerk, the North/South Brunswick Sentinel, the Home News Tribune and the Trenton Times, and posted on the bulletin board in the South Brunswick Township Municipal Complex, January 26, 2023.

Address from the Floor

Motion was made to open the meeting for public comments.

RESULT: OPENED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Josephine "Jo" Hochman, Councilwoman
SECONDER: Archana "Ann" Grover, Councilwoman
AYES: Ken Bierman, Joseph Camarota, Archana "Ann" Grover, Josephine "Jo" Hochman
ABSENT: Charlie Carley

Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

Motion was made to close the public portion.

RESULT: CLOSED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Josephine "Jo" Hochman, Councilwoman
SECONDER: Archana "Ann" Grover, Councilwoman
AYES: Ken Bierman, Joseph Camarota, Archana "Ann" Grover, Josephine "Jo" Hochman
ABSENT: Charlie Carley

Minutes

Minutes of the Work Session of the Township Council Held on Tuesday, February 14, 2023

RESULT: ACCEPTED [2 TO 0]
MOVER: Joseph Camarota, Deputy Mayor
SECONDER: Archana "Ann" Grover, Councilwoman
AYES: Joseph Camarota, Archana "Ann" Grover
ABSTAIN: Ken Bierman, Josephine "Jo" Hochman
ABSENT: Charlie Carley

Minutes (ID # 14011): Of the Township Council Executive Session Held on February 14, 2023

RESULT: ACCEPTED [2 TO 0]
MOVER: Joseph Camarota, Deputy Mayor
SECONDER: Archana "Ann" Grover, Councilwoman
AYES: Joseph Camarota, Archana "Ann" Grover
ABSTAIN: Ken Bierman, Josephine "Jo" Hochman
ABSENT: Charlie Carley

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Township Council Held on Tuesday, January 24, 2023

RESULT: ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Josephine "Jo" Hochman, Councilwoman
SECONDER: Archana "Ann" Grover, Councilwoman
AYES: Ken Bierman, Joseph Camarota, Archana "Ann" Grover, Josephine "Jo" Hochman
ABSENT: Charlie Carley

Minutes (ID # 14010): Of the Township Council Executive Session Held on January 24, 2023

RESULT: ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Josephine "Jo" Hochman, Councilwoman
SECONDER: Archana "Ann" Grover, Councilwoman
AYES: Ken Bierman, Joseph Camarota, Archana "Ann" Grover, Josephine "Jo" Hochman
ABSENT: Charlie Carley

Reports

Mr. Bidlack reported on the following:

- He received notification from the New Jersey Division of Transportation that they have approved a study to extend the shoulder use program from Route 1 to Route 522 to Aaron Road. Mr. Camarota responded to this item and study.

Mr. Bierman reported on the following:

- The Shade Tree Commission has placed their bids for tree plantings.

Ms. Grover reported on the following:

- The 25th Annual Women's Leadership conference will be held on March 18th at the Municipal Complex. The keynote speaker is Hala Taha. Registration is open to all that are interested in attending.

Ms. Hochman reported on the following:

- John Saccenti, Advisory Board of Health Chair met with Mrs. Caryl Greenberg, Office on Aging Director to review beneficial programs that the County offers for their members.
- The Arts Commission Jazz Café will be held this Friday.
- She thanked Mr. Bidlack for coordinating with Premier Media to advertise the Commission events.
- She advised that the Annual Women's Leadership Conference is very beneficial and encourages students to register.

Public Hearings

Public Hearing (ID # 13980): CDBG Public Hearing

Mrs. Nyitrai reported that this is the public hearing as required. Ms. Linda Mannino-Kelly, Citizens Housing and Community Development Block Grant Committee Chair was present at the prior meeting and gave an overview on the recommended grant allocations as outlined in the resolution on the consent agenda.

Motion was made to open the meeting for public comments.

RESULT: OPENED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Josephine "Jo" Hochman, Councilwoman
SECONDER: Ken Bierman, Councilman
AYES: Ken Bierman, Joseph Camarota, Archana "Ann" Grover, Josephine "Jo" Hochman
ABSENT: Charlie Carley

Public Comments

There were no comments from the public.

Motion was made to close the public portion.

RESULT: CLOSED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Josephine "Jo" Hochman, Councilwoman
SECONDER: Archana "Ann" Grover, Councilwoman
AYES: Ken Bierman, Joseph Camarota, Archana "Ann" Grover, Josephine "Jo" Hochman
ABSENT: Charlie Carley

Ordinances for First Reading

There were no ordinances for First Reading.

Ordinances for Second Reading

Public Hearing: ORD-2023-1 Calendar Year 2023 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

RESULT: OPENED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Josephine "Jo" Hochman, Councilwoman
SECONDER: Joseph Camarota, Deputy Mayor
AYES: Ken Bierman, Joseph Camarota, Archana "Ann" Grover, Josephine "Jo" Hochman
ABSENT: Charlie Carley

There were no comments from the public.

Motion was made to close the public portion.

RESULT: CLOSED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Josephine "Jo" Hochman, Councilwoman
SECONDER: Ken Bierman, Councilman
AYES: Ken Bierman, Joseph Camarota, Archana "Ann" Grover, Josephine "Jo" Hochman
ABSENT: Charlie Carley

Ordinance 2023-1: Calendar Year 2023 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to 2.5 % unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of South Brunswick in the County of Middlesex finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2023 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Council hereby determines that a 3.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$ 2,287,732 excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of South Brunswick, in the County of Middlesex, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2023 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of South Brunswick shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$ 2,287,732 and that the CY 2023 municipal budget for the Township of South Brunswick be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this ordinance or any other codes or ordinances incorporated herein shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder hereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which said judgment shall have been rendered.

**MEETING AGENDA
SOUTH PLAINFIELD MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

FEBRUARY 21, 2023

SPECIAL MEETING BEGINS AT 6:45 pm

(Virtual Webex Code to Join: 126 653 1990 - instructions located on Borough website where agendas are located)

1. Special Meeting - Called to Order by Mayor Anesh in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 with adequate notice of this meeting being provided to the Borough's two official newspapers and also published on the Borough's website.
2. Roll Call by Municipal Clerk
3. **SPECIAL HEARING:** Public hearing on the use of the Community Development Block Grant Funds for the year 2023
4. Public Comment
5. Adjourn from Special Meeting.

(The regularly scheduled Agenda and Public meeting of Council to follow at 7:00 p.m. whereas action may be taken pertaining to the CDBG grant consideration for 2023)

CDBG Minutes 2023
January 18, 2023

Location - Borough Hall Conference Room

The Meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m. by Councilwoman Faustini.

Present : Councilwoman Faustini, Councilwoman Mott, Jennie Ratti, Laura Lasota,
Scott Milner, Kelly Daley, Olivia Leach Nunez, Roberto P. Sayers

Absent: Sue Mazzeo, Dannel Marsh, Christine Smith

Councilwoman Faustini emphasized the importance of this committee and thanked everyone for making the time to participate. A visual recap was given of use of CDBG funding Projects over past several years.

Pal funding is yet awaited and Walnut equipment has been ordered and is due this spring.

Projects included: My Senior Center software and Vehicle
Handicap Ramps
Accessible features and Lavatory for Pool
Playground at Pitt Street, Walnut and Pal Field.
Senior Center Salary \$12.5 ongoing

It was anticipated that our Grant allocation will remain at \$80,042 for 2023.

Committee discussed various uses and eligibility of Grant funds for 2023.

Councilwoman Faustini explained and provided maps of the areas concentrated in the direct area of elementary schools that will be paved and subject to roadwork. These areas will require accessibility ramps and features.

Other area of discussion was the use of funding to enlist in the creation of an accessible website for the South Plainfield Borough. Councilwoman Faustini made notes of the committee members various suggestions for undergoing this process effectively.

All those in attendance unanimously recommended that the 2023 grant be allocated
\$12,500 for Senior Center Salary
\$18,000 for Website Accessible update
Balance of funds for accessible ramps throughout the borough

Meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY }
MIDDLESEX COUNTY } ss.

Susan Kaneps
full age, being duly sworn upon her oath, saith: That she is
connected with THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD OBSERVER,
a newspaper published in Middlesex County, New Jersey;
that a notice of which the annexed is a true copy, was
published on the 13 day of Jan, A.D., 2023,
in said newspaper and once a week thereafter successively,
in all / week(s), viz.: upon

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
LEGAL NOTICE
Housing & Community Development Meeting
A meeting of the Housing & Community Development
Committee has been scheduled for Wednes-
day, January 18, 2023 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in
the Court Room of the South Plainfield Municipal
Building, 2400 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield,
New Jersey 07080. The purpose of the meeting is to
provide for 2023 Housing and Community Develop-
ment Plans. No action will be taken.
Any/Anybody, PW02/02/2023
Municipal Clerk
627.56 January 18, 2023

Susan Kaneps

Sworn and subscribed before me this

13th day of Jan A.D. 2023

Wayne F Grennier

Notary Public of N.J.

Wayne F Grennier
Notary Public
New Jersey
My Commission Expires 1/30/2024
No. 2221681

STATE OF NEW JERSEY }
 MIDDLESEX COUNTY } ss.

.....*Susan Kaneps*.....
 full age, being duly sworn upon her oath, saith: That she is
 connected with THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD OBSERVER,
 a newspaper published in Middlesex County, New Jersey;
 that a notice of which the annexed is a true copy, was
 published on the 10 day of Feb. A.D., 2023,
 in said newspaper and once a week thereafter successively,
 in all / week(s), viz.: upon

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD
 MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
 PUBLIC HEARING
 A public hearing for the 2023 Community Development Block Grant has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 6:45 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the South Plainfield Municipal Building, 6489 Plainfield Avenue. The purpose of the hearing is to discuss projects to be considered for inclusion in the 2023 Community Development Block Grant Application. Public input on projects will be provided by the governing body of the Local Action Agency on the date and location scheduled. Council meeting the date and location commencing at 7:00 p.m.
 Amy L. A. Eganter, MM13CANDIDATE
 Municipal Clerk
 202 91 February 10, 2023

.....*Susan Kaneps*.....

Sworn and subscribed before me this
 10TH day of FEB A.D. 2023
Wayne F Grennier

Notary Public of N.J.

Wayne F Grennier
 Notary Public
 New Jersey
 My Commission Expires 1/30/2024
 No. 2221681

**SOUTH PLAINFIELD BOROUGH
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 21, 2023, 6:45 P.M.**

SPECIAL HEARING – 2023 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Anesh called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. Mayor Anesh read the sunshine statement and announced that same is being held pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act of 1974 and all provisions of that Act have been met with adequate notice of this meeting having been provided to the Borough's official newspapers and also published on the Borough's website. Instructions for accessing the remote public meeting are found on the Borough's website next to the agendas.

The roll call was administered by Amy Antonides as follows:

COUNCIL	Present	Absent	Late
Councilman Bengivenga	X		
Councilwoman Muti	X		
Councilman Smith	X		
Councilman White	X		
Councilman Walsh		X	
Council President Faustini	X		
Mayor Anesh	X		
ALSO PRESENT			
Administrator Colten	X		
Clerk Antonides	X		
Attorney Paul Rizzo	X		
Engineer Miller		X	

SPECIAL HEARING – 2023 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS

Mayor Anesh turned the floor over to Councilwoman Faustini who advised that the Housing and Community Development Committee met on January 18, 2023 and at length discussed various possibilities of projects to apply this year's grant funding towards. There is an anticipated allocation of \$80,042.00 in grant funding pending for South Plainfield for 2023, which is the same as last year. The use of this grant funding can only be used for certain types of projects. As such, for 2023 the Housing and Community Development Committee has recommended the following proposed project(s) for consideration:

Senior Center Salary	\$12,500
Website Accessible Update	\$18,000
Accessible Ramps	\$49,542
TOTAL	\$80,042

Mayor Anesh thanked Council President Faustini and asked the Council if they have any questions or comments. Councilwoman Faustini said she is very happy the money will be used for this purpose and is grateful to the CDBG Committee for their recommendation. With no further comments from the Council at this time, Mayor Anesh then thanked Councilwoman Faustini for the committee's input.

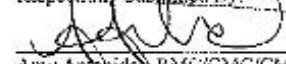
PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Anesh opened the floor for public comments. Though there were approximately 4 members of the public present in-person with no one present virtually. With no comments from the public, Mayor Anesh closed the floor.

Mayor Anesh advised that a resolution will be on the regularly scheduled Council meeting agenda this evening for further consideration of the CDBG projects for 2023 as recommended by the CDBG Committee.

ADJOURN SPECIAL CDBG MEETING: With no further comments, Mayor Anesh asked for a motion to adjourn from the CDBG special hearing. Councilman White made a motion to adjourn from the meeting at 6:51 p.m., seconded by Councilman Bengivenga and unanimously carried by an all-in favor.

Mayor Anesh advised that our regularly scheduled Council meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. this evening.

Respectfully Submitted By:


Amy Antonides, RMC/CMC/CMR



JOHN H. ALLGAIN, PE, PP, LS (1985-1991)
 DAVID J. SMUELE, PE, PP, CME
 JOHN J. STEFANI, PE, LS, PP, CME
 JAY B. CORNELL, PE, PP, CME
 MICHAEL J. McLELLAND, PE, PP, CME
 GREGORY R. WALESE, PE, PP, CME

T.M.W. GULLIN, PE, PP, CME (1991-2019)
 BRUCE M. KOCH, PE, PP, CME
 LOUIS J. FLOSKONKA, PE, CME
 TREVOR J. TAYLOR, PE, PP, CME
 SEBASTIAN TUJAN, M., LSRP
 LAURA L. NEUMANN, PL, PP
 DOUGLAS ROHMeyer, PE, CHM, CME
 ROBERT J. RUSSO, PE, PP, CME
 JOHN J. HESS, PE, PP, CME

MEMO TO: Mayor and Borough Council, Borough of South River

FROM: Bruce M. Koch, P.E., P.P., C.M.E., Borough Engineer's Office *BMK*

DATE: February 15, 2023

RE: HCD Citizen's Advisory Committee and
 Public Participation Meeting of February 13, 2023
 South River, New Jersey
 Our File: PSR00056.01

In accordance with the requirements of the Housing and Community Development Program, a combination HCD Citizen Advisory Committee meeting and public input meeting was held on February 13, 2023. The meeting was conducted in the Conference Room adjacent to the Council Chambers with the following Committee Members and citizens in attendance:

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
1.	Bruce M. Koch, P.E., P.P., C.M.E.	Borough Engineer's Office
2.	Arthur Londensky, Borough Administrator	48 Washington Street
3.	David Krempecki	57 Colfax Street
4.	Alyssa Giglietti, Borough Clerk	48 Washington Street
5.	Joseph Zanga, Chief Financial Officer	48 Washington Street

I opened the meeting with a discussion of the Housing and Community Development Program, the intent of the legislation, present program operations, and past and future activities.

Those in attendance were advised that the Borough's 2023 allotment figure will be approximately \$81,841.00. The scope of eligible activities listed as "Basic Eligible Community Activities" was reviewed at the meeting.

Previous amendments, revisions and procedures for future transfers were reviewed, as well as the outstanding account balances.

I also discussed the Timeliness Plan and the need to spend money in old accounts.

- Mr. Krempecki spoke about the work that has been done to Daley's Park and Fitzpatrick Park. He asked if additional improvements could be made at Fitzpatrick Park.
- Mr. Zanga indicated it is not in an HCD Target Area.
- Mr. Krempecki discussed how Daley's Park is getting more use now that improvements have been made.
- We discussed other parks in the Borough and whether they were in a Target Area or not.
- We discussed the Causeway area and whether any recreation/park improvements could be made there.

CONSULTING AND MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS
 3141 BORDENTOWN AVENUE • RAMLIN, NEW JERSEY 08859-1162 • (732) 727-8000



Mayor and Borough Council
Borough of South River
HCD Citizen's Advisory Committee

February 15, 2023
Our File No. PSR00056.01
Page 2

- Mr. Krempecki suggested making some roadway improvements within the Target Areas. He further suggested they be near parks where possible.

In the end, the Committee members voted and made the following recommendation:

- To utilize all of the funding for roadway improvements, in Target Areas and near parks where possible.

The meeting was adjourned

BMK/blr

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY }

SS. BOROUGH OF SOUTH RIVER

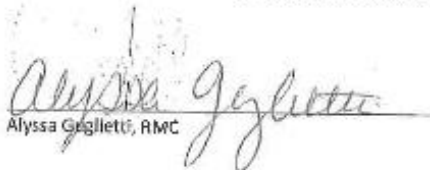
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX }

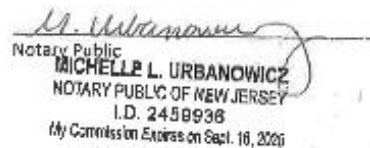
Notice Publish Date:
Monday, February 6, 2023

Notice Content

NOTICE OF SPECIAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT MEETING MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL OF BOROUGH OF SOUTH RIVER DATE: Monday, February 13, 2023 TIME:6 p.m. LOCATION:61 Main Street, South River, NJ 08882 2nd Floor Conference Room Agenda:Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Discussion No Formal Action Taken Alyssa Guglietti, RMC Municipal Clerk (\$14.04)

Alyssa Guglietti, RMC, being duly sworn or affirmed according to law, deposes and says that she is the Borough Clerk of the Borough of South River, and that the securely attached printed notice above was printed in the Home News Tribune on February 6th, 2023 and is a true copy thereof, and that all of the allegations in this statement as to the time, place, and character of publication are true. The Home News Tribune is the official newspaper of the Borough of South River and is a daily newspaper of general circulation in Middlesex County, printed in the State of New Jersey.
Sworn or Affirmed according to law and subscribed to me this 7th day of February, 2023 A.D.


Alyssa Guglietti, RMC


Notary Public
MICHELLE L. URBANOWICZ
NOTARY PUBLIC OF NEW JERSEY
I.D. 2450936
My Commission Expires on Sept. 16, 2026

HOME NEWS TRIBUNE ^{III} Central Jersey
A FREE PRESS COMPANY

Classified Ad Receipt
(For Info Only - NOT A BILL)

Customer: BOROUGH OF SOUTH RIVER

Address: 48 WASHINGTON BT
SOUTH RIVER NJ 08882
USA

Ad No.: 0005681874

Pymt Method: Invoice

Net Amount: \$14.04

Run Times: 1

No. of Affidavits: 0

Run Dates: .02/08/23

Text of Ad:

NOTICE OF SPECIAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
MEETING
MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL OF BOROUGH OF SOUTH RIVER
DATE: Monday, February 13, 2023
TIME: 6 p.m.
LOCATION: 51 Main Street, South River, NJ 08882
2nd Floor Conference Room
Agenda: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
Discussion
No Formal Action Taken
Alyse Gughesi, RMC
Municipal Clerk
(\$14.04)

3600 Highway 86, Neptune, NJ 07763



BOROUGH OF SPOTSWOOD
77 Summerhill Road, Spotswood, NJ 08884
P (732) 251-0700 F (732) 251-1359

Jennifer O'Brien
Acting Municipal Clerk
Extension 825
jobrien@spotswoodboro.com

BOROUGH OF SPOTSWOOD
PROOF OF INSERTION

State of New Jersey
County of Middlesex

BOROUGH OF SPOTSWOOD,
MIDDLESEX COUNTY
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT CITIZENS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Borough of Spotswood Housing and Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee will hold a public hearing to discuss funds, which have been allocated to the Borough under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. This year the Borough will receive approximately \$45,867. The public hearing will be held on Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 4:00 PM at the Municipal Building, Conference Room, 77 Summerhill Road, Spotswood, NJ 08884.

By Order of
Jacqueline Palmer, Mayor
Borough of Spotswood

Jennifer O'Brien
Acting Municipal Clerk
(512.48)

I, Jennifer O'Brien, do hereby certify that an advertisement, of which the annexed is a true copy, was published in The Home News Tribune, a newspaper published and circulated in the Borough of Spotswood, County of Middlesex and State of New Jersey, issue(s) as follow(s) wit:

CDBG Citizens
Advisory Committee

Certified this 20th day of January
Jennifer O'Brien
Jennifer O'Brien, Acting Municipal Clerk

HCD Citizen Advisory Meeting Spotswood, NJ

January 25, 2023

J) Jose Rivera	<i>[Signature]</i>	DEM / HCD
Dulce Branco-Rivera	<i>[Signature]</i>	Community Affairs
Dawn Schwartz	<i>[Signature]</i>	Community Affairs
CAROL F. FARLEY	<i>[Signature]</i>	COMMUNITY
Christina Cavaliere	<i>[Signature]</i>	Community
Miriam Barkarise	<i>[Signature]</i>	COA
Eileen Zahra	<i>[Signature]</i>	Adm
Jackie Palmer	<i>[Signature]</i>	Adm
Kyle Michalak	<i>[Signature]</i>	Adm / Finance
<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	Adm

**BOROUGH OF SPOTSWOOD**

77 Summerhill Road, Spotswood, NJ 08884
P (732) 251-0700 F (732) 251-1359

Jennifer O'Brien
Acting Municipal Clerk
Extension 885
jobrien@spotswoodboro.com

MEMO TO: Mayor and Borough Council, Borough of Spotswood

FROM: Jennifer O'Brien, Acting Municipal Clerk

DATE: February 3, 2023

RE: HCD Citizen's Advisory Committee and
Public Participation Meeting of January 25, 2023
Spotswood, New Jersey

In accordance with the requirements of the Housing and Community Development Program, a combination HCD Citizens Advisory Committee meeting and public input meeting was held at 4:00 P.M. on January 25, 2023. The meeting was conducted in the Spotswood Municipal Building, 2nd Floor, Conference Room located at 77 Summerhill Road, Spotswood, NJ, with the following Committee Members and citizens in attendance:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Mayor Palmer	77 Summerhill Road
Ryan Michelson, Business Administrator	77 Summerhill Road
John Scrivane, Assistant Business Administrator	77 Summerhill Road
Jennifer O'Brien, Acting Municipal Clerk	77 Summerhill Road
Miriam Barbarise, Director, Office on Aging	1 Arlington Avenue
Jose Rivera, HCD Committee Coordinator	48 Herbert Avenue
Dawn Schwartz, Councilwoman	77 Summerhill Road
Christina Cavaliere, Community Resident	1 Arlington Avenue, APT 106
Eileen White, Community Resident	111 Kane Avenue
Carol Farley, Community Resident	62 Mundy Avenue
Dulce Branco-Rivera, Director, Community Affairs	77 Summerhill Road

HCD Committee Coordinator, Jose Rivera, opened the meeting by welcoming those in attendance followed by an overview of the Housing and Community Development Program, and which projects in town would be eligible or ineligible for consideration of Grant funds.

Attendees were then advised that the Borough will be receiving \$45,867.00 in CDBG funding for the 2023-2024 program year.

The meeting was next opened for comments from the Committee Members. There were no members of the public in attendance. The following recommendations were discussed:

- Miriam Barbarise would like to implement stronger outreach to the senior community; suggested posting more information on the Borough website; also made a suggestion to help a resident in dire need of repairs on Main Street.
- Mayor Palmer noted in years' prior the Senior Citizen Coordinator would receive a portion of the grant, the last year being in 2021; would like to continue giving all

funds to the residents and an increase towards senior assistance; suggested maintenance of homes in the Clearwater Village Mobile Home Park (senior community), giving an example of power washing; handicap ramps

- Councilwoman Schwartz asked if this grant could be used to help the homeless – Jose responded there are other procedures that need to be followed to assist the homeless.

There was a discussion of prior years' funding not being utilized in their entirety dating back to 2017 due to the impatience of contractors being paid and/or not willing to work with a Purchase Order system as well as complications with the covid pandemic. Suggestions for the reallocations were made:

- Jose Rivera made a suggestion to allocate 2021 funds to the Spotswood Firehouse; furnace, lighting in bay area, and infrastructure
- Ms. Carol Farley asked if the funds could be used to help replace the Library furnace – The library is ineligible due to being funded by the Borough.
- To increase the threshold per household from \$6,000 to \$10,000.

In conclusion, Committee Members were all in agreement for the following recommendations:

1. CDBG funds for the program year 2023 to be utilized for Safe Housing Repairs for low/moderate income residents, in the amount of \$45,867.00
2. Reallocate CDBG funds from the program year 2021 for Various Improvements of the Spotswood Firehouse, in the amount of \$30,867.00

The meeting was adjourned.

JOB/job

cc: Mayor Palmer
All Council Members
Business Administrator
Acting Municipal Clerk
Acting Chief Financial Officer
Ernest Feist, Center State Engineering
Kevin Meade, Jr., Center State Engineering

Middlesex County Unique Appendices

1. HOME Program Information Sheet
2. HOME Application Requirements
3. ESG Program Standards
4. Continuum of Care Performance Standards
5. Coordinated Assessment Written Standards
6. HOME Recapture Provisions
7. 2023 CDBG Projects

APPENDIX 1

MIDDLESEX COUNTY DIVISION OF HOUSING, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SOCIAL SERVICES HOME PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Middlesex County Department of Housing and Community Development operates the HOME Investment Partnerships program, which funds development of affordable housing to low income individuals and families in Middlesex County. Funds can be used in programs through all municipalities in the County, with the exception of the cities of New Brunswick and Perth Amboy.

The County receives these funds on an annual basis from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and makes them available for affordable housing development.

Eligible Applicants

Individuals, for-profit entities and non-profits can apply for HOME funds as owners, developers or sponsors of housing. Special consideration will be given to non-profits who have achieved certification as a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO).

Eligible Activities

- New construction of affordable rental housing or housing for homebuyers
- Acquisition and/or rehabilitation of affordable rental housing or housing for homebuyers

Type of Assistance

The County will enter into an agreement with the organization to provide HOME funds for a particular project. The funds are provided as a deferred loan and are always secured by a mortgage document. The project will be required to meet all applicable HUD regulations and County policies through the term of the agreement.

Term of Affordability

Based on the type and scope of project and the level of assistance being provided, the project must remain affordable for a certain period of time, called the term of affordability. For example, all new construction must remain affordable for a minimum of 20 years, although the County may require a longer term. Typical terms range from 10 to 30 years.

Income Eligibility

All affordable rental housing must be initially rented to individuals and families who qualify as very low income (household income does not exceed 50 percent of the median income for the area, adjusted for family size.) The maximum allowed rents will also be determined on an annual basis by HUD.

Other Federal Requirements

The project must also meet other federal requirements including compliance with certain statutes and regulations concerning:

- Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity
- Affirmative Marketing
- Handicapped Accessibility
- Prevailing Wages (projects with 12 or more HOME units)
- Environmental Review
- Lead Based Paint

Application Process

Applications are reviewed by the HOME Committee at least annually, usually in the Spring. The HOME Committee consists of members from the CDBG Committee. The HOME Committee makes recommendations to the Board of Chosen Freeholders on which projects should be funded. Recommended projects that have all other financing secured will have deferred repayment agreements drawn up, which will be authorized by Freeholder resolution. Prospective projects that don't yet have all the financing secure, but who may be able to leverage HOME funds, such as projects applying for Low Income Housing Tax Credits, can receive a "soft" commitment of funds. In these cases, the Freeholders can provide a resolution of support and future commitment of HOME funds pending receipt of all other financing and a subsidy layering review. For these projects no agreement is executed and funds aren't committed until all financing is secure.

Prospective applicants for HOME funds, especially those developers who haven't previously worked with HOME funds are encouraged to meet with County staff to discuss their project and the preparation of their application.

Information on the HOME program and the application requirements can also be found on the county's website www.co.middlesex.nj.us under "Departments", Office of Human Services, Division of Housing, Community Development & Social Services.

For more information about the Middlesex County HOME Investment Partnerships program, please contact Melissa A. Bellamy at 732-745-2922 or melissa.bellamy@co.middlesex.nj.us.

APPENDIX 2

MIDDLESEX COUNTY HOME PROGRAM SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

Applicants interested in applying for Middlesex County HOME funds should prepare and submit the following documents. These documents are needed in order to perform the subsidy layering analysis. Financial spreadsheets can be submitted by e-mail. Additional information or documentation may be required

1. Applicant's background in housing projects
2. Detailed project description, including specific location, number of units, etc.
3. Sources and Use of Funds Statement, along with applicable supporting documentation including by not limited to construction cost estimates and commitment letters from funding sources.
4. Detailed Project Development Budget
5. Cash Flow Projection (Pro Forma) for term of affordability.

Please submit the following to:

Melissa Bellamy, Manager
Middlesex County Division of Housing & Community Development
County Administration Building
75 Bayard Street, 2nd Floor
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Applications will be reviewed at least annually by the HOME Committee, usually in the Spring.

If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Bellamy at 732-745-2922 or at melissa.bellamy@co.middlesex.nj.us.

APPENDIX 3

7. Emergency Solutions Grant Program Standards

The Middlesex County "Urban County" is a recipient of Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) funding from HUD. Middlesex County has developed the following standards for providing assistance with Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) funds as required by 24 CFR 576.400 (e).

Continuum of Care Consultation

The CoC will solicit proposals for the use the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program funding for both the traditional emergency shelter eligible activities and homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing activities now eligible through HEARTH Act implementation. Each year the CoC will decide the amount of funding to allocate for each eligible activity, in accordance with established CoC priorities.

The CoC Review Committee will review proposals and make recommendations to the CoC based on ESG program requirements, level of collaboration and coordination with other homeless service program and mainstream resources, agency capacity to administer program activities and meet match requirements, and HMIS compliance. The CoC will review the recommendations at its meeting and vote on a funding proposal to be submitted to the Urban County for inclusion in the Annual Action Plan.

Record Keeping and Reporting Requirements

All ESG funded agencies must follow the reporting and record keeping requirements under 24 CFR Part 576.500. This includes, but is not limited to homeless or at risk of homelessness status; determinations of ineligibility; annual income and program files for participants; use of Coordinated Assessment system; rental assistance agreements and payments, including utility allowances; shelter and housing standards; emergency shelter facility records; services and assistance provided; HMIS use; required program Matching Funds; Conflict of Interest; homeless participation; compliance with faith-based activities, and any other Federal Requirements under the ESG program.

Coordination with Other Homeless Providers and Mainstream Resources

To the greatest extent possible, all ESG funded agencies will coordinate with emergency shelter and transitional housing providers, with other HUD funded homeless programs, with Veterans Administrations programs for the homeless (per diem, VASH, SSFV, etc.), with other

homelessness prevention or rapid re-housing programs operating in the county such as the Homeless Prevention Program, CSBG funding programs, and the County VHAP program, and with agencies and organizations providing mainstream resources that will assist a family in obtaining or maintaining housing stability. All CoC and ESG-funded projects must have policies and practices consistent with, and that adhere to, laws related to (i) providing education services to individuals and families and (ii) informing individuals and families who become homeless of their eligibility for educational services at intake, and have a designated staff person to ensure that the children are enrolled in school and receive educational services, as appropriate.

This coordination will occur on both the consumer level and also on a broader system-wide level. On a consumer level, case managers will help provide connections for consumers to programs and resources that they may be eligible for. ESG funded agencies are expected to be in contact with providers of similar services for the basis of making and receiving referrals appropriate to the consumer's needs. On a system wide level, ESG funded agencies will participate in appropriate CoC committees such as Prevention Committee or Policy Review Committee.

Emergency Shelter Activity Standards

Agency Standards

Middlesex County anticipates entering into agreement with agencies to provide emergency shelter activities.

The shelter must be licensed by the NJ Department of Community Affairs as an emergency homeless shelter.

Priority will be given to an agency that can serve all populations, namely:

- Single men
- Single women
- Homeless Families

The organization shall provide as service to consumers, at a minimum:

- 2 meals
- Safe, secure, clean, warm atmosphere
- Drug and alcohol free
- Bed and clean bedding
- Case Management services, including:
 - Maintenance of consumer file
 - Establishment of a service plan for the consumer
 - Methodology for follow up
 - Linkage with support services
 - Termination policy
 - Permanent housing referral

The organization and its consumer services should be structured to help assist consumers with moving to permanent housing and minimizing the length of stay in shelter.

The organization must use HMIS and use the Middlesex County Barriers to Housing assessment tool at entry and every three months for all consumers.

The organization will be a member of the CoC and actively participate in one or more standing committees or task forces.

Emergency Shelter

Activities funds may be used for renovation of emergency shelter facilities and the operation of those facilities, as well as services for the residents (including case management, child care, education, employment assistance and job training, legal, mental health, substance abuse treatment, transportation, and services for special populations).

All ESG funding must provide a \$1 to \$1 match. Match can be provided from Federal, state, local, or private sources. Match may be cash or non-cash.

Participant Eligibility

Homeless consumers entering into the shelter system must meet the HUD criteria for homelessness as either literally homeless, at imminent risk of homelessness, homeless under another federal statute, or fleeing/attempting to flee domestic violence. Consumers will be prioritized within the emergency shelter system based on need, available resources and geographic area.

Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Activities

Agency Standards

Middlesex County anticipates entering into an agreement with 1-2 organizations to provide Homeless Prevention and/or Rapid Re-housing Activities.

Priority will be given to an organization that has experience with these activities and can serve all municipalities in the county.

The organization will be a member of the CoC and actively participate in one or more standing committees or task forces, including the Prevention Subcommittee.

The organization will coordinate with other service providers in the county offering homeless prevention or rapid re-housing programs.

Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing

(HP/RR) funds can be used for housing relocation and stabilization services (including rental application fees, security deposits, utility deposits or payments, last month's rent and housing search and placement activities). Funds may also be used for short- or medium-term rental assistance for those who are at-risk of becoming homeless or transitioning to stable housing.

Basic Program Requirements for any proposed Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing programs using ESG funds:

- Program participants will be prioritized for Rapid Re-Housing via Coordinated Assessment.
- Organization must use HMIS system
- For RRH activities, organization must set up procedure to accept referrals from the CoC's Coordinated Assessment system.
- Households being assisted in HP/RRH programs must have an annual income at or below 30% of area median income and lack sufficient resources and support networks to retain/obtain housing without ESG assistance
- Must use standards for calculating income established in 24 CFR 5.609
- Organization will determine amount and type of assistance necessary for household to regain stability in permanent housing.
- Organization must assist each program participant in obtaining needed mainstream and other resources.
- Organization must require program participants to meet with a case manager at least once a month (DV program participants may be exempted from the case management requirement) and develop a plan to assist the program participant in retaining permanent housing after ESG assistance ends.
- If ESG funds are used to help program participants remain in or move into permanent housing, that housing must meet habitability standards.
- HP and RRH rental assistance must be for units that are at or below Fair Market Rent for Middlesex County or the area being assisted and comply with rental reasonable standards (documentation required.)
- Any housing units assisted with HP or RRH funds must meet housing quality standards
- Re-evaluations are required for program participants receiving HP assistance not less than every 3 months and RRH assistance not less than once a year.
- Written policy for termination from HP and RRH program must be established. This policy must allow program participants to present written or oral objections to third party, which is the Middlesex County Division of Housing, Community Development and Social Services.

All ESG funding must provide a \$1 to \$1 match. Match can be provided from Federal, state, local, or private sources. Match may be cash or non-cash.

Because of the limited funding, the ESG funds should be used when no other sources are available and receipt of the funds will either prevent homelessness or enable the household to exit emergency shelter/transitional housing or places not meant for human habitation.

Homeless Prevention Participants

All HP participants will reside in Middlesex County and provide proof of residency and meet one of the below risk factors and have household income at or below 30% of area median income.

For HP programs, please note the HUD definition of “at risk of homelessness” as being individuals or households at or below 30% of area median income and lacking sufficient resources and support network to retain housing. HUD includes several risk factors to help, as follows:

- Moved 2 or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding HP assistance
- Living in the home of another because of economic hardship
- Has been notified that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated through court eviction proceeding (within 2 weeks for certain programs)
- Lives in a hotel or motel not paid for by federal, state or local government program
- Lives in severely over-crowded housing (SRO/efficiency with more than 2 persons or other housing with more than 1.5 persons per room.)
- Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associates with instability and an increased risk of homelessness as identified in the Consolidated Plan

“At risk of homelessness” can also include all families with children and youth defined as homeless under other federal statutes.

Homeless Prevention Limits of Assistance

For HP participants, the maximum time length of assistance will be six months, although assistance on back rent charges, including late fees, can only cover a maximum of three months.

HP participants receiving ongoing rental subsidy will contribute at least 30% of their income towards housing costs.

Rapid Re-Housing Participants

All RRH participants will be current Middlesex County residents, residing in an emergency shelter or transitional housing in Middlesex County, or whose last permanent residence was in Middlesex County.

Any consumer receiving rapid re-housing assistance must meet the HUD criteria for determining homelessness as either literally homeless, fleeing/attempting to flee domestic violence, or at Imminent Risk of Homelessness (ESG only) as defined below:

Category 1 – Literally homeless is an individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:

- Has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation;
- Is living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state and local government programs); or
- Is exiting an institution where (s)he has resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution

Category 4 – Fleeing domestic violence includes any individual or family who:

- Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence
- Has no other residence; and
- Lacks the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing

Category 2 (ESG only) – At imminent risk of Homelessness includes an individual or family who:

- Has an annual income below 30 percent of median family income for the area, as determined by HUD;
- Does not have sufficient resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, immediately available to prevent them from moving to an emergency shelter or another place described in paragraph (1) of the “Homeless” definition; and Meets one of the following conditions:
 - Has moved because of economic reasons two or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for homelessness prevention assistance;
 - Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship;
 - Has been notified in writing that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days of the date of application for assistance;
 - Lives in a hotel or motel and the cost of the hotel or motel stay is not paid by charitable organizations or by federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals;
 - Lives in a single-room occupancy or efficiency apartment unit in which there reside more than two persons, or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than 1.5 people per room, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau;
 - Is exiting a publicly funded institution, or system of care (such as a health-care facility, a mental health facility, foster care or other youth facility, or correction program or institution); or
 - Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness, as identified in the recipient’s approved consolidated plan;
- A child or youth who does not qualify as “homeless” under this section, but qualifies as “homeless” under section 387(3) of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5732a(3)), section 637(11) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832(11)), section 41403(6) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043e–2(6)), section 330(h)(5)(A) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b(h)(5)(A)), section 3(m) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012(m)), or section 17(b)(15) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(b)(15)); or
- A child or youth who does not qualify as “homeless” under this section, but qualifies as “homeless” under section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a(2)), and the parent(s) or guardian(s) of that child or youth if living with her or him.

Rapid Re-Housing Limits of Assistance

Except in extenuating circumstances, all RRH participants will only receive a maximum of 12 months of assistance. RRH funds will general provide for full first month's rent and security deposit before requiring participant to contribute 30% of their income toward housing costs for any additional ongoing subsidy for future months. The length of assistance will be at the discretion of the case management staff and will take into account available funding and quarterly consumer assessment.

Monitoring Outcomes of ESG Participants

All ESG funded agencies must report on ESG recipients in the CoC's HMIS program. The Performance and Evaluation Committee will monitor performance standards for evaluating the different components of the ESG program. The ESG funded agencies will report on outcomes through HMIS reports to both the County (funding entity) and the CoC. The CoC Review Committee will use these outcome reports to evaluate program performance when reviewing the annual applications for funding, and also in making recommendations on how to allocate future funding, and in recommending program design changes.

APPENDIX 4

Performance Standards

The Performance and Evaluation Committee has established Performance Standards which will be used to measure the success of CoC and ESG-funded projects. These goals have been informed by HUD standards for performance as well as local CoC expectations for how projects are able to assist homeless households to attain and maintain housing stability, while also enabling projects which serve those with the greatest severity of service needs to not be penalized for doing so. The Performance Standards differ according to project component type, and can be found on the succeeding pages.

The data used for determining performance with regard to these Standards will be taken directly from HMIS for the determined time period. The reports utilized will include the CoC Full Annual Project Report fields as well as custom reporting tools as necessary.

In addition to being utilized for the purposes of monitoring, these Performance Standards will be used as part of the CoC's Annual Rank and Review process by the Technical Review Committee.

Permanent Supportive Housing Program: _____

Goals	Required Performance Standard		%	Points Awarded
1. Households residing in permanent housing will remain in this housing for a minimum of 1 year or exit to other permanent housing.	85% will remain housed for a least 12 months, exit to other permanent housing, or continue in permanent housing	≥85%=10 80%-84%= 8 65%-79%= 4 55%-64%= 1 ≤55%= 0		
2. Households exiting permanent housing will not return to homelessness (Including transitional housing)	<10% of those exiting permanent housing return to homelessness	≤10%= 10 11%-20%= 4 21%-30%= 3 31-45%= 1 ≥31%= 0		
3. Households will maintain or increase earned and unearned income (Includes wages and mainstream resources)	85% will maintain or increase income at exit or annually	≥85%= 10 75%-84%= 7 65%-74%= 5 50%-64%= 3 ≤49%= 0		
4. Adults will obtain or maintain employment while in the program and will exit the program employed.*	20% of adults who are not on SSI/D will be employed at program exit or annually	≥20%= 10 10%-19%= 6 5%-9%= 3 ≤5%= 0		
5. Households will maintain or obtain mainstream non-cash benefits	85% will maintain or obtain mainstream non-cash benefits at exit or annually	≥85%= 10 75%-84%= 7 65%-74%= 5 50%-64%= 3 ≤49%= 0		
6. Program operates at full capacity, with low vacancy rate, and quickly fills vacancies	>90% occupancy during reporting period	≥90%= 10 70%-89%= 7 51%-69%= 4 ≤50%= 0		
7. Program maintains adequate data quality in HMIS	See Data Quality Report	A - to A =10 B to B+ = 5 < B- = 0	N/A	
Total:				

Of 70

*Projects serving 100% chronically homeless or SSI/SSD clients exempt from this measure

Transitional Housing Program: _____

Goals	Required Performance Standard		%	Points Awarded
1. Households residing in transitional housing will have low average lengths of stay among households	% of households whose length of stay in transitional housing does not exceed 18 months	≥45%= 10 31-45%= 7 21%-30%= 5 11%-20%= 3 ≤10%= 0		
2. Households exiting transitional housing programs will move directly to permanent housing.	75% will obtain permanent housing	≥75%= 10 60%-74% = 7 40%- 59%= 5 25%-39%= 3 ≤24%= 0		
3. Households will maintain or increase earned and unearned income. (Includes wages or mainstream resources)	54% will maintain or increase income	≥30%= 10 21%-29%= 7 11%-20%= 3 ≤10%= 0		
4. Adults will obtain or maintain employment while in the program and will exit the program employed.*	20% of adults who are not on SSI/D will be employed at program exit or annually	≥20%= 10 10%-19%= 6 5%-9%= 3 ≤5%= 0		
5. Households will maintain or obtain mainstream non-cash benefits between entry and exit.	25% will maintain or obtain mainstream non-cash benefits	≥25%= 10 21%-24%= 7 11%-20%= 3 ≤10%= 0		
6. Program operates at full capacity	>90% occupancy	≥90%= 10 70%-89%= 8 51%-69%= 5 ≤50%= 0		
7. Program maintains adequate data quality in HMIS	See Data Quality Report	A - to A =10 B to B+ = 5 < B- = 0	N/A	
			Total:	
				Of 70

*Projects serving 100% chronically homeless or SSI/SSD clients exempt from this measure

Emergency Shelter Program: _____

Goals	Required Performance Standard		%	Points Awarded
1. Households exiting emergency shelter move directly to permanent housing	>30% move to permanent housing	≥30%= 15 25%-29%= 12 20-24%= 9 15%-19% = 6 10-14% =3 ≤9%= 0		
2. Very few households exiting emergency shelters remain homeless.	<20% remain homeless or exit to "unknown" location	≤20%= 5 21%-30%= 4 31%-40%= 3 41-51%= 1 ≥51%= 0		
3. Households residing in emergency shelter will have low average lengths of stay	Average length of stay is <60 days	<60 = 10 60-75 = 7 75-90 = 3 >90 = 0		
4. Households will maintain or increase earned and unearned income between entry and exit. (Includes wages or mainstream resources)	54% will maintain or increase income by program exit	≥20%= 10 15%-19%= 7 9%-14%= 3 ≤9%= 0		
5. Adults will obtain or maintain employment while in the program and will exit the program employed	18% of adults staying over 30 days will have employment income at program exit	≥20%= 10 10%-19%= 6 5%-9%= 3 ≤5%= 0		
6. Households will maintain or obtain mainstream non-cash benefits between entry and exit	56% will maintain or obtain mainstream non-cash benefits by program exit	≥20%= 10 15%-19%= 7 9%-14%= 3 ≤9%= 0		
7. Program maintains adequate data quality in HMIS	See Data Quality Report	A - to A =10 B to B+ = 5 < B- = 0	N/A	
Total:				

Of 70

Supportive Services Only Program: _____

Goals	Required Performance Standard	Points	%	Points Awarded
1. Households exiting the program will move directly to permanent housing	>50% move to permanent housing	≥50%= 15 35%-49%= 12 25-34%= 9 15%-24% = 6 10-14%= 3 ≤9%= 0		
2. Very few households exiting the program remain homeless.	<20% remain homeless or exit to "unknown" location	≤20%= 5 21%-30%= 4 31%-40%= 2 41-51%= 1 ≥51%= 0		
3. Households will maintain or increase earned and unearned income between entry and exit. (Includes wages or mainstream resources)	30% will increase or maintain income	≥30%= 10 21%-29%= 7 11%-20%= 3 ≤10%= 0		
4. Adults will obtain or maintain employment while in the program and will exit the program employed.	20% will have employment income at program exit or annually	≥20%= 10 10%-19%= 6 5%-9%= 3 ≤5%= 0		
5. Households will maintain or obtain mainstream non-cash benefits between entry and exit	30% will maintain or obtain mainstream non-cash benefits	≥30%= 10 21%-29%= 7 11%-20%= 3 ≤10%= 0		
6. Program operates at full capacity	>90% occupancy	≥90%= 10 70%-89%= 7 51%-69%= 4 ≤50%= 0		
7. Program maintains adequate data quality in HMIS	See Data Quality Report	A - to A = 10 B to B+ = 5 < B- = 0	N/A	
Total:				

Of 70

Rapid Rehousing Program: _____

Goals	Performance Standard	Points	%	Points Awarded
1. Households exiting Rapid Rehousing will remain in permanent housed for a minimum of 6 months or will exit to other permanent housing	85% will remain housed for a least 6 months or will exit to other permanent housing	$\geq 85\% = 10$ $70\% - 84\% = 8$ $50\% - 69\% = 4$ $31\% - 49\% = 1$ $\leq 30\% = 0$		
2. Households exiting Rapid Rehousing housing will not return to homelessness (Including transitional housing)	<10% of those exiting rapid rehousing housing return to homelessness	$\leq 10\% = 10$ $11\% - 20\% = 4$ $21\% - 30\% = 3$ $31 - 45\% = 1$ $\geq 45\% = 0$		
3. Households will maintain or increase earned and unearned income (Includes wages and mainstream resources)	85% will maintain or increase income at exit or annually	$\geq 85\% = 10$ $75\% - 84\% = 7$ $65\% - 74\% = 5$ $50\% - 64\% = 3$ $\leq 49\% = 0$		
4. Adults who are not enrolled in SSI/D will obtain or maintain employment while in the program and will exit the program employed.	40% of adults who are not on SSI/D will be employed at program exit or annually	$\geq 40\% = 10$ $30\% - 39\% = 6$ $20\% - 29\% = 3$ $\leq 20\% = 0$		
5. Program maintains adequate data quality in HMIS	See Data Quality Report.	A - to A = 10 B to B+ = 5 < B- = 0	N/A	
Total:				

Of 50

APPENDIX 5

7. Written Standards for Coordinated Assessment

Overview of Coordinated Assessment

Coordinated Assessment refers to the standardized process used by the CoC to assess the housing and service needs of homeless individuals and families for the purpose of enabling rapid, effective, and consistent referrals to the most appropriate housing assistance and supportive services available to assist in ending their homelessness.

Coordinated Assessment and Referral is required by HUD for communities receiving Emergency Solutions Grants and Continuum of Care funding in order to:

1. Re-orient service provision to be consumer-focused
2. Prioritize homeless individuals and families with the greatest need for housing assistance
3. Identify which strategies are best for each homeless household
4. Link households to the most appropriate intervention
5. Streamline and expedite referral process for households
6. Improve ease-of-access for anyone seeking homeless services

CoC Guiding Principles

In designing and operating its process, the CoC adopted the following Guiding Principles for its Coordinated Assessment and Referral System:

1. No matter where, when, why, or how homeless individuals or families attempt to access assistance, we will quickly assess their individual needs and inform them about their housing and service options.
2. The CoC is committed to transparency as an essential value of the homeless service system. The community will utilize local data to evaluate the changing needs of homeless persons and the effectiveness of solutions for housing them on an ongoing basis.
3. The CoC will adhere to consumer eligibility criteria set by program funders, but any other barriers to program entry will be minimized.
4. The CoC will inform all residents, agencies, and institutions which interface with homeless persons and services in the community about how homeless individuals and families can access housing or services.
5. The CoC will integrate all community partners that provide services that assist homeless persons to attain or maintain housing into the coordinated assessment and referral system.
6. The CoC will use data driven assessment to direct housing resources to helping those persons with the greatest vulnerability or most complex needs.

Coordinated Assessment Governance

The coordinated assessment process will be governed by the Coordinated Assessment Committee of the CoC. This group will be responsible for:

- providing general oversight and management of coordinated assessment;
- investigating and resolving consumer and provider grievances or concerns about the process, other than declined referrals (which will be addressed using the process described in these policies);
- providing information and feedback to the CoC, CoC Board, and the community at-large about coordinated assessment;
- evaluating the efficiency and effectiveness of the coordinated assessment process;
- reviewing performance data from the coordinated assessment process; and
- recommending changes or improvements to the process, based on performance data, to the CoC Board;
- ensuring that the coordinated assessment process is in compliance the CoC and HMIS policies.

Coordinated Assessment Committee Composition

This committee may include the following seats:

- An emergency shelter staff representative;
- A permanent supportive housing agency staff representative;
- A transitional housing agency staff representative;
- A rapid re-housing agency staff representative;
- A Coming Home of Middlesex County employee (HMIS Lead Agency);
- A victim of domestic violence service provider;
- A legal services provider;
- A funder representative;
- A health care provider representative;
- A Middlesex County employee (CoC Lead Agency) representative; and
- Coordinated Assessment Team staff.

Other seats that may be included in future iterations of the committee are faith-based organizations, substance use service providers, mental health service providers, school system representatives, municipal and county government elected officials, homeless or formerly homeless individuals, and assessment front-line staff. These seats may be part of an arrangement where each group rotates having a seat on the committee each year.

Committee Staffing

The Committee will be attended by the CoC Lead Agency. The CoC Lead will be responsible for:

- Putting together an agenda for each meeting, based on communications or agenda items submitted by providers or consumers;

- Serving as the point of contact for anyone seeking more information or having concerns about the coordinated assessment process; and
- Ensuring minutes are taken at each meeting of the committee.

The CoC Executive Committee may select a chair from within the Coordinated Assessment Committee.

Expectations of Members

To remain in good standing and be allowed to vote and participate as members of the Coordinated Assessment Committee, all members must attend at least 60 percent of meetings. The chair must attend 90 percent of meetings.

Term Length and Limits

Currently, there will be 2 year term limits for each members of the Committee and members may serve unlimited terms, unless further established by the CoC Executive Committee.

One month before a new term is set to begin, the chair will solicit nominations for each seat from the community and full MCHC3 committee, as well as determine which members are eligible for and wish to serve an additional term. The chair will provide a list of names to the CoC Board, which will then appoint someone to each seat (based on majority vote).

Meeting Schedule and Agenda

The committee will meet monthly at least until 120 days after the launch of the coordinated assessment process. After that point, the chair will determine if monthly meetings are still necessary. Certain items should be on the agenda on a regular basis, including the evaluation items listed in the Evaluation section below and relevant notes from the weekly coordinated assessment staff meetings.

Voting Procedures

Decisions in the Coordinated Assessment Committee will be made based on a majority vote of Committee members, as long as 50% of of Committee members are present. Any decisions that would lead to a modification of the coordinated assessment process, including changes to the assessment tool or policies and procedures, must be approved by majority vote of the Coordinated Assessment Committee AND approved by the CoC Executive Committee.

Conflicts of Interest

If at any point a provider or consumer wishes to address a complaint or grievance with a provider or agency that has a representative on the Coordinated Assessment Committee, that particular member must recuse him/herself from participating in those proceedings or voting on the outcome of that particular issue.

Review of Coordinated Assessment Committee Policies and Procedures

These policies and procedures governing the Coordinated Assessment Committee may be developed by the Coordinated Assessment Committee, but must be approved by the CoC Executive Committee. The CoC Executive Committee should review these bylaws bi-annually or at the request of the Coordinated Assessment Committee. A majority vote of the CoC Executive Committee is needed to modify the policies.

Coordinated Assessment Review and Revision Procedure

The CoC will have an annual discussion at the time of the CoC application process about which populations should be prioritized for services. Data from HMIS and the coordinated assessment prioritization lists will be utilized to determine gaps in housing and services for subpopulations, or important risk factors and barriers that warrant consideration. Assessment tools will be adjusted to reflect any changes to the priority group. The Coordinated Assessment Committee will be responsible for making changes to the coordinated assessment tool and re-distributing it to assessment staff.

The CoC's Coordinated Assessment Committee will also meet regularly (at least 6 times per year) to actively review the triage and coordinated assessment process. The Committee will solicit feedback from homeless and formerly homeless consumers assisted through the coordinated assessment process (at least quarterly), coordinated assessment staff, NJ 2-1-1, and agencies receiving referrals about any potential challenges, gaps, or strengths that can inform the process.

Agencies participating in coordinated assessment must submit all of their eligibility criteria to the Coordinated Assessment Committee before they can participate in the coordinated assessment process. Any agency that makes changes to a program's eligibility criteria or target population must immediately notify the Coordinated Assessment Committee to make sure referral protocol is updated accordingly. Criteria that agencies may have that are not bound to local law or strict funders' requirements will be reviewed by the Coordinated Assessment Committee along with data about people who have remained in emergency shelter for more than 45 days or are living on the street. If the Committee has a concern that a program's requirements may be contributing to "screening out" or excluding households from needed services, the Committee may request to meet with the provider to discuss their criteria. If the Committee can clearly show a link between underserved populations and a provider's eligibility criteria, and the provider is unwilling to modify the criteria, the Committee may recommend to the CoC Executive Committee and Technical Review Committee that the provider be de-prioritized for CoC or other sources of funding.

System Metrics

The Coordinated Assessment process will be evaluated and reviewed based on the following metrics:

- Number of triage and full assessments completed
- Percent of households receiving diversion assistance
- Number of households receiving diversion assistance
- Percent of declined referrals (provider)
- Number of declined referrals (provider)
- Percent of decline referrals (consumer)
- Number of declined referrals (consumer)
- Number of complaints filed with Coordinated Assessment Committee (provider)
- Number of complaints filed with Coordinated Assessment Committee (consumer)

The following outcome measures will be reviewed at least quarterly in order to track system performance in ending homelessness:

- Percent of households exiting from homelessness to permanent housing
- Number of households exiting from homelessness to permanent housing
- Percent of households diverted but requesting shelter placement within 12 months
- Number of households diverted but requesting shelter placement within 12 months
- Average length of episodes of homelessness
- Number of repeat entries into homelessness
- Number of new entries into homelessness

Key Components of Coordinated Assessment

System Access

The CoC will affirmatively market the Coordinated Assessment System through which housing and supportive services projects are available to eligible persons who are least likely to apply in the absence of special outreach. This is regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, familial status, marital status, handicap, actual or perceived sexual orientation, or gender identity. The CoC's marketing strategy will be evaluated annually by the Coordinated Assessment Committee to ensure that it is well-advertised and accessible to all persons, including those experiencing chronic homelessness, veterans, adults with children, youth, disabled persons, and survivors of domestic violence, regardless of the location or method by which they access the crisis response system. The CoC will ensure that access points will be equipped with appropriate accessible formats of communication to accommodate those with hearing or vision impairments and those with limited English proficiency.

The CoC has established a two-part Coordinated Assessment and Referral System. See system flowchart in Appendix A.

Phase 1 is a Housing Crisis Triage process which has 1 virtual and 1 physical access point:

- NJ 2-1-1 Homeless Hotline for Middlesex County ("NJ 2-1-1")
- Middlesex County Board of Social Services ("MCBOSS")

Any individual or family experiencing a housing crisis within the CoC's geographic area will be able to call NJ 2-1-1, or contact/go directly to MCBOSS to access assistance. NJ 2-1-1 will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week for any household to seek housing assistance, and can direct households to MCBOSS. These points of access will be widely publicized and made known to all community partners and stakeholders that assist or interact with homeless persons. Any homeless individual or family that goes to, contacts, or engages another community agency, outreach team, or institution directly for homeless assistance will be referred to NJ 2-1-1 for initial triage. For those who call NJ 2-1-1, NJ 2-1-1 staff will then conduct the Triage Assessment Tool with all homeless callers. See the triage tool in Appendix B. However, if a homeless individual or family who is fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence or human trafficking contacts any community agency for assistance, that agency may refer directly to Women Aware. Women Aware will assist survivor households to ensure equal access to be prioritized for any non-DV housing resources available through Coordinated Assessment.

If an individual or family who is at-risk of homelessness contacts an agency for homeless prevention assistance, no referral to NJ 2-1-1 will be necessary. In addition to referral to 2-1-1, case managers from other community agencies may also refer homeless consumers to outreach staff, and/or MCBOSS so the consumer may be able to access mainstream benefits that would assist them, if eligible.

Except for resources utilized for homelessness Prevention or direct MCBOSS referrals for set-aside beds, it is prohibited for any CoC or ESG-funded homelessness assistance program to admit or serve consumers without their having first gone through the coordinated assessment process and received a referral, or been placed on a prioritization list, for their agency.

Data Collection

Data will be collected on everyone that is assessed through the triage and coordinated assessment processes. This section, in addition to instructions embedded within the assessment tools, will detail when and how data about consumers going through triage and coordinated assessment will be collected.

Once a caller has been asked the initial domestic violence and safety screening questions and is deemed eligible to be further assessed, the NJ 2-1-1 staff will read the caller the HMIS data confidentiality statement. Staff will go over it with callers and explain what data will be requested, how it will be shared, whom it will be shared with, and what the caller's rights are regarding the use of the caller's data. Staff will be responsible for ensuring callers understand their rights as far as release of information and data confidentiality. Callers will also be informed that they can freely abstain from disclosing and sharing information without fear of denial of services resulting from the refusal, but that certain funders may require disclosure of certain pieces of information for purposes of establishing or documenting program eligibility. If they agree to the HMIS data confidentiality terms, the assessment staff member will begin the assessment process by collecting the caller's data in HMIS. If a caller does not agree to allow their data to be collected or shared, NJ 2-1-1 staff will collect basic information about demographics, household size, PATH/HEART case, length of homelessness, disability, and how to

contact the consumer on a paper form and refer directly to Coordinated Assessment Team Staff so the consumer can be included in prioritization for shelter even without being entered into HMIS.

Some callers should never be entered into HMIS. These include:

- Callers who are in imminent danger and want domestic violence-specific services. The caller will be immediately referred to Women Aware. If the caller ends up being served by a domestic violence provider, that agency may enter their information into a HMIS-comparable database.
- Callers who do not agree to share their data through HMIS on the consumer release of information form should also never have their data entered into HMIS.

Once the triage assessment process has been completed, the assessment staff member will refer the consumer to the appropriate shelter and/or case management agency in HMIS (or via paper form). This way the program will have the consumer's information and can ensure they do not ask the same questions again, potentially re-traumatizing the consumer. Access to parts of each consumer record or assessment form may be restricted for safety reasons or by consumer request and the consumer may choose to revoke their consent to share data in the HMIS system at any time in accordance with CoC HMIS Policies and Procedures Manual.

All staff who receive initial training on the CoC's assessment protocols will be required to receive further training at least once annually.

Initial Triage Assessment, Diversion, and Emergency Shelter Referral

The triage assessment process is used both to divert consumers away from the homeless service system and to refer consumers to the appropriate community resources based on the individual needs and housing crisis of each household. All staff who administer the triage tool will receive training on using the script, completing the triage form, utilizing the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), and proper referral and prioritization procedures. It is the responsibility of the CoC to ensure this training is available and to make sure it is offered on a regular basis (at least semi-annually).

If a consumer can be diverted (has a safe place to stay for the next 3 to 7 days per triage assessment) the assessor should stop the assessment without further referral, and inform the consumer that a case manager will call them back the next business day.

Based on the triage tool, if NJ 2-1-1 staff are unable to divert consumers to a stable living situation outside of the homeless service system, they will refer homeless or at-risk callers to available community resources, including MCBOSS, and enter all data for homeless callers into HMIS (see above on Data Collection). If a consumer is referred to MCBOSS, the consumer will not be placed on the shelter prioritization list in HMIS. If the consumer is then deemed ineligible for assistance

by MCBOS, the consumer will need to call NJ 2-1-1 back to be placed on the shelter prioritization list.

During the triage assessment process, NJ 2-1-1 staff will code each household entry in HMIS based on factors used to prioritize vulnerable individuals and families for shelter beds (see Figure 1). Shelters will use data generated from the triage tool on the referral list in HMIS to contact consumers in order of priority.

Therefore, the basis for referrals from the initial triage assessment will be:

- Results of the triage assessment tool process;
- Established system wide priority populations; and
- Program eligibility admission criteria, including populations served and services offered.

Shelters will also accept referrals based on each program's admissions eligibility criteria, including populations served. For example, shelter programs that serve only single adult men will only receive single adult men referrals from the prioritization list. However, The Continuum of Care supports the prohibition against involuntary family separation. In an effort to maintain family unity, for housing serving families with children, the age and gender of a child under age 18 must not be used as a basis for denying any family's admission to any housing or shelter receiving funding from either ESG or CoC (24 CFR 578.93(e)).

Additionally, recipients may not deny admission to any member of the family. The Continuum of Care requires that all family shelters accommodate any family composition.

Emergency Shelter Intake

Priority for receiving shelter beds will be given to persons who are:

- PATH or HEART Team consumers,
- individuals and families who have experienced the longest lengths of homelessness prior to entry,
- vulnerable due to a disabling condition, and
- unsheltered.

Figure 1 shows the shelter prioritization matrix that shelters will use to prioritize referrals by NJ 2-1-1. Shelters will pull from the HMIS referral list to place consumers in beds.

Figure 1. Shelter Prioritization Matrix

Priority Level	Code	PATH/HEART Consumer	Homeless > 30 Days	Disability in Household	Unsheltered
High ↑ ↓ Low	1	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
	3	Yes	Yes	No	No
	4	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
	5	No	Yes	Yes	No
	6	No	Yes	No	No
	7	No	No	Yes	Yes
	8	No	No	Yes	No
	9	No	No	No	No

Every day, shelter staff will assess the number of open beds available for consumers, view the prioritized list of consumers who have been triaged in HMIS, and contact prioritized individuals and families to notify them that a space is available for them in a program. For PATH/HEART consumers, shelter intake staff will first case conference with outreach staff, either via call/email or notes in the consumer’s HMIS profile, regarding consumer disposition to confirm whether the consumer has other housing options they should be informed of. Shelters will then accept consumer referrals through HMIS marking their placement in the HMIS system.

If any prioritized consumer cannot be reached by shelter intake staff within 4 hours, or an amount of time established by shelter staff discretion, shelter intake staff should attempt to make contact with the consumer one more time, or contact the consumer’s PATH/HEART case manager, if applicable. If staff are still unable to reach the consumer, shelter intake staff will contact the next most highly prioritized individual or family on the priority list to offer the slot to them. If any prioritized consumer does not show up at the referred-to program within 2 hours (or the agreed upon timeframe) of being placed in a shelter bed, the referred-to program should attempt to make contact with the consumer one more time, or contact the consumer’s PATH/HEART case manager, if applicable. If the consumer cannot be located within 24 hours after being notified that a space was available in a program, shelter intake staff will contact the next most highly prioritized individual or family on the priority list to offer the slot to them.

Those consumers who are unable to be sheltered, or who do not wish to go to shelter, will still be referred to an Outreach Team or to Homeless Case Management with Coming Home of Middlesex County for continued engagement. The triage tool will also enable NJ 2-1-1 staff to refer any callers who are in imminent danger or are victims of domestic violence to police or to Women Aware as appropriate. If a homeless victim of domestic violence is referred to Women Aware, that agency may make a direct referral (without referring within HMIS) to the family shelter if a victim household cannot be placed in Women Aware’s shelter or Transitional Housing in order to ensure the safety of the family and compliance with VAWA requirements.

For homeless individuals and families who self-refer, or are directed to MCBOS, the intake staff and case workers will assess household eligibility for Board of Social Services programs which

may provide sources of income, non-cash benefits, or Emergency Assistance providing placement in emergency shelter, temporary hotel or motel stay, transitional housing, or temporary rental assistance. If a consumer is ineligible for MCBOSS services or resources for any reason, they will be referred to NJ 2-1-1.

Post-Triage Referral Procedure

Once a consumer has entered a shelter or is diverted and is working with a case manager, the program staff will work with the consumer to create an individualized housing plan and, if still homeless after 10 days, a full standardized assessment will be conducted and updated as needed. If a full standardized assessment has been conducted with the consumer, both the case manager and consumer will receive updates from the Coordinated Assessment Team on where the consumer stands on the priority list if they are waiting for a longer-term intervention. The case manager will also be able to check the community priority list in HMIS.

Special Populations

There are many subpopulations of people coming through the coordinated assessment process that may have special needs or need to be directed to specific resources to have their needs met. While this document and the assessment tool cover many, case management staff who believe that a consumer is eligible for another specific resource (including, but not limited to: persons with HIV/AIDS, veterans, unaccompanied youth) not discussed in this document should go to the Coordinated Assessment Team for assistance in case conferencing with other community partners.

Assistance in Moving to Permanent Housing

Phase 2 of the Coordinated Assessment and Referral System is assisting homeless individuals and families to move from homelessness to permanent housing.

Following Phase 1, some individuals and families may be able to avoid entering the homeless service system through diversion measures implemented in the triage tool, or through successful referral to prevention resources. However, households that are unable to be diverted or prevented from becoming homeless, may be in any of the following situations following Phase 1 triage:

- In emergency shelter
- In temporary hotel/motel placement
- In transitional housing
- In a place not meant for human habitation with support of Homeless Case Management

Case Management and Linkage to Community Resources

For homeless households who are in a place not meant for human habitation, the first goal is to assist them in attaining shelter. However, those who are unable to be sheltered, or do not wish to go to shelter will still be offered case management services and be linked to community resources through MCBOS, if eligible, and other community resources, as appropriate. Any homeless household that is unsheltered and living in a place not meant for human habitation will continue to receive outreach and case management services to the extent that they are able to be engaged.

Homeless households in emergency shelter or temporary hotel/motel placement will receive shelter-based case management services to assist them in identifying resources, networks, and supports, which may enable them to quickly and effectively end their homelessness. These services may include, but are not limited to:

- Short-term case management
- Diversion
- Conflict mediation
- Connection to mainstream benefits
- Housing search
- Security deposit assistance
- Short-term financial assistance
- Legal Services
- Outreach

Standardized Assessment

Regardless of the method by which a household accesses the crisis response system, or which subpopulation characteristics a household possesses, the criteria used to prioritize households for housing assistance will be applied uniformly in decision-making by the Coordinated Assessment Team.

The goal of all services provided to homeless households is to assist them in attaining permanent housing as rapidly and sustainably as possible. However, if these services are not successful in assisting a homeless household to attain permanent housing, within 10 days of entering the outreach, shelter, hotel/motel placement, or case management program, then shelter or homeless case management staff will assist consumers in completing a standardized assessment of needs in order to prioritize permanent housing resources for the most vulnerable. The only exception to the protocol of waiting 10 days to conduct a full standardized assessment with a homeless household will be if a consumer presents with immediate, severe, and evident high-

level service needs to emergency shelter or case management staff. In this case, shelter or outreach staff could immediately assist the consumer in completing a full assessment.

The CoC's standardized assessment tool can be found in Appendix C.

Assessment refers to the process of determining which programs or services are most appropriate to meet consumers' needs in order to prioritize them for various housing and service interventions. A standardized set of assessment tools will be used to make these determinations. Staff conducting these assessments will be trained on administering and scoring these tools, as well as the order in which they should be administered and the average amount of time each assessment should take.

If an individual or household refuses to answer one or more of the assessment questions, Coordinated Assessment Team staff and referring agency staff will work together to attempt to gather necessary data to complete the assessment. If this cannot be attained, the Coordinated Assessment Team and referring agency will case conference regarding the individual or household and determine appropriate level of vulnerability to generate an assessment score. This process will be shared with the Coordinated Assessment Committee to ensure uniform process in implementing nonstandard referrals.

The Coordinated Assessment Team

The CoC's standardized assessment tool will be completed with consumers in HMIS, allowing for a system-wide prioritization list to be created for permanent housing. The assessment tool, developed by the CoC Coordinated Assessment Committee, will be administered by staff from shelters, transitional housing projects, outreach teams, and homeless case management projects.

All staff who administer assessments will receive training on the standardized assessment forms to be used, utilizing the Homeless Management Information System HMIS, and proper referral and prioritization procedures. It is the responsibility of the CoC to ensure this training is available and to make sure it is offered on a regular basis (at least semi-annually).

In addition to agency staff approved to collect data for assessment purposes, one agency will be designated by the CoC to operate the Coordinated Assessment Team. The designated Coordinated Assessment Team agency is currently Coming Home of Middlesex County, which is also the HMIS Lead Agency.

Permanent Supportive Housing Priority List Management

Priority list management and notification of referrals will be the responsibility of the Coordinated Assessment Team (Coming Home of Middlesex County). The Coordinated Assessment Team staff will be responsible for alerting prioritized individual consumers and their case managers when a slot has become available for them in a specific Permanent Supportive Housing project. When a

permanent housing provider has an upcoming or current vacancy, Permanent Supportive Housing providers shall notify the Coordinated Assessment Team no more than 24 hours following the vacancy's becoming available (PSH projects dedicated to serving victims of domestic violence will notify Women Aware). The method of notification shall be an email to the Coordinated Assessment Team which includes:

- The size of the unit that can be covered by the voucher which has become available
- The required target population specified by voucher or service funding source including:
 - Household type
 - Household size
 - Disabling Condition Specifications
 - Subpopulation (e.g. Veterans)

In the case of a project with separate grantee and sponsor agencies, the agency responsible for HMIS data entry will be responsible for providing email notification to the Coordinated Assessment Team, and copying the grantee, when a vacancy occurs. Coordinated Assessment Team staff will check project availability at least once a day in HMIS to see if new spots are becoming available and contact the prioritized consumer and their case manager if a slot opens up for them. Coordinated Assessment Team staff will monitor the progress of the referral to the project, and if the consumer does not respond or show up to the intake appointment, or can not be found within 5 business days from the date the opening occurs, the Coordinated Assessment Team staff will move to the next name on the list. However, consumers who refuse initial placements, will not lose their place on the prioritization list. If a consumer can not be found, he/she will remain on the prioritization list, until the "inactive" threshold is met.

Prioritization Criteria

The CoC has adopted as a Guiding Principle that "The CoC will use data driven assessment to direct housing resources to helping those persons with the greatest vulnerability or most complex needs." Therefore, the standardized assessment tool adopted by the CoC is based on the prioritization hierarchy recommended in HUD Notice CPD 016-11 on Prioritizing Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness and Other Vulnerable Homeless Persons in Permanent Supportive Housing. As such, the tool will prioritize those chronically homeless individuals and families who have the longest history of homelessness and greatest severity of service needs for permanent supportive housing. The CoC assessment tool is aligned with the abovementioned Notice, and therefore prioritizes housing resources on the basis of:

1. significant challenges or functional impairments, including any physical, mental, developmental or behavioral health disabilities regardless of the type of disability, which require a significant level of support in order to maintain permanent housing (this factor focuses on the level of support needed and is not based on disability type);
2. high utilization of crisis or emergency services to meet basic needs, including but not limited to emergency rooms, jails, and psychiatric facilities;
3. the extent to which people, especially youth and children, are unsheltered;
4. vulnerability to illness or death;

5. risk of continued homelessness;
6. vulnerability to victimization, including physical assault, trafficking or sex work; or
7. other factors determined by the community that are based on severity of needs.

The CoC's assessment process will not use any factor to prioritize households if it would discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, familial status, disability, type or amount of disability or disability-related services or supports required. In addition, the CoC will not discriminate based on actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.

If there are no chronically homeless households identified within the CoC's geographic area, the CoC assessment tool will allow the community to prioritize those homeless individuals and families who have the longest history of homelessness and greatest severity of service needs for permanent supportive housing. Figure 2 shows the permanent housing prioritization matrix.

Figure 2. Permanent Supportive Housing Prioritization Matrix

Priority Level	Household Type	Longest History of Homelessness	Most Severe Service Needs	From Street or Shelter	From Transitional Housing
1	Chronically Homeless	X	X	X	
2		X		X	
3			X	X	
4				X	
5	Literally Homeless		X	X	
6		X		X	
7				X	
8					X

Prioritizing Homeless Consumers for Housing Interventions

Homeless households with the highest prioritization scores according to the Middlesex County CoC Housing Prioritization Tool will be prioritized for permanent supportive housing. If two households are equally prioritized for referral to the next available permanent housing placement, the household that first presented for assistance will be referred for placement.

Rapid Re-Housing projects will prioritize homeless consumers according to the following criteria:

- Consumers from Coordinated Assessment with the longest lengths of homelessness,
- Consumers from Coordinated Assessment who are in unsheltered situations,
- Consumers from Coordinated Assessment who are in emergency shelter,
- Other consumers from Coordinated Assessment,
- Consumers calling Catholic Charities for prevention/re-housing assistance.

After the assessment process is complete, the agency assessment staff will score the tool and determine which housing interventions it says the consumer is prioritized for, if any, by looking at the priority scoring matrix.

1. *If a consumer's prioritization score indicates a high priority for permanent supportive housing, the Coordinated Assessment Team staff will contact the assessment agency (shelter, transitional housing, or homeless case manager) to advise as to the score and the consumer's prioritization ranking to advise about possible housing openings. The Coordinated Assessment staff member will provide information about the different housing intervention types the consumer is prioritized for, including general intervention attributes (e.g. length of services, type of housing, level of independence, privacy) and the size of the current priority lists. The consumer will be asked what choice they would prefer among the housing interventions they are prioritized for (if there are multiple available options).*
2. *If a consumer is prioritized for housing interventions, but there is not currently an opening at an appropriate program within the interventions, the Coordinated Assessment will explain that once a spot opens up for the consumer, that the consumer will be notified. The agency assessment staff member should also make a note in HMIS of what housing intervention the consumer prefers for the Coordinated Assessment Team's reference. The assessment process ends for the consumer at this point, however, they may be reassessed 90 days after their initial assessment, unless there are changes in the consumer's housing situation or income.*
3. *If a consumer is prioritized for housing interventions, and the consumer and agency assessment staff are informed of an available housing unit or bed by the Coordinated Assessment Team, the Coordinated Assessment Team and agency assessment staff member should offer their recommendation to the consumer of which intervention they think is best (if there is more than one available option). The agency assessment staff member will assist the consumer in gathering the required documentation, and with consumer consent, will upload the documentation in to the consumer's electronic record in HMIS. The Coordinated Assessment staff member should then describe how the referral process will work, and detail the process of gathering eligibility documentation. The Coordinated Assessment Team will then make a direct consumer referral to the provider agency via HMIS, and call the provider agency intake staff to inform them of the referral. Then assessment agency staff, the Coordinated Assessment Team, and the provider agency receiving the consumer referral for the housing intervention will case conference and determine a work plan to gather the required documentation to expedite the consumer's admission into the provider agency's program (see below section on Documentation of Eligibility).*
4. *If a consumer that is prioritized and referred to a housing intervention program disappears or cannot be found within 5 business days by agency assessment staff, outreach staff, provider agency staff, or the Coordinated Assessment Team, the Coordinated Assessment*

Team will contact the next most highly prioritized individual or family on the priority list to offer the slot to them.

5. *If a consumer is not currently prioritized for any housing interventions, agency assessment staff should explain why and offer any other services that are available to the consumer (e.g. connection to mainstream resources, help connecting with family or friends, etc.). The consumer should be referred to continued case management and other services to help them exit to permanent housing. The assessment process ends for the consumer at this point, however, they may be reassessed 90 days after their initial assessment.*

Coordinated Assessment generates a priority list based on vulnerability, need, and length of homelessness. The priority list does not work like a waiting list, and we cannot predict upcoming vacancies or potential matches for those vacancies. It is important that you manage this expectation for both yourself and the individuals you are serving.

Housing through this process is not guaranteed and individuals should continue exploring other possibilities, including working to increase income.

Master List Inactivity Policy

Background

Implementation of an Inactivity Policy is a critical component of maintaining a real-time, by-name master list, as well as a robust coordinated entry system. To ensure an efficient assessment and referral process, it is important to ensure that the Coordinated Entry System staff and Outreach teams have the ability to contact and connect with households as soon as a housing opportunity is available. The Coordinated Entry System can experience delays in its referral procedures if time is wasted searching for households in the community which have not been reachable despite multiple attempts to do so, often over the course of many months. Due to this loss of contact it is hard for the system to determine whether these households are still in need of housing. In some situations, these households may have resolved their own housing crisis and/or relocated to another area.

Policy

If a household has had no contact with our Coordinated Entry Access point(s), Homeless Service Providers (including Veterans) or other Partner Agencies, such as community mental health, County Board of Social Services, and/or Community Outreach (collectively, the "homeless system") for 90 days, AND they have had no services or shelter stays recorded in HMIS for the past 3 months, the household will be removed from the Active Homeless List and placed on the Inactive List.

If a household on the Inactive list makes contact with the homeless system, they are moved from the Inactive List to the Active List and can be referred to housing opportunities.

If a household has self-resolved their housing crisis (secured housing without intervention, moved to stay with friends or family) or relocated to another area, the household will also be moved to the Inactive list. The household will move to the Inactive list after 7 days of their resolution.

Consumer-Declined Referrals

Agency assessment staff, through the administration of the standardized assessment tool and the assessment process (which includes consumer input as described above), will attempt to do what they can to meet all consumer needs while also respecting community-wide prioritization standards. However, if the Coordinated Assessment Team informs agency assessment staff that a unit or bed is available for a prioritized consumer in a particular housing intervention project and the consumer declines referral to that project, the agency assessment staff will notify the Coordinated Assessment Team via call/email and will document the reason for refusal in the consumer's HMIS profile. If a consumer refuses more than 2 referrals to housing interventions for which (s)he is prioritized, the agency assessment staff and Coordinated Assessment Team staff will meet with the consumer to clarify why the consumer has refused previous referrals, what the consumer's expectations and concerns are, and to again explain the nature of housing intervention resources that may be available in the community. The consumer will not lose their spot on the prioritization list for refusing placements.

Provider-Declined Referrals

There may be rare instances where provider agency staff do not accept a referral from the Coordinated Assessment process. Refusals are acceptable only in certain situations, including:

- The consumer does not meet the project's eligibility criteria;
- The consumer would be a danger to others or themselves if allowed to stay at this particular project; and/or
- The consumer has previously caused serious conflicts within the project and was banned (e.g. was violent with another consumer or project staff).

If project staff determines a consumer is not eligible for their project after they have received the referral from Coordinated Assessment, a representative from the provider agency that refused them, the agency assessment staff, the Coordinated Assessment Team, and the person experiencing homelessness must meet within 2 business days to determine the best next step for the consumer. Any cases that are unable to be resolved to the consumer's satisfaction will be referred to the Coordinated Assessment Committee to be addressed as soon as possible. If a program is consistently refusing referrals (more than 1 out of every 4) they will need to meet with the Coordinated Assessment Committee to discuss the issue that is causing the refusals.

If a project has a vacancy, and the Coordinated Assessment Team cannot provide an eligible referral within 72 hours of being notified of the vacancy, the project agency will conference with the Coordinated Assessment Team in order to examine project eligibility criteria, possible alternative target populations, or the need to adjust unit eligibility.

Consumer Grievances

The agency assessment staff member should address any complaints by consumers as best as they can in the moment regarding the assessment and referral process. However, when administering the initial standardized assessment, the agency assessment staff must inform all consumers of the process for filing a complaint.

Complaints that should be addressed directly by the agency assessment staff and their supervisors include:

- complaints about how they were treated by assessment staff
- assessment location conditions.

Any other complaints, including those regarding:

- violation of data agreements,
- fraudulent activity,
- discrimination, or
- attempts to operate outside of the coordinated assessment process,

should be referred to the Coordinated Assessment Committee for resolution. Any complaints filed by a consumer should be sent to the chair of the Coordinated Assessment Committee:

Name:

Phone:

Email:

The complaint should include the grounds and nature of the consumer's grievance the name and contact information of the consumer so the Coordinated Assessment Committee can contact them and offer them the chance to appear before the committee.

Provider Grievances

Providers should bring any concerns about coordinated assessment to the Coordinated Assessment Committee, unless they believe a consumer is being put in immediate or life-threatening danger, in which case they should deal with the situation immediately with the appropriate authorities or other partner agencies. A summary of concerns should be provided via email to the chair of the Coordinated Assessment Committee. The chair should then schedule for that provider's representative to come to the next available Coordinated Assessment Committee so the issue can be resolved. If the issues need more immediate resolution, the chair will be in charge of determining the best course of action to resolve the issue and communicating with the other Coordinated Assessment Committee members.

Documentation of Eligibility

The CoC's standardized assessment tool will prioritize consumers for housing interventions based on their length of homelessness and severity of service needs, but all referrals will adhere to program eligibility requirements.

Any and all staff assisting consumers in gathering eligibility documentation for program admission will ensure that records gathered show evidence that the individual or family meets the program eligibility criteria established in the CoC Program Interim Rule at 24 CFR 578.37 (Subpart D—Program Components and Eligible Costs) based on the definitions at 24 CFR 578.3. This will also apply to documentation of consumer income as stipulated at 24 CFR 578.77. The CoC's order of priority for obtaining evidence of consumer eligibility will be:

1. third-party documentation,
2. intake worker observations, and
3. certification from the person seeking assistance.

Records contained in an HMIS or comparable database used by victim service or legal service providers are acceptable evidence of third-party documentation and intake worker observations if the HMIS retains an auditable history of all entries, including the person who entered the data, the date of entry, and the change made; and if the HMIS prevents overrides or changes of the dates entries are made. Evidence of the following must be gathered in accordance with HUD's Notice CPD-16-011 *Notice on Prioritizing Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness and Other Vulnerable Homeless Persons in Permanent Supportive Housing and Recordkeeping Requirements for Documenting Chronic Homeless Status*:

- chronically homeless status,
- homeless status,
- duration of the homelessness,
- evidence that the household experienced at least four separate homeless occasions over 3 years,
- evidence of diagnosis with one or more of the following conditions:
 - substance use disorder,
 - serious mental illness,
 - developmental disability (as defined in Section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 15002),
 - post-traumatic stress disorder,
 - cognitive impairments resulting from brain injury, or
 - chronic physical illness or disability
- evidence of cumulative length of homeless occasions,
- evidence of severe service needs
- evidence that recipients are following the CoC's written standards for prioritizing assistance.

Appendix 6

MIDDLESEX COUNTY HOME PROGRAM RECAPTURE POLICY

4.4 RECAPTURED FUNDS

4.4.1 Recaptured funds are any amount recaptured as a result of a homebuyer property being sold within the affordability period. These funds must be used for HOME projects in accordance with all HOME rules.

4.4.2 The Middlesex County HOME Consortium supports two kinds of homebuyer programs:

a). Developer-initiated programs are projects undertaken by public, nonprofit and for-profit developers to provide affordable homeownership opportunities to homebuyers with incomes at or below 80% Median Family Income through the construction of new housing and/or the acquisition/rehabilitation of existing homes. HOME funds are provided to the developer for the purpose of acquisition, rehabilitation and/or construction of homes.

Recapture Provision: Middlesex County will provide a deferred payment loan to homebuyers to purchase properties that are part of developer-initiated projects. When the homebuyer enters in to the loan, the developer's indebtedness to the County decreases by the same amount as the principal of the homebuyer's loan. The homebuyer's loan is due upon resale of the property during the affordability period or if the homebuyer no longer resides in the property as his/her principal residence during the affordability period. The interest rate is 4% simple interest.

b). The Middlesex County HOME Consortium also assists qualifying first time homebuyers through its American Dream Downpayment program. The American Dream Program provides down payment and closing cost assistance to income eligible first time homebuyers of single-family homes.

Recapture Provision: Middlesex County provides a deferred repayment loan to eligible homebuyers for down payment assistance and closing costs on qualifying homes. Full repayment, plus 4% simple interest is required if and when the home is sold, a transfer of title or a default occurs, or when the home is no longer the principal residence of the homebuyer. The loan is not assumable.

4.4.3 Limiting Recaptured Funds to Net Proceeds

In its homebuyer programs, Middlesex County (County) will recoup all or a portion of its homebuyer assistance if the housing does not continue to be the principal residence of the family for the duration of the required affordability period. In compliance with 24 CFR 92.254(a)(5)(ii)(A), the County will limit the actual amount recaptured from homebuyers under the HOME (developer-initiated), and American Dream programs to no more than net proceeds. Per 24 CFR 92.254(a)(5)(ii)(A), net proceeds are the sales price minus superior loan repayments and any closing costs. This policy applies to all HOME recapture transactions, including those involving legal documents executed prior to adoption of this policy and specifying that the entire HOME investment will be re-captured.

- 4.4.4 Unless the amount of recaptured funds are significantly large enough to hold a supplementary round of funding competition during the program year in which the funds were recaptured, the Division may otherwise recommend the funds be carried over to increase the level of resources available for the next program year.

4.4.5 Process for Reporting On and Utilizing Recaptured Funds

Recaptured funds shall be entered into IDIS on a minimum of a quarterly basis, but preferably each month and should be utilized prior to the drawdown of any new HOME funds. Recaptured funds from the program year shall be included in the subsequent County Annual Action Plan as "prior year resources". If the recaptured HOME funds are significant enough to trigger a Substantial Amendment per the Middlesex County Citizens Participation Plan, then the current year's Annual Action Plan should be amended following the Substantial Amendment process.

Appendix 7

PY2023 CDBG PROJECT SUMMARY & PROSPECTIVE BUDGET

<u>Municipality/Project</u>	Project Amount	Total Municipal Amount
<u>Carteret</u>		
Façade Improvements	\$ 102,626.00	\$ 102,626.00
<u>Cranbury</u>		
Housing Rehab., Parkside @ Bennett	\$ 30,680.00	\$ 30,680.00
<u>Dunellen</u>		
Senior Citizen Coordinator	\$ 6,000.00	
Senior Citizen Van Driver	\$ 8,000.00	
Senior Citizen Building Improvements	\$ 5,000.00	
Sanitary Sewer Improvements	\$ 13,000.00	
Morecraft Park Improvements	\$ 6,000.00	
Senior Citizen & Disabled Arts program	\$ 2,665.00	
Code Enforcement	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 48,665.00
<u>East Brunswick</u>		
Bicentennial Park ADA Imprvts.	\$ 51,009.00	
Crystal Springs ADA Imprvts.	\$ 11,000.00	
Daisy Rec Ctr Kitchen Impvts.	\$ 36,000.00	
East Bruns. Sr. Ctr Sliding Doors	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 126,009.00
<u>Helmetta</u>		
ADA Municipal Building Improvements	\$ 28,880.00	\$ 28,880.00
<u>Highland Park</u>		
Community Youth Outreach	\$ 13,445.00	
Senior Transportation	\$ 15,000.00	
Teen Center Improvements - Keyless Entry	\$ 5,000.00	
Molimock-Graff Park Impvts.	\$ 7,000.00	
Senior Outreach Program	\$ 13,000.00	
Summer Camp Program	\$ 20,000.00	
Food Pantry	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 76,445.00
<u>Jamesburg</u>		

Imprvs. to Buckelew Mansion Park	\$	44,169.00	\$	44,169.00
 <u>Metuchen</u>				
Library Bathroom ADA Imprvts.	\$	63,054.00	\$	63,054.00
 <u>Middlesex</u>				
Fitzsimmons Park Improvements	\$	6,000.00		
Senior Services Building ADA Imprvts.	\$	22,574.00		
Senior Nutrition Program	\$	6,500.00		
Senior Van Driver	\$	9,205.00		
Code Enforcement	\$	10,575.00		
Senior Center Coordinator	\$	10,000.00	\$	64,854.00
 <u>Milltown*</u>				
Senior Center Services	\$	8,919.00		
ADA Sidewalk Ramps	\$	50,500.00	\$	59,419.00
 <u>Monroe</u>				
Curb Cuts Street Improvements	\$	167,380.00	\$	167,380.00
 <u>North Brunswick</u>				
Code Enforcement Salary	\$	40,000.00		
Babbage Park Improvements	\$	69,714.00		
Senior Citizens Services	\$	10,000.00	\$	119,714.00
 <u>Plainsboro*</u>				
Public Service Projects	\$	17,500.00		
Public Facilities/ADA Improvements	\$	42,758.00	\$	60,258.00
 <u>South Amboy*</u>				
Public Facility Project	\$	53,561.00	\$	53,561.00
 <u>South Brunswick</u>				
Pioneer Recreation Program	\$	23,000.00		
CIL Service Provider	\$	20,000.00		

Food Pantry Assistants	\$	30,084.00	
Large Print Books	\$	2,000.00	
			\$ 75,084.00
<u>South Plainfield</u>			
Curb Cuts - Street Improvements	\$	68,542.00	
Aging Director Salary	\$	12,500.00	
			\$ 81,042.00
<u>South River</u>			
Street Improvements	\$	82,841.00	
			\$ 82,841.00
<u>Spotswood</u>			
Safe Housing Repairs	\$	46,867.00	
			\$ 46,867.00
<u>Countywide</u>			
PRAB - Fair Housing Counseling			\$ 19,000.00
TOTAL CDBG PROJECTS		\$	1,350,548.00
Fair Housing Activities		\$	35,000.00
General Administration		\$	298,514.00
TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET		\$	1,684,062.00

Grantee SF-424's and Certification(s)

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CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the jurisdiction certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing --The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing.

Uniform Relocation Act and Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan -- It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4601-4655) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24. It has in effect and is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan required under 24 CFR Part 42 in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the Community Development Block Grant or HOME programs.

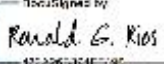
Anti-Lobbying --To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-L.L.L., "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and
3. It will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of Jurisdiction --The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

Consistency with plan --The housing activities to be undertaken with Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS funds are consistent with the strategic plan in the jurisdiction's consolidated plan.

Section 3 -- It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 75.

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Signature of Authorized Official

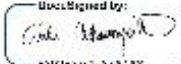
Ronald G. Rios, Director,
County Commissioners

Title

06/15/23

Date

Approved as to form and legality

DocuSigned by:

020527C0A2A28
Niki Athanasopoulos, Esq.

First Deputy County Counsel

Specific Community Development Block Grant Certifications

The Entitlement Community certifies that:

Citizen Participation -- It is in full compliance and following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105.

Community Development Plan -- Its consolidated plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifies both short-term and long-term community development objectives that have been developed in accordance with the primary objective of the CDBG program (i.e., the development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and expanding economic opportunities, primarily for persons of low and moderate income) and requirements of 24 CFR Parts 91 and 570.

Following a Plan -- It is following a current consolidated plan that has been approved by HUD.

Use of Funds -- It has complied with the following criteria:

1. Maximum Feasible Priority. With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG funds, it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low- and moderate-income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include CDBG-assisted activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available (see Optional CDBG Certification).

2. Overall Benefit. The aggregate use of CDBG funds, including Section 108 guaranteed loans, during program year(s) 2023 [a period specified by the grantee of one, two, or three specific consecutive program years], shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period.

3. Special Assessments. It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds, including Section 108 loan guaranteed funds, by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

However, if CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with CDBG funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds.

In addition, in the case of properties owned and occupied by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks CDBG funds to cover the assessment.


Excessive Force -- It has adopted and is enforcing:

1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and
2. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction.

Compliance with Anti-discrimination laws -- The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d) and the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-3619) and implementing regulations.

Lead-Based Paint -- Its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of 24 CFR Part 35, Subparts A, B, J, K and R.

Compliance with Laws -- It will comply with applicable laws.

DocuSigned by:

Signature of Authorized Official

06/15/23
Date

Ronald G. Rios, Director,
County Commissioners
Title

Approved as to form and legality

DocuSigned by:

Niky A. Athanopoulos, Esq.
First Deputy County Counsel

N/A

OPTIONAL Community Development Block Grant Certification

Submit the following certification only when one or more of the activities in the action plan are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency as specified in 24 CFR 570.208(c):

The grantee hereby certifies that the Annual Plan includes one or more specifically identified CDBG-assisted activities which are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community and other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

N/A

Signature of Authorized Official

Date

Title

Specific HOME Certifications

The HOME participating jurisdiction certifies that:

Tenant Based Rental Assistance -- If it plans to provide tenant-based rental assistance, the tenant-based rental assistance is an essential element of its consolidated plan.

Eligible Activities and Costs -- It is using and will use HOME funds for eligible activities and costs, as described in 24 CFR §§92.205 through 92.209 and that it is not using and will not use HOME funds for prohibited activities, as described in §92.214.

Subsidy layering -- Before committing any funds to a project, it will evaluate the project in accordance with the guidelines that it adopts for this purpose and will not invest any more HOME funds in combination with other Federal assistance than is necessary to provide affordable housing;

DocuSigned by:
Ronald G. Rios
Signature of Authorized Official

6/15/23
Date

Approved as to form and legality

Ronald G. Rios, Director,
County Commissioners
Title

DocuSigned by:
Niki Athanasopoulos
NIKI Athanasopoulos, Esq.
First Deputy County Counsel

Emergency Solutions Grants Certifications

The Emergency Solutions Grants Program recipient certifies that:

Major rehabilitation/conversion/renovation – If an emergency shelter’s rehabilitation costs exceed 75 percent of the value of the building before rehabilitation, the recipient will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 10 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed rehabilitation.

If the cost to convert a building into an emergency shelter exceeds 75 percent of the value of the building after conversion, the recipient will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 10 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed conversion.

In all other cases where ESG funds are used for renovation, the recipient will maintain the building as a shelter for homeless individuals and families for a minimum of 3 years after the date the building is first occupied by a homeless individual or family after the completed renovation.

Essential Services and Operating Costs – In the case of assistance involving shelter operations or essential services related to street outreach or emergency shelter, the recipient will provide services or shelter to homeless individuals and families for the period during which the ESG assistance is provided, without regard to a particular site or structure, so long the recipient serves the same type of persons (e.g., families with children, unaccompanied youth, disabled individuals, or victims of domestic violence) or persons in the same geographic area.

Renovation – Any renovation carried out with ESG assistance shall be sufficient to ensure that the building involved is safe and sanitary.

Supportive Services – The recipient will assist homeless individuals in obtaining permanent housing, appropriate supportive services (including medical and mental health treatment, victim services, counseling, supervision, and other services essential for achieving independent living), and other Federal, State, local, and private assistance available for these individuals.

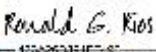
Matching Funds – The recipient will obtain matching amounts required under 24 CFR 576.201.

Confidentiality – The recipient has established and is implementing procedures to ensure the confidentiality of records pertaining to any individual provided family violence prevention or treatment services under any project assisted under the ESG program, including protection against the release of the address or location of any family violence shelter project, except with the written authorization of the person responsible for the operation of that shelter.

Homeless Persons Involvement – To the maximum extent practicable, the recipient will involve, through employment, volunteer services, or otherwise, homeless individuals and families in constructing, renovating, maintaining, and operating facilities assisted under the ESG program, in providing services assisted under the ESG program, and in providing services for occupants of facilities assisted under the program.

Consolidated Plan – All activities the recipient undertakes with assistance under ESG are consistent with its consolidated plan.

Discharge Policy – The recipient will establish and implement, to the maximum extent practicable and where appropriate, policies and protocols for the discharge of persons from publicly funded institutions or systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care or other youth facilities, or correction programs and institutions) in order to prevent this discharge from immediately resulting in homelessness for these persons.

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Signature of Authorized Official

6/15/23

Date

Ronald G. Rios, Director,
County Commissioners

Title

Approved as to form and legality

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20230615104105
NIKI Athanasopoulos, Esq.
First Deputy County Counsel

Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS Certifications

N/A

The HOPWA grantee certifies that:

Activities -- Activities funded under the program will meet urgent needs that are not being met by available public and private sources.

Building -- Any building or structure assisted under that program shall be operated for the purpose specified in the consolidated plan:

1. For a period of not less than 10 years in the case of assistance involving new construction, substantial rehabilitation, or acquisition of a facility,
2. For a period of not less than 3 years in the case of assistance involving non-substantial rehabilitation or repair of a building or structure.

N/A

Signature of Authorized Official

Date

Title

APPENDIX TO CERTIFICATIONS

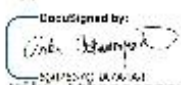

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING LOBBYING CERTIFICATION:

Lobbying Certification

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

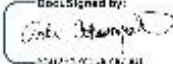
Application for Federal Assistance SF-424		
* 1. Type of Submission: <input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Changed/Corrected Application	* 2. Type of Application: <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision	* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s): <input type="text"/> * Other (Specify): <input type="text"/>
* 3. Date Received: 06/15/2023	4. Applicant Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
5a. Federal Entity Identifier: <input type="text"/>	5b. Federal Award Identifier: B-23-OC-34-0103	
State Use Only:		
6. Date Received by State: <input type="text"/>	7. State Application Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:		
* a. Legal Name: County of Middlesex		
* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): 22-6002454	* c. UEI: N7TRKBN87HP5	
d. Address:		
* Street1: 75 Bayard Street	Street2: <input type="text"/>	
* City: New Brunswick	County/Parish: Middlesex	
* State: NJ: New Jersey	Province: <input type="text"/>	
* Country: USA: UNITED STATES	* Zip / Postal Code: 08901-2112	
e. Organizational Unit:		
Department Name: Dept. of Community Services	Division Name: Division of Housing	
f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:		
Prefix: Ms.	* First Name: Melissa	
Middle Name: <input type="text"/>	* Last Name: Bellamy	
Suffic: <input type="text"/>	Title: Division Head	
Organizational Affiliation: <input type="text"/>		
* Telephone Number: 732-745-3025	Fax Number: 732-745-4117	
* Email: melissa.bellamy@co.middlesex.nj.us		

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type: B: County Government	
Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type: 	
Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type: 	
* Other (specify): 	
* 10. Name of Federal Agency: US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development	
11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 14.218	
CFDA Title: Community Development Block Grant Program	
* 12. Funding Opportunity Number: CFDA 14.218	
* Title: Community Development Block Grant Program	
13. Competition Identification Number: 	
Title: 	
14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.): <input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>	
* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project: 2023 Community Development Block Grant funding will be used to address the needs of low and moderate income individuals and families in 18 participating municipalities of Middlesex County.	
Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions. <input type="button" value="Add Attachments"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachments"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachments"/>	

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
16. Congressional Districts Of:	
* a. Applicant <input type="text" value="6, 12"/>	* b. Program/Project <input type="text" value="6, 12"/>
Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
17. Proposed Project:	
* a. Start Date: <input type="text" value="07/01/2023"/>	* b. End Date: <input type="text" value="06/30/2024"/>
18. Estimated Funding (\$):	
* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="1,684,062.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text"/>
* c. State	<input type="text"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="1,684,062.00"/>
Approved as to form and legality DocuSigned by:  Niki Athanasopoulos, Esq. First Deputy County Counsel	
* 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?	
<input type="checkbox"/> a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on <input type="text"/> .	
<input type="checkbox"/> b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.	
* 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
If "Yes", provide explanation and attach	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications** and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ** I AGREE	
** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.	
Authorized Representative:	
Prefix: <input type="text" value="Mr."/>	* First Name: <input type="text" value="Ronald"/>
Middle Name: <input type="text" value="G."/>	
* Last Name: <input type="text" value="Rios"/>	
Suffix: <input type="text"/>	
* Title: <input type="text" value="Director, County Commissioners"/>	
* Telephone Number: <input type="text" value="732-745-5792"/>	Fax Number: <input type="text" value="732-745-4117"/>
* Email: <input type="text" value="ronald.rios@co.middlesex.nj.us"/>	
* Signature of Authorized Representative:	* Date Signed: <input type="text" value="06/15/2023"/>
DocuSigned by: 	

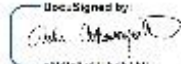

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424		
* 1. Type of Submission: <input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Changed/Corrected Application	* 2. Type of Application: <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision	* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s): <input type="text"/> * Other (Specify): <input type="text"/>
* 3. Date Received: 06/15/2023	4. Applicant Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
5a. Federal Entity Identifier: <input type="text"/>	5b. Federal Award Identifier: E-23-OC-34-0103	
State Use Only:		
6. Date Received by State: <input type="text"/>	7. State Application Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:		
* a. Legal Name: County of Middlesex		
* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): 22-6002454	* c. UEI: N7TRKBN87HP5	
d. Address:		
* Street1: 75 Bayard Street	Street2: <input type="text"/>	
* City: New Brunswick	County/Parish: Middlesex	
* State: NJ: New Jersey	Province: <input type="text"/>	
* Country: USA: UNITED STATES	* Zip / Postal Code: 08901-2112	
e. Organizational Unit:		
Department Name: Dept. of Community Services	Division Name: Division of Housing	
f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:		
Prefix: Ms.	* First Name: Melissa	
Middle Name: <input type="text"/>	* Last Name: Bellamy	
Suffic: <input type="text"/>	Title: Division Head	
Organizational Affiliation: <input type="text"/>		
* Telephone Number: 732-745-3025	Fax Number: 732-745-4117	
* Email: melissa.bellamy@co.middlesex.nj.us		

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
<p>* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:</p> <p>B: County Government</p> <p>Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:</p> <p>Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:</p> <p>* Other (specify):</p>	
<p>* 10. Name of Federal Agency:</p> <p>US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development</p>	
<p>11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:</p> <p>14.231</p> <p>CFDA Title:</p> <p>Emergency Solutions Grant Program</p>	
<p>* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:</p> <p>CFDA 14.231</p> <p>* Title:</p> <p>Emergency Solutions Grant Program</p>	
<p>13. Competition Identification Number:</p> <p>Title:</p>	
<p>14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):</p> <p>Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment</p>	
<p>* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:</p> <p>2023 Emergency Solution Grant funding will be used to assist homeless persons and those at risk of homeless in all 25 municipalities of Middlesex County.</p>	
<p>Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.</p> <p>Add Attachments Delete Attachments View Attachments</p>	

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
16. Congressional Districts Of:	
* a. Applicant <input type="text" value="6, 12"/>	* b. Program/Project <input type="text" value="6, 12"/>
Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.	
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17. Proposed Project:	
* a. Start Date: <input type="text" value="07/01/2023"/>	* b. End Date: <input type="text" value="06/30/2024"/>
18. Estimated Funding (\$):	
* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="147,551.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text" value=""/>
* c. State	<input type="text" value=""/>
* d. Local	<input type="text" value=""/>
* e. Other	<input type="text" value=""/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text" value=""/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="147,551.00"/>
Approved as to form and legality DocuSigned by:  NIKI Athanasopoulos, Esq. First Deputy County Counsel	
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<input type="checkbox"/> b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.	
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Prefix: <input type="text" value="Mr."/>	* First Name: <input type="text" value="Ronald"/>
Middle Name: <input type="text" value="G."/>	
* Last Name: <input type="text" value="Rios"/>	
Suffix: <input type="text"/>	
* Title: <input type="text" value="Director, County Commissioners"/>	
* Telephone Number: <input type="text" value="732-745-5792"/>	Fax Number: <input type="text" value="732-745-4117"/>
* Email: <input type="text" value="ronald.rios@co.middlesex.nj.us"/>	
* Signature of Authorized Representative:	* Date Signed: <input type="text" value="06/15/2023"/>
DocuSigned by: 	

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424		
* 1. Type of Submission: <input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Changed/Corrected Application	* 2. Type of Application: <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision	* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s): _____ * Other (Specify): _____
* 3. Date Received: 06/15/2023	4. Applicant Identifier: _____	
5a. Federal Entity Identifier: _____	5b. Federal Award Identifier: N-23-DC-34-0228	
State Use Only:		
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* City: New Brunswick	County/Parish: Middlesex	
* State: NJ: New Jersey	Province: _____	
* Country: USA: UNITED STATES	* Zip / Postal Code: 08901-2112	
e. Organizational Unit:		
Department Name: Dept. of Community Services	Division Name: Division of Housing	
f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:		
Prefix: Ms.	* First Name: Melissa	
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Suffic: _____	Title: Division Head	
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* Email: melissa.bellamy@co.middlesex.nj.us		

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type: B: County Government	
Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type: 	
Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type: 	
* Other (specify): 	
* 10. Name of Federal Agency: US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development	
11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 14.239	
CFDA Title: HOME Investment Partnerships Program	
* 12. Funding Opportunity Number: CFDA 14.239	
* Title: HOME Investment Partnerships Program	
13. Competition Identification Number: 	
Title: 	
14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.): <input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>	
* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project: 2023 HOME Investment Partnerships Program Grant funding will be used to address affordable housing needs in 23 participating municipalities of Middlesex County.	
Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions. <input type="button" value="Add Attachments"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachments"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachments"/>	

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
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17. Proposed Project:	
* a. Start Date: <input type="text" value="07/01/2023"/>	* b. End Date: <input type="text" value="06/30/2024"/>
18. Estimated Funding (\$):	
* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="1,854,358.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text" value=""/>
* c. State	<input type="text" value=""/>
* d. Local	<input type="text" value=""/>
* e. Other	<input type="text" value=""/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text" value=""/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="1,854,358.00"/>
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<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
If "Yes", provide explanation and attach	
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Middle Name: <input type="text" value="G."/>	
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Suffix: <input type="text"/>	
* Title: <input type="text" value="Director, County Commissioners"/>	
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* Email: <input type="text" value="ronald.rios@co.middlesex.nj.us"/>	
* Signature of Authorized Representative:	* Date Signed: <input type="text" value="06/15/2023"/>
DocuSigned by: 	

CDBG Program**ASSURANCES - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS**OMB Number: 4040-0009
Expiration Date: 02/28/2025

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0042), Washington, DC 20503.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the Awarding Agency. Further, certain Federal assistance awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

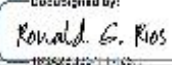
1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the assistance; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. Will record the Federal awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
4. Will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
5. Will provide and maintain competent and adequate engineering supervision at the construction site to ensure that the complete work conforms with the approved plans and specifications and will furnish progressive reports and such other information as may be required by the assistance awarding agency or State.
6. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
7. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
8. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards of merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
9. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
10. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to non-discrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681 1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.

Previous Edition Usable

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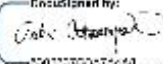
Standard Form 424D (Rev. 7-97)
Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

11. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal and federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
12. Will comply with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
13. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333) regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
14. Will comply with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
15. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
16. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
17. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
18. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
19. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
20. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	TITLE
DocuSigned by:  Ronald G. Rios <small>1815024172711432</small>	Director, County Commissioners
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION	DATE SUBMITTED
County of Middlesex - CDBG Program	06/15/2023

SF-424D (Rev. 7-97) Back

Approved as to form and legality

DocuSigned by:

 NIKY ATHANASOPOULOS, Esq.
 First Deputy County Counsel

HOME Program**ASSURANCES - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS**OMB Number: 4040-0009
Expiration Date: 02/28/2025

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0042), Washington, DC 20503.

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As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

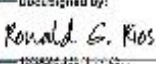
1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the assistance; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. Will record the Federal awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
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11. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal and federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
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13. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333) regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
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18. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
19. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
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SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL		TITLE	
DocuSigned by:  Ronald G. Rios		Director, County Commissioners	
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION		DATE SUBMITTED	
County of Middlesex - HOME Program		06/15/2023	

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Approved as to form and legality

DocuSigned by:

 Niki Athanasopoulos, Esq.
 First Deputy County Counsel

ESG Program**ASSURANCES - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS**OMB Number: 4040-0009
Expiration Date: 02/28/2025

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0042), Washington, DC 20503.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the Awarding Agency. Further, certain Federal assistance awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

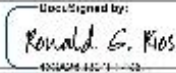
1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the assistance; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. Will record the Federal awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
4. Will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
5. Will provide and maintain competent and adequate engineering supervision at the construction site to ensure that the complete work conforms with the approved plans and specifications and will furnish progressive reports and such other information as may be required by the assistance awarding agency or State.
6. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
7. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
8. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards of merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
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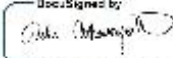
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SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL		TITLE	
 Ronald G. Rios <small>DocuSigned by: Ronald G. Rios</small>		Director, County Commissioners	
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION		DATE SUBMITTED	
County of Middlesex - ESG Program		06/15/2023	

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Approved as to form and legality


DocuSigned by: Niki Athanasopoulos
 Niki Athanasopoulos, Esq.
 First Deputy County Counsel

MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NJ HOME-ARP ALLOCATION PLAN

Executive Summary

As part of the American Rescue Plan, Congress created a new program, known as the HOME-American Rescue Plan Program (HOME-ARP), to be administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to primarily benefit individuals and families that are homeless and/or at increased risk of homelessness.

Middlesex County was awarded \$5,844,246 in HOME-ARP funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The HOME-ARP program required each jurisdiction that receives funding to prepare and submit a HOME-ARP Allocation Plan that outlines how the HOME-ARP funds will be apportioned among the eligible activities and for which populations.

The Middlesex County Division of Housing, Community Development and Social Services has prepared the following Allocation Plan, which will be submitted to HUD for their review and approval on or around March 22, 2023 after following the guidance and requirements outlined in HUD's Notice CPD-21-10 "Requirements for the Use of Funds in the HOME-ARP Program" and Notice CPD-22-13 "Revisions to HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Requirements and Final Submission Deadline for all HOME-ARP Allocation Plans." This allocation plan also follows the HUD suggested template. HUD language that explains the purpose of a template section has been left in for clarity on some occasions.

There are six eligible activities in the HOME-ARP program.

- Production or Preservation of Affordable Rental Housing
- Purchase and Development of Non-Congregate Shelter
- Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
- Supportive Services (either in conjunction with another eligible activity or as a standalone activity)
- Non-Profit Organization General Operating Cost Assistance (limited to 5% of grant)
- Non-Profit Organization Capacity Building Assistance (limited to 5% of grant)
- Administrative & Planning Costs (limited to 15% of grant)

There are four eligible populations, known as "Qualifying Populations" or QP's. HOME-ARP funds must primarily benefit individuals and families from the following Qualifying Populations:

- Homeless, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act ([42 U.S.C. 11302\(a\)](#)); (referred to in the plan as the Homeless QP)
- At-risk of homelessness, as defined in section 401(1) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act ([42 U.S.C. 11360\(1\)](#)); (referred to in the plan as the At Risk QP)

- Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, as defined by the Secretary; (referred to in the plan as the Fleeing DV QP)
- In other populations where providing supportive services or assistance under section 212(a) of the Act ([42 U.S.C. 12742\(a\)](#)) would prevent the family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability; (referred to in the plan as the Other Housing Instability QP)
- Veterans and families that include a veteran family member that meet one of the preceding criteria. (Veterans are considered a subset of the four qualifying populations.)

The Allocation Plan will further detail these different Qualifying Populations including their size and demographics as part of the required Needs and Gap Analysis before listing the eligible activities proposed by Middlesex County for its HOME-APR funding.

Middlesex County has conducted outreach and gathered input from a broad array of individuals and organizations prior to the development of this Allocation Plan, as required by HUD consultation process. When this Allocation Plan is submitted to HUD, the required Public Participation requirements, including at least one Public Hearing and a minimum 15-day comment period where all relevant comments will be considered.

Consultation

Describe the consultation process including methods used and dates of consultation:

The Middlesex County Division of Housing used multiple consultation methods to solicit feedback prior to creating and finalizing this HOME-ARP Allocation Plan.

The first major form of consultation was through a special meeting on May 17, 2022 that included an opportunity for small group discussions and sharing of information on system gaps and needs of qualifying populations. Participants representing homeless services providers, domestic violence service providers, veterans' groups, public housing agencies (PHAs), public agencies serving the different qualifying populations, and public or private organizations addressing fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities were invited to participate.

After HUD provided additional guidance on the components of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, the eligible uses, and the qualifying populations (QPs), Middlesex County wanted to have another broad session to solicit information about needs and systems gaps and also specifically on what eligible uses the county should include in its plan. This session was held as part of the monthly Middlesex County Housing Continuum of Care Committee (MCHC3) meeting on February 2, 2023. This session included a detailed review of the differences in the four QPs and eligible uses. It provided for small group discussions on helping to identify the size and demographic composition of the QPs through different data sources and their person experiences

and anecdotal information about the QPs they were familiar with. It concluded with recommendations on allocations for the eligible activities, with a mindfulness to examine existing resources available in the community.

Middlesex County also deployed a survey in February 2023. The purpose of the survey was to garner feedback from stakeholders and community members on how Middlesex County should use its allocation of HOME-ARP funds. It asked questions about the needs of each QP and what activities were the highest need/priority for that QP. It then asked which eligible activities should be funded and why. A total of 25 responses were received.

Below is the list of the following organizations/entities that participated in one or both in person HOME-ARP sessions or submitted a survey.

Name of Organization	Attend5 //17/22	Attend 2/2/23	Survey	Type of Organization and/or Population Served
Coming Home of Middlesex Co.	X	X		Homeless service provider, affordable housing (AH) provider, HMIS Lead, Coordinated Entry Lead
Garden State Home	X	X	X	Homeless service provider, especially for homeless unaccompanied youth; AH provider
Raritan Bay Area YMCA	X	X		Homeless service provider, AH provider
Triple C Housing	X			Homeless service provider, AH provider, service provider for persons with disabilities (mental health)
Women Aware	X	X		Homeless service provider, DV shelter, DV services, AH provider for DV clients
Volunteers of America	X	X	X	Homeless service provider, AH provider, service provider for persons with disabilities (mental health & addictions)
Middlesex College	X	X		2-year public higher education institute
Region Nine Housing Corp.	X			AH provider
City of Perth Amboy	X		X	Municipal government
Fair Share Housing Center	X			Fair housing & civil rights non-profit focused on racial, economic and housing justice
Central Jersey Legal Services	X	X		Non-profit legal services to all QP's, especially around fair housing

Middlesex County Human Services Office (Human Services Advisory Council)	X	X	X	Unit of local government providing access to services for homeless, persons with disabilities, and low-income populations.
Still Waters	X			Anti-trafficking program affiliated with non-profit RCHP Affordable Housing Corp.
Monarch Housing Associates	X			Non-profit organization concerned with fair and affordable housing, especially for homeless populations.
NJ Division of Child Protection & Permanency (DCP&P)	X		X	Unit of state government focused on investigating child abuse & neglect and also overseer of state foster care system.
Alliance Center for Independence	X			Non-profit Center for Independent Living serving and advocating for persons with disabilities
The Center for Great Expectations	X		X	Non-profit serving pregnant & parenting youth, AH provider; services to persons with mental health and addiction disabilities.
Healthier Middlesex / St. Peter's University Hospital	X			A multi-sector private/public collaborative stakeholders working together to integrate health & wellness. A non-profit teaching hospital
Community Member	X			N/A
Middlesex County PHA	X	X	X	Public Housing Agency providing Housing Choice Vouchers countywide
Middlesex County Office of Health Services	X			Unit of local government providing health services including disease protection, health promotion, and environmental protection.
NJ Citizens Action	X			A stateside civil rights advocacy group focused on racial, social and economic justice.
MIPH/Mission First	X	X	X	Homeless service provider, AH provider
SHILO	X		X	Support services to homeless individuals and vulnerable populations
Housing and	X			Non-profit advocating for affordable and fair housing and economic justice.

Community Development Network of NJ				
Acelero Learning		X		Head Start/early childhood education nonprofit provider
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen		X		Homeless service provider, emergency shelter, street outreach (PATH), especially for persons with mental health disabilities, AH provider, RRH provider
Community Affairs & Resource Center (CARC)		X	X	Non-profit homeless services provider, services to low-income populations.
Community Hope		X	X	Veterans' homeless services organization, SSFV provider, AH for veterans' provider
Edison Housing Authority		X		Public Housing Authority operating both public housing and Housing Choice Voucher program
HomeSharing		X		Housing services to low-income households, including homeless households
NJ Harm Reduction		X		Advocacy, services and street outreach to persons with substance abuse/addiction disabilities
Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care (UBHC)		X	X	Homeless services provider, PATH street outreach for persons with mental health disabilities, services to persons with behavioral health concerns and disabilities including mental health and addictions.
Soldier On		X		Veterans' homeless services organization, SSFV provider, AH for veterans' provider
Town Clock CDC		X	X	Homeless services provider, AH provider for persons impacted by DV
Veterans Affairs		X		Federal government agency serving veterans, including homeless veterans with VASH program
Zufall Health		X		Non-profit health organization providing centers serving low-income population.
Board of Social Services			X	County government welfare agency for GA/TANF, homeless services provider

PRAB			X	Non-profit provider serving low-income families; certified housing counseling agency
American Legion			X	Veterans' advocacy organization
Middlesex County Veterans Services			X	County government office providing services to veterans, including homeless & at risk of homeless.
Woodbridge Township			X	Municipal Government
Beginning World Changers			X	Homeless service provider, outreach
Hyacinth Foundation			X	Homeless services provider, working with disabled, youth, and DV populations

There are 10 Public Housing Agencies/Authorities (PHAs) operating in Middlesex County. They are Carteret HA, Edison HA, Highland Park HA, Middlesex County PHA, New Brunswick HA, Old Bridge HA, Perth Amboy HA, Sayreville HA, South Amboy HA, and Woodbridge HA. All were sent email invitations to participate in the 5/17/22 HOME-ARP session and all were invited to complete a HOME-ARP survey in February 2023. Edison, Woodbridge, and the County were also invited as CoC members to participate in the Feb. 2023 session. Despite this outreach only Edison HA and Middlesex County PHA participated in the consultation process. The County will reach out to these entities again by email and inform them of the ability to submit comments during the Public Participation process. While they didn't respond, it is very rare that any of the PHAs located in Middlesex County have their Housing Choice Voucher waiting lists open and only on occasion do they have their Public Housing lists open. So, while they didn't participate formally in the consultation, the rarity that their waiting lists are open helps support the need under all QPs for more affordable housing.

Summarize feedback received and results of upfront consultation with these entities:

Summary from 5/17/22 HOME-ARP Session

After an explanation of the HOME-ARP program, eligible uses and qualifying populations, the individuals present were divided into four small groups for discussion on potential needs/system gaps and also potential uses of HOME-ARP funding.

One major area of need outlined by all the groups were Supportive Services. Specifically, housing search; legal services; credit building; obtaining documents needed for ID's; transportation; childcare; trauma informed mental health services; support services for persons with disabilities, persons with limited English proficiency, and undocumented persons; services for DV victims; support services to prevent people falling back into homelessness; application fees and general case management, especially for housed clients. There was also discussed by multiple groups the need for landlord outreach and engagement, including education on vouchers and the creation and provision of landlord incentives to help offset barriers to renting units by households with vouchers.

There were discussions on the lack of affordable housing, made worse by increasing rent costs, including the lack of affordable SRO (single room occupancy) units for the many single people who are homeless in our jurisdiction. Other challenges include high costs of acquisition and rehabilitation of existing units, which has been a strategy in creating more affordable housing. Housing prices are up significantly throughout our area and construction costs have also greatly increased since the start of the pandemic.

Another need specifically mentioned is the lack of emergency shelter space, since our existing shelter programs operated at capacity and there always exists a prioritized waiting list for shelter. Lack of non-congregate shelter was also identified as a concern.

Another area of need mentioned were funding to cover situations like car repairs, where reliably transportation is needed for work and ability to have income to support housing costs, or other costs that could impact a household budget and decrease housing stability.

Regarding proposed uses of funding, the need for non-congregate shelter was included and the idea that it could be accomplished through acquisition of hotel(s). Another group suggestion for the rental housing category was to focus on acquisition of condo units, which wouldn't require as much in rehabilitation costs and some of the maintenance would be covered by the association. Tenant based vouchers were also suggested as a good use since they could happen quicker and don't take as long as new construction or acquisition with or without rehabilitation. It was noted that tenant-based vouchers that could be used as part of a Moving On program would be desirable. Moving On is where a formerly homeless household that was provided a permanent supportive housing voucher that included services has been successfully housed and no longer requires or is no longer using services is provided with a different voucher that doesn't include

services. Then their original voucher is freed up to use on a currently homeless household in need of housing and services. The last suggestion was for a medical respite program for people who are discharged from hospitals, but are temporarily not able to live independently, but don't have other options.

Summary from February 2, 2023 HOME-ARP Session

This session took place during a regularly scheduled meeting of the Middlesex County Housing Continuum of Care Committee meeting, since that meeting had many stakeholders that represents the required types of organizations needed for HOME-ARP consultation. For many, this was the 2nd meeting they participated in on HOME-ARP, and they were able to have clearer guidance, especially around the use of eligible activities and preference.

After a brief introduction of the four QPs and the seven eligible activities, the group was split into four smaller groups to aid in discussion.

The first part of the small group discussion focused on best resources, including specific data sources, to help identify and accurately describe the different QPs for this allocation plan. The Homeless QP wasn't a topic since that is the one QP with good data sources through PIT and HMIS.

For "At Risk" QP, comments noted that this group is composed of many subgroups, like "couch surfers" that move to different places and tend to be younger; individuals and families who were previously evicted and lived with friends/family temporarily but have been asked to leave; people paying for their own motel stays; and people who are discharged from institutions for mental health, healthcare, foster care or corrections; and also undocumented individuals and families who often live in places without a legal lease and are susceptible to illegal landlord evictions because they aren't familiar with tenancy laws or are afraid to fight illegal evictions. Any data would be incomplete due to the fact that there is no one source that aggregates all of these populations and that people in these different situations are often well hidden.

For the "Fleeing DV" QP, comments noted that Women Aware would likely have good statistical information on the clients that they serve. Still Waters is an organization situated in Highland Park that assists victims of human trafficking.

For the "Other Housing Instability" QP, this again is a difficult category to quantify because there are many subsets of population that could be included in this QP. Also, if a particular characteristic that might make some one more likely to need assistance to remain stably housed, it is usually not an absolute indicator, meaning others with that same characteristic won't likely to have housing instability.

The next part of this HOME-ARP consultation session revolved around what eligible activities should be funds, which should not, and to what extent should the individual activities be funds (expressed as either a percentage or actual dollars.)

Non-Congregate Shelter was the highest ranked activity among three of the four groups, with those three groups averaging about \$3.5M or approximately 60% of the grant. The fourth group ranked it 2nd highest and recommended about \$2M for this activity. One group noted it was especially a need in Perth Amboy, which has no emergency shelters.

Affordable Rental Housing was supported by all four groups, with one group recommending approximately \$580,000; two groups recommending \$1M, and one group recommending approximately \$2.65M.

Supportive Services was also supported by all four groups, with most commenting on the need for community-based case management and/or wrap-around services tied to housing. One group noted that the services should not be carved out for any special homeless subpopulation but be available broadly. All four groups recommended between \$460K - \$580K be dedicated for this activity.

For Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) one group said “maybe” fund; another group said yes, but with no specific amount, and the other two groups said no. For the groups that said no, they mentioned that they thought that while more TBRA was needed, that it should be advocated to be funded by other means, especially since having funding specifically available for emergency shelters is rare and any TBRA funded would be limited for just a few years and not a permanent voucher.

For Non-profit Operating and Non-Profit Capacity Building there was consensus on funding. Three of the four groups recommended funding Operating at the 5% maximum (approximately \$290K). The 4th group recommended about \$167,000 or about 2.8%. For Non-Profit Capacity, two groups recommended the 5% maximum, another group recommended \$167,000, and the last group recommended \$150,000. It was also noted by one group that although there is different capital funding sources, they rarely, if ever, include this type of flexible funding for non-profits to help them be able to bring a project to fruition. While the HOME program can fund CHDOs (Community Housing Development Organizations), some non-profit housing developers aren't able to meet CHDO qualifications.

Planning/Administrative activities was also agreed to by all four groups, with amounts ranging from \$167,000 - \$580,000.

Summary from HOME-ARP Survey Results

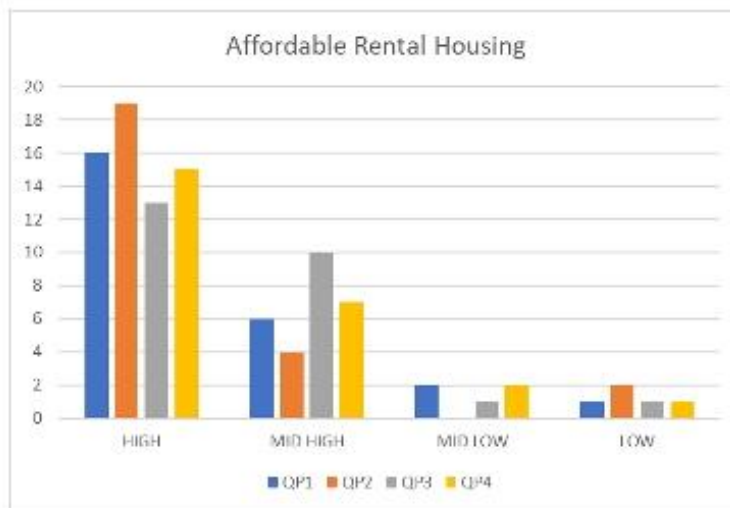
There were 25 survey responses received and reviewed, including from seven entities that hadn't previously participated in the consultation process.

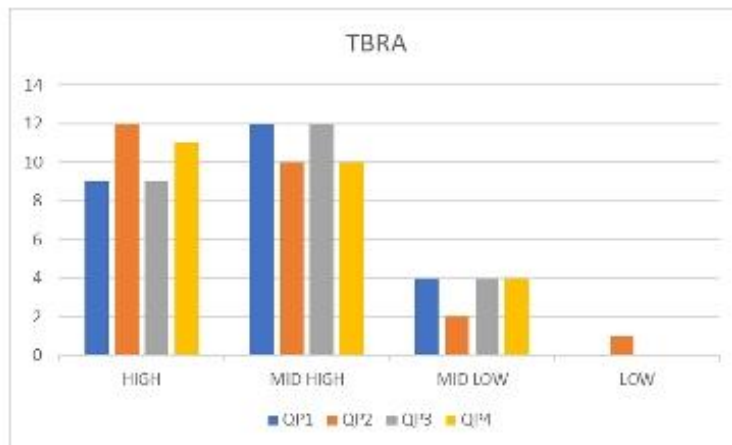
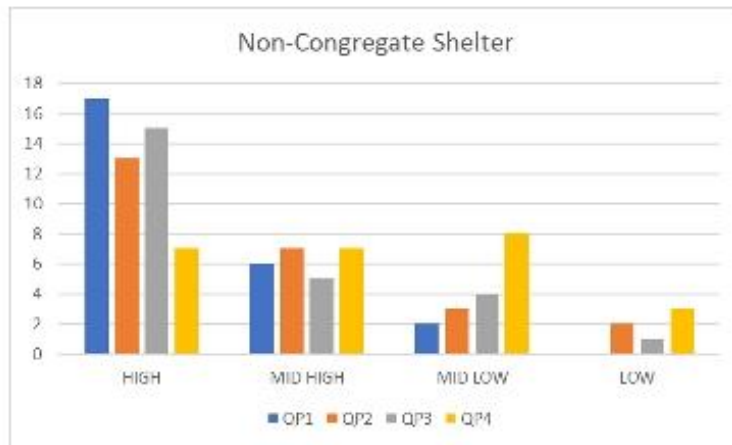
In answering the question about unmet housing and survey needs, 16 respondents indicated more affordable housing; 12 indicated various supportive services, 9 indicated emergency shelter, and 2 indicated TBRA. Some specifics on this question included increased permanent supportive

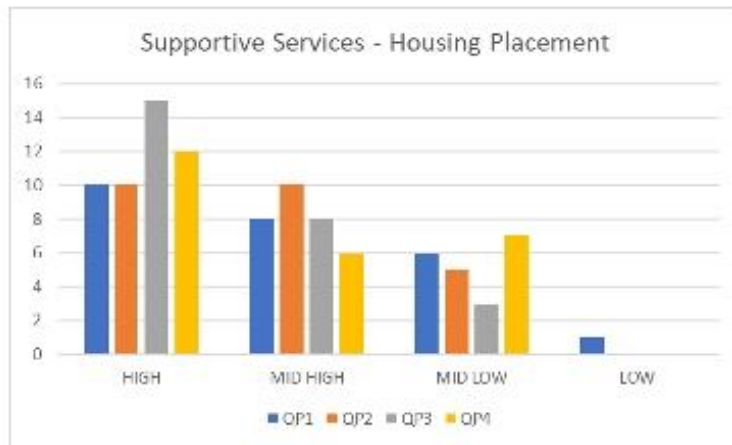
housing, options for undocumented households, more flexible prevention funding, affordable housing and/or TBRA for homeless youth and youth aging out of foster care, shelter options for persons with medical disabilities or those existing mental health and substance abuse facilities, transportation and case management focused on financial literacy, life skills, service navigation, application assistance, mental health services, and housing search.

Here are some charts showing the summary of the prioritization from the surveys.

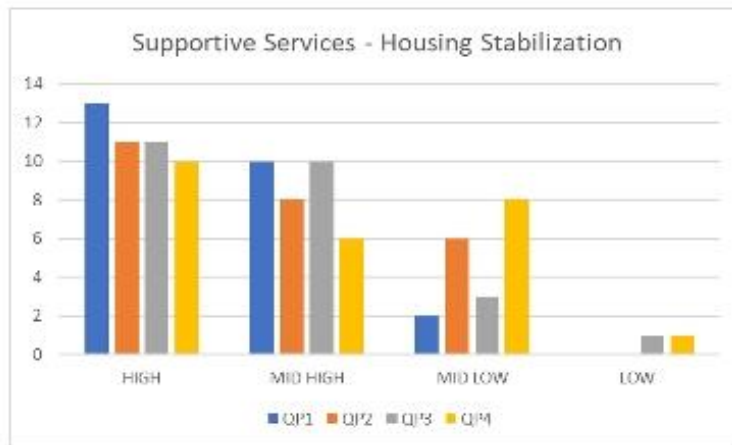
- QP1 – Homeless
- QP2 – At Risk of Homelessness
- QP3 – Fleeing Domestic Violence
- QP4 – Other Populations at Risk of Homelessness or Housing Instability



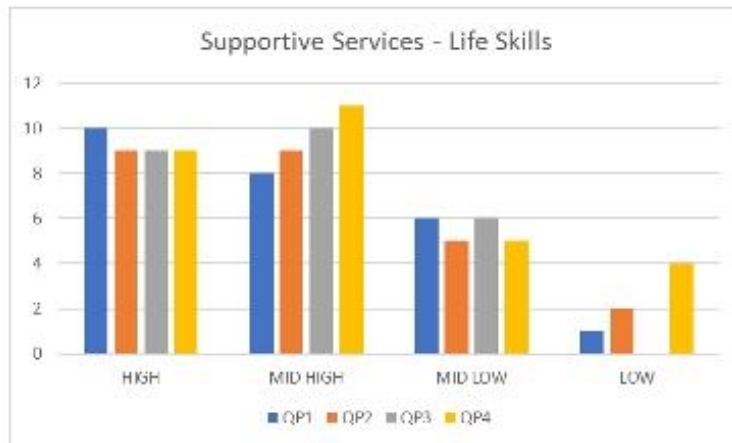




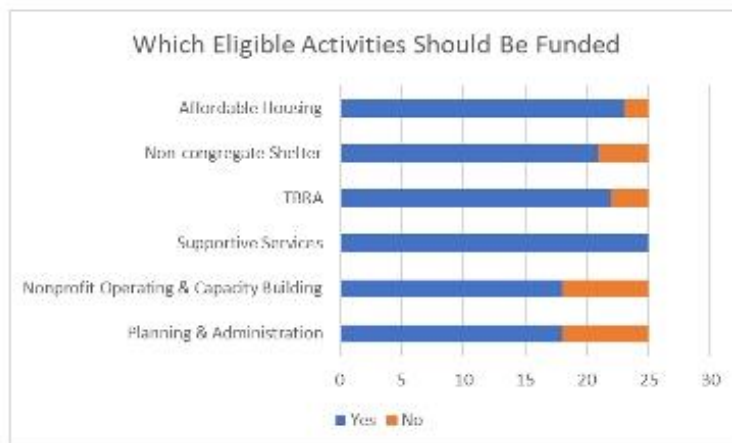
Housing Placement/Retention Services include locating housing, legal services, landlord/tenant issues



Housing Stabilization Services include comprehensive supportive services offered after housing placement.



Life skills services includes but is not limited to budgeting, employment & job training



Public Participation

In accordance with Section V.B of the Notice (page 13), PJs (entities receiving HOME-ARP funds) must provide for and encourage citizen participation in the development of the HOME-ARP allocation plan. Before submission of the plan, PJs must provide residents with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on the proposed HOME-ARP allocation plan of **no less than 15 calendar days**. *The PJ must follow its adopted requirements for "reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment" for plan amendments in its current citizen participation plan.* In addition, PJs must hold **at least one public hearing** during the development of the HOME-ARP allocation plan and prior to submission.

PJs are required to make the following information available to the public:

- The amount of HOME-ARP the PJ will receive, and
- The range of activities the PJ may undertake.

Throughout the HOME-ARP allocation plan public participation process, the PJ must follow its applicable fair housing and civil rights requirements and procedures for effective communication, accessibility, and reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities and providing meaningful access to participation by limited English proficient (LEP) residents that are in its current citizen participation plan as required by 24 CFR 91.105 and 91.115.

Describe the public participation process, including information about and the dates of the public comment period and public hearing(s) held during the development of the plan:

- **Date(s) of public notice:** Published in the Home News Tribune on **2/28/2023**
- **Public comment period:** start date – **3/2/2023** end date - **3/17/2023**
- **Date(s) of public hearing:** **3/7/2023, 3/8/2023, 3/13/2023**

Describe the public participation process:

The Public Notice was advertised in the Home News Tribune on 3/1/23 in both English and Spanish. The Public Notice not only provided notification of the public comment period, but also included the dates for the two public in person meetings and the one virtual TEAMS meeting. One in person meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, March 7th in the evening in Perth Amboy and another in person meeting was scheduled on Wednesday, March 8th in the afternoon in New Brunswick. There was also a virtual public meeting scheduled using the TEAMS platform from 12-1PM on Monday, March 13th. The Public Notice also provided the link to the county website to access the full HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and a summary of uses.

The two public meetings included a brief explanation of the four QPs and the eligible activities before explaining the actual allocation funding recommendation. In both cases, Spanish translation was available and handout materials were provided in English and Spanish. The public had the opportunity to comment, and their comments were included in this plan. The virtual TEAMS meeting also had a quick explanation of HOME-ARP and then allowed for public comments, which are also included below.

Describe efforts to broaden public participation:

While only required to hold one public meeting, Middlesex County scheduled three public meetings at different locations/format and at different times so there was hopefully an option for everyone interested to attend at a time that worked for them. The two public in person meetings were scheduled in our two largest urban areas, Perth Amboy and New Brunswick. In annual Point In Time (PIT) counts, these two cities had the highest homeless populations. The virtual TEAMS option was scheduled at lunch time so a person with less flexibility to attend in person.

Information about the three public meetings and the 6-day public comment period was placed on the county's website as of March 1st (same day as publication of the Public Notice) along with the copy of the Draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. Interested parties were provided with multiple ways to submit written comments, including through email, mail, fax, and dropping off in person. The county website has options to have select either English, Spanish, or Gujarati as your language of choice. For other languages, translation can be done for over 100 languages through the web browser such as Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge.

The Public Notice and information about the meeting were shared and emailed to the full Continuum of Care email list and also the full email list of the Human Services Advisory Council. These two email lists encompass a full scope of agencies, government entities and volunteer citizens working with or concerned about all four QP's including in the areas of homeless services, mental health, addictions, health care, veterans, childcare, education, corrections, foster care, domestic violence, developmental disabilities, housing, community development, plus many others. It was also sent to all staff from the Office of Human Services with direction to share with their advisory boards and councils, which included those in the areas of mental health, addictions, and children's services. All public housing agencies operating in Middlesex County were also forwarded the public notice. The Middlesex County Office of Communication also sent the notice to their broad community list which included Libraries, YMCAs, Community Centers, Veteran's Organizations, and Youth Recreation programs around the County.

Summarize the comments and recommendations received through the public participation process either in writing, or orally at a public hearing:

Public Hearing, Perth Amboy, 3/7/23 from 7-8:30pm:

- Questions regarding non-congregate shelter from Frank Cunningham, Beginning World Changers:
 - Can it be dormitory style (ie separate living space but communal bathroom)
 - Response: no, kitchen can be shared, but each unit must have their own bathroom facilities
 - Other than motels what could be used, would a motel need to be rezoned
 - Response: Zoning would depend on the town. Any building, whether currently residential or not, could potentially be rehabbed to meet non-congregate shelter requirements.
- General Comments from Steve Jobin and Lauren Capaci from Raritan Bay Area YMCA
 - Thanked for the work being put into the plan
 - Thanked for being in Perth Amboy (where there is currently no shelter) for our time to listen and the work to help end homelessness

Public Hearing, New Brunswick, 3/8/23 from 2-3:30pm:

- Non-Congregate Shelter question from Elorm Ocansey, citizen activist & Rutgers student

- Process to convert a standing motel into non-congregate shelter, who would start that process (the County or the funded agency)
 - Response: The Notice of Intent process was explained with all the steps in this process
- What other non-congregate shelters exist in Middlesex County
 - Response: Limited in CCDOM family shelter, motels are used through the Board of Social Services and had been used during the height of COVID for highly vulnerable individuals and COVID positive individuals who had no way to quarantine (mostly people already staying in the shelters)
- General Comments:
 - Non-congregate shelter seems like a “pretty cool” idea and would be great for the County – Elorm Ocansey
 - High need for more senior housing and would like more information on senior housing projects in Middlesex County – Jean Fontaine, New Brunswick resident
 - Rent is high all around – Ms. Fontaine

Virtual TEAMS Meeting, 3/13/23 from 12-1pm:

- Non-congregate shelter questions from Janette Kazazian, Volunteers of America:
 - Clarifying question about shared bath and kitchen, similar to a dorm set up?
 - Response: For non-congregate they would need to have their own bathroom facilities, but kitchen could be shared space.
- General Comments:
 - Stated she was attending just to learn more about what homeless services would be provided because there is definitely a need from Suzy Barbosa, Coordinated Family Care

Summarize any comments or recommendations not accepted and state the reasons why:

N/A – no comments or recommendations were not accepted

Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis

In accordance with Section V.C.1 of the Notice (page 14), a PJ must evaluate the size and demographic composition of **all four** of the qualifying populations within its boundaries and assess the unmet needs of each of those populations. If the PJ does not evaluate the needs of one of the qualifying populations, then the PJ has not completed their Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis. In addition, a PJ must identify any gaps within its current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system. A PJ should use current data, including point in time count, housing inventory count, or other data available through CoCs, and consultations with service providers to quantify the individuals and families in the qualifying populations and their need for additional housing, shelter, or services.

Homeless Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table

Homeless													
	Current Inventory					Homeless Population				Gap Analysis			
	Family		Adults Only		Vets	Family HH (at least 1 child)	Adult HH (w/o child)	Vets	Victims of DV	Family		Adults Only	
	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds					# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units
Emergency Shelter	111	32	72	-	0								
Transitional Housing	0	0	25	-	0								
Permanent Supportive Housing	348	128	296	-	127								
Other Permanent Housing	125	45	84	-	0								
Sheltered Homeless						76	265	15	82				
Unsheltered Homeless						0	85	4	0				
Current Gap										125	50	65	65

Data Sources: 1. Point in Time Count (PIT) 2022; 2. Continuum of Care Housing Inventory Count (HIC) 2022; 3. Consultation

Housing Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table

Non-Homeless			
	Current Inventory	Level of Need	Gap Analysis
	# of Units	# of Households	# of Households
Total Rental Units	104,025		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 30% AMI (At-Risk of Homelessness)	22,270		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 50% AMI (Other Populations)	37,395		
0%-30% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (At-Risk of Homelessness)		22,635	
30%-50% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (Other Populations)		15,955	
Current Gaps			23,205

Data Sources: 1. Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS)

Describe the size and demographic composition of qualifying populations within the PJ's boundaries:

Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

The best source of information about this Qualifying Population (QP) will be from the annual Point in Time Count (PIT) which is a county of individuals and families experiencing homelessness, required by HUD to occur at least every other year during the last 10 days of January. In the State of New Jersey, it is done annually and coordinated by Monarch Housing Associates and takes place across a single day to help eliminate duplication of persons being counted in more than one jurisdiction.

According to the 2022 Point In Time Count, there were 586 persons experiencing homelessness in Middlesex County on 1/25/22. This included 499 people who were sheltered and 87 that were unsheltered. There were 426 households experiencing homelessness. (A household can be a single person.) Some key demographic information:

- 56% identified as Male
- 44% identified as Female
- 24% were Children under 18 years of age
- 18% were Adults ages 55+
- 37% have been Homeless for 1+ years
- 62% reported 1 or more Disabilities
- 4% were Veterans
- 27% were Chronically Homeless (Homeless for at least 1 year or having at least 4 episodes of homelessness over the past 3 years totaling at least 12 months AND has a disability)

Homeless Families with Children

76 households containing at least one child under the age of 18 and one adult were identified as being homeless. These Homeless Families consisted of 221 persons, including 138 children under age 18 and 83 adults, with the average family size 2.9 persons. All 76 households were staying in emergency shelters, and none were unsheltered. The 76 households represent 18% of all homeless households, but the 221 persons in these households represent 37.7% of all homeless persons.

Adult Only Households

350 households consisted of adults only, representing 82% of all homeless households. These adult only households were composed of 365 adults, so the greatest majority of these adult households consist of just 1 person. (Other examples of adult only households would be a couple or a parent with an adult child.) 261 of these households (75%) were staying in emergency shelters and 85 of these households (24%) were unsheltered, with 4 household (less than 1%) were in transitional housing.

Disabilities

PIT count homeless respondents reported the following disabilities:

- Mental Health Issues – 247 persons
- Chronic Health Condition – 163 persons
- Substance Abuse Disorder – 146 persons
- Physical Disability – 110 persons
- Developmental Disability – 29 persons
- HIV/AIDS - 6 persons

Income and Benefits

- 109 (26%) of all PIT count homeless households reported no source of income, including 47 unsheltered households (55% of all unsheltered households).
- 107 households (25%) were receiving GA/Welfare
- 85 households (20%) were receiving SSI and/or SSDI
- 56 households (13%) had wage or work income
- 35 households (8% of all households but 46% of homeless families with children) were receiving TANF/Welfare
- 16 households (4%) were receiving Social Security
- 11 households (3% of all households but 14.5% of homeless families with children) were receiving child support

Length of Homelessness Among Households

- 0-2 months – 66 households
- 3-6 months – 112 households
- 7-9 months – 44 households
- 10-12 months – 44 households
- 1 – 3 years - 143 households
- 3+ years – 16 households

Racial Disparities in Homeless QP

Black, non-Hispanic/Latino are overrepresented in the homeless population. While they are 9.1% of the total populations, they account for 41.6% of the population experiencing homelessness. Hispanic/Latinos are also overrepresented in the homeless population to a lesser degree. They represent 22.4% of the total population but are 36.7% of the population experiencing homelessness.

White, non-Hispanic/Latino represents 38.6% of the total population, but only 18.8% of the populations experiencing homelessness. Asian, non-Hispanic/Latino represents 26.4% of the total population, but only 1.7% of the population experiencing homelessness.

At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

This QP is especially difficult to summarize since it represents persons who are very low income (less than 30% Area Median Income) and may be very shortly likely to enter the homeless system. This QP includes “couch surfers” who may move frequently between different friend and family members or others who may have been previously evicted from housing and are either paying for their own motel or temporarily living with friends or family and that living situation is not sustainable.

Some reasons that households that are temporarily living with friends or family becomes unsustainable is that they are legally not supposed to be living in the unit. This is particular a concern when families temporarily move in with others, which may cause overcrowding in the shared unit, or the unit is some type of subsidized housing where having occupants not on the lease puts the tenant in lease violation and at risk of losing the subsidy. Even in situations where these are not concerns, if the individual or family who temporarily moved in has been staying for a much longer time period than expected, the tenant/owner of the shared housing will ask them to leave. Other instances that lead to couch surfing or where individuals end up homeless is often with the homeless youth or young adult population, where for various reasons they are sometimes “kicked out” of their housing by their parents. This happens because the individual is LGBTQ, has turned 18, and/or living together becomes combative and has been reported as such by entities like the Board of Social Services, DCP&P, and Garden State Home.

Point In Time (PIT) data for the past four years (2019 - 2022) has shown that the number one cause of a household’s homelessness was that they were asked to leave a shared residence. This was the cause listed for over 20% of the respondents in 2020 – 2022 and by 16.7% of the respondents in 2019. In the past seven years (2016 – 2022), asked to leave a shared residence was always the number one reason, except for in 2018, when it was the 2nd most stated reason after loss of wages/employment. If 20% of the homeless population became homeless because they were asked to leave a shared residence, and the 2022 PIT data indicated that the county had 426 households experiencing homelessness, it can be assumed that at a minimum there are 85 households that may be in an unsustainable living situation and will be asked to leave the residence by the lease holder or owner.

Another source that can capture this QP population is the people who seek tenancy help from Central Jersey Legal Services (CJLS), the county’s local free legal aid organization. Since you have to be low income to qualify for their assistance with housing concerns, their cases would likely mainly households that meet this QPs requirements. In calendar year 2022, CJLS they closed 1, 147 housing cases, 890 that were coded as being landlord/tenant issues, most commonly persons facing eviction. Evictions are primarily for non-payment of rent or a combination of lease violations and non-payment. CJLS reported that housing cases have increased greatly in the second half of 2022. For a comparison, in 4th quarter 2021, they opened 188 new housing cases in Middlesex County. In 4th quarter 2022, they opened 302 housing cases, which is over a 60% increase. CJLS also noted that they opened 169 new

housing cases in January 2023, which would put them on pace to open 500 new cases in 1st quarter 2023. If this happens, it will represent 65% increase from 4th quarter 2022. CJLS also noted that they currently have 173 open housing cases as of the end of February 2023.

While the official Point In Time (PIT) numbers that are reported to HUD only include those meeting the HUD definition of homeless (or for HOME-ARP comparisons, QP1 and QP3), Middlesex County usually also evaluates PIT surveys completed by households that are “precariously housed”. This includes people who do not have permanent housing and whose shelter is temporary. Most of these households reported staying temporarily with friends or family, while others reported staying in a hotel that they paid for without assistance or being in jail or a hospital. The data on the Precariously Housed population is a good representation of the At Risk QP. Here’s a summary from Coming Home’s 2021 PIT Analysis:

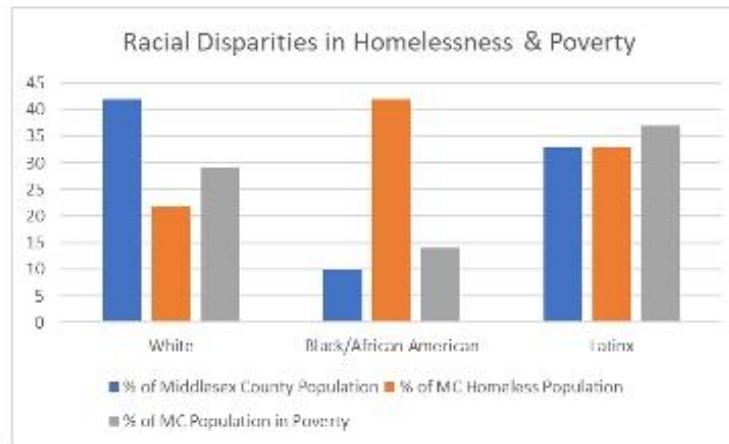
On the night of the 2021 PIT, there were 113 Households who were Precariously Housed:

- 36 Households without Children (39 adults)
- 77 Families (102 adults and 151 children)
- This represents a 41% decrease from 2020 in households reporting being Precariously Housed, likely due to the impact of the pandemic, including the eviction moratorium and a reduction in the number of households presenting for assistance or participating in the survey.
- 4 Families were headed by single mothers who qualify as Homeless Youth (ages 18-24) and 2 families were young couples. There are also 3 young Adults (18-24) without Children.
- 11 women in families and 2 individuals reported being victims of domestic violence.
- The majority of households (73%) reported that they were staying “Temporarily with Friends or Family.”
- Of the 77 families, 82% were single mothers, 4% were single fathers, 13% were two parent households.

That 2021 Coming Home PIT Analysis also noted the following regarding Precariously Housed, especially compared with the population that met the HUD definition of homeless. The top cause of homelessness for precariously housed was economic, i.e. Loss of Job/Reduction of Income. Other factors, such as being Asked to Leave a Shared Residence and Household breakup or death also indicate probable financial problems or loss of income leading to homelessness. In 2021, Domestic Violence rose to the third cause of potential homelessness for those who were precariously housed. Overall, the causes leading to be precariously housed was like that of literally homeless households, although there was a significantly higher percentage of literally homeless households reporting Release from an Institution, Mental Illness, and Substance Abuse. Here is a chart comparison from the study’s data showing differences between Precariously Housed and Homeless (or the differences from this QP2 At Risk to QP1 & QP3).

	Precariously Housed	Homeless (HUD Definition)
\$0 Income	20%	30%
Less than \$1500 income/month	32%	79% (Adults only – no breakdown for Families)
Employment Income	23%	15%
More than \$1500/month Income (any source)	21%	13%
Adult with a Disability	46%	74%

This At Risk QP is likely to share many demographic characteristics with the Homeless QP1, since many households in this QP, do eventually end up homeless and a part of QP1. Here's a chart from the Coming Home 2021 PIT Analysis that uses 2019 American Community Survey data.



This chart documents that populations in poverty or at risk of homelessness will have higher percentages of Black/African American and Latinx households compared to the total populations. While this is more extreme in the homeless population, it still shows a significant disparity for those in the At Risk QP.

So, while not a complete picture of the full scope of the At Risk QP, the above documents that at any given month, there are several hundred households (both single individuals and families) that could be At Risk of Homelessness.

Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice

Women Aware is the county’s domestic violence shelter provider, provides a multitude of services to survivors of domestic violence and also operates a 24/7 hotline. They have greatly increased their shelter capacity and services to meet increased demand. Here is a comparison over the past few years documented the growing demand and services provided.

	2020	2021	2022	Increase from 2021-2022
Persons Provided with Emergency Shelter	186	250	278 (136 adults & 142 children)	11%
Number of Bed Nights	7,699	11,440	17,983	57%
Avg. Number of Persons/Night	21	31	49	58%
Number of Hotline Calls	6400	7,278	8,763	20%
Persons Served with Legal Advocacy	821	1,137	1675	47%

Women Aware was able to increase their provision of bed nights not by increasing actually emergency shelter facility capacity, but by being able to utilize motels for non-congregate shelter. The costs for this additional capacity were primarily covered with increased COVID related funding, such as the ESG-CV program. The above statistics regarding persons utilizing the DV shelter program is an indicator of the minimum size of this population.

The NJ State Police provide an annual Domestic Violence Report based on incidents reported by municipal police departments. For calendar year 2020, the following was reported:

- 4,783 incidents of domestic violence
 - 1,235 where children were present
 - 460 where DCP&P (child welfare/child abuse) were called
 - 982 where drugs/alcohol were involved*
 - 335 where victim was over 60 years old
- 1,681 offender was arrested
- 1,000 incidents where a prior Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) was issued
- 829 incidents where a new TRO was issued

* A few municipalities that had high DV incident numbers reported 0 for this category, so data was likely not collected or noted in incident reports, indicating this is likely an undercount. Most municipalities reported between 22-25% of all cases involved alcohol or drug involvement.

The same report for 2019 showed a total of 4,336 reported incidents. So, 2020 saw a 10.3% increase in the total number of DV incidents reported to Middlesex County police departments.

The 2020 Domestic Violence Report also had the following data about the type of offenses:

- 2,073 were Assault Offenses
- 1,731 were Harassment Offenses
- 224 were Terroristic Threats
- 401 were Criminal Mischief
- 30 were Sexual Assault and 5 Criminal Sexual Contact
- 16 were Stalking
- 14 were Criminal Restrain or False Imprisonment
- 3 were Homicides

The 2020 Domestic Violence Report also had information on the type of Offender:

- 1096 were a boyfriend/girlfriend
- 1055 were a spouse or common-law spouse
- 702 were ex-boyfriend or ex-girlfriend
- 197 were ex-spouses
- 359 were a parent

Still Waters, a program run by Reformed Church of Highland Park Affordable Housing Corp., provided a report of the assistance and programs they provide to victims of human trafficking. Their report noted that although there are two main types of trafficking, sex trafficking and labor trafficking, that in caring for victims of trafficking, the distinction between foreign nationals and domestic (US citizens and permanent residents) victims is more crucial due to the many additional barriers that foreign nationals face in obtaining recovery supports. US citizens and permanent residents are eligible for Medicaid, TANF, housing vouchers, etc. while these resources are not available to foreign nationals. Since Middlesex County and the State of NJ overall have a high immigrant population, meaning there is a greater likelihood to have more victims of labor trafficking and/or sex trafficking than in states or areas with lower immigrant populations.

Still Waters operated a Trafficking Victims Assistance Program (TVAP) for a 3-year period ending 9/29/22 where they served 105 clients. They have started a new program where they have already enrolled 11 new clients. They also have a 3-year Department of Justice grant that was due to expire in April 2023 that was anticipated to provides short term housing assistance to 30 clients, but they ended up serving three times the number anticipated and ran out of funds before the contract ended. They have started a new 3-year housing assistance grant as of Oct. 2022 that is anticipated to serve 50 individual victims of trafficking.

Lastly, Still Waters noted that the number of trafficking victims reported through law enforcement is very low compared to numbers of victims served by non-government organizations, such as theirs. And even still they acknowledge that the clients they serve barely begin to form a base number from which an actual number of trafficking victims in any given geographic area could be projected.

While the above attempts to quantify this QP population, this just represents a percentage of the true potential number. Many individuals and families that would meet this QP criteria often go unreported and unknown, but the most recent data shows this is a growing QP.

Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability, as defined by HUD in the Notice

This is another QP that is composed of many different subsets, making it difficult to truly capture the full scope of the population. The below will attempt to provide some indications and characteristics of this QP.

One main component of this QP is households that were previously homeless and are currently receiving some temporary assistance that may be ending and that may have difficulty sustaining housing without continued assistance. As of December 2022, the local Board of Social Services had 43 households receiving Temporary Rental Assistance (TRA) from their Emergency Assistance (EA) Program. TRA is short term, usually only for up to 12 months. The 2022 Housing Inventory Count indicated that there were 55 formerly homeless households (28 families with children and 27 adults only) receiving Rapid Re-housing Assistance, which is capped at a maximum of 24 months, but usually provided for shorter periods of time. Middlesex County operated an Emergency Rental Assistance Program using US Department of Treasury COVID funding from May 2021 – August 2022. There were over 1500 applicants that were below 50% of Area Median Income (AMI) and were recommended for assistance.

Per the 2021 American Community Survey, there are 38,586 renter households paying more than 35% of their income towards housing cost making them cost burdened. The most recent Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data (2015-2019 ACS 5-year estimates), there are 23,205 low-income renter households (households making below 50% AMI that are paying more than 50% of their income in housing costs, making them severely cost burdened. This equals 22% of the total renter households.

Identify and consider the current resources available to assist qualifying populations, including congregate and non-congregate shelter units, supportive services, TBRA, and affordable and permanent supportive rental housing (Optional):

As described elsewhere in this plan, there is not enough congregate and non-congregate shelter units available within the county to meet the demand. Prioritized shelter waiting lists, especially

for the Mens' Shelter are always long, with the demand far exceeding supply. Both the Board of Social Services and local non-profits have to use local motels for shelter placement.

While supportive services exist to some extent for all QP's that are not enough to meet demand. Often when there is case management provided to the Homeless QP's, there is the expectation for the assigned case manager to have expertise in all areas. For example, PATH street outreach case managers trained to work with unsheltered persons with mental illness also have to be housing search specialists. For other services, like legal services for tenancy issues, there is more demand than can be served by the local free Legal Services provider. These are just a few main examples of the need for more supportive services for all QPs.

The demand for TBRA is well evident by the long waiting lists for all county PHA's and the fact that it is very rare that the state PHA or any of the municipal PHA's in the county will have their Housing Choice Voucher program even open to accept applications.

The county has a low rental unit vacancy rate of 2% per the 2021 American Community Survey along with growing rental costs. Per the 2021 American Community Survey, approximately 46% of all rental units are paying more than 30% of their income towards housing costs. Affordable housing is definitely needed. There have been annual increases in Fair Market Rents that have far exceeded many households' income increases, with many landlords using this environment to raise rent by high percentages each year, further exacerbating the issue. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is also a need, with many homeless households who would benefit from this being referred to housing sources with less services or who stay homeless for lack of units. The high cost of housing is also preventing households previously placed in PSH to move on to other housing, even if they no longer require the supportive services.

Describe the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations:

Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

The most critical need for the Homeless QP is shelter space. Middlesex County currently has one emergency shelter for Men, another for Single Women and Families, and another for survivors of Domestic Violence. These are the units reflected on the previous chart entitled "Homeless Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis". Not shown on this chart, but present on the 2022 Housing Inventory Chart (HIC) is 347 Overflow Beds. In our community, these are a combination of motel placements by the Board of Social Services using EA (Emergency Assistance), a seasonal (winter only) rotating shelter for men, motel placements by non-profit organizations, and a few other emergency placements in temporary shelter space, such as a church facility or a Code Blue side. So, the county has over twice its Year-Round Emergency Shelter Bed capacity in these Overflow Beds. This situation has been long running and not just due to COVID, although COVID has made it worse with increased shelter demand. The individuals and households who are placed in these Overflow Beds also tend to have even less access to case management and housing search assistance than our year-round emergency shelter facilities. There is also a need for year-round emergency

shelter facilities to have additional staff or access to system wide staff that is dedicated to housing search and landlord engagement.

There is also a need for additional permanent supportive housing (PSH) for homeless persons with disabilities. Because of our two-part Coordinated Entry system, which also prioritizes Emergency Shelter based on need and length of homelessness, the shelter population, especially in the Men's Shelter will often have a high chronic homeless population. This population, even with vouchers, will often find it difficult to find suitable rental units. Homeless dedicated PSH units that have lower barriers for admission are needed in the jurisdiction.

There is also the need for dedicated affordable rental units for individuals and families at or below 40% area median income (AMI). More specifically, SRO/studio units for single men who are working or have a steady fixed income like SS or SSI, but that even "affordable housing" targeted for people with incomes up to 80% AMI are far out of reach for this population. This is also true for low-income homeless families, which are often composed of single parents with multiple minor children. According to the 2022 Out of Reach Report by the National Low Income Housing Coalition, the State of NJ ranks 7th in overall unaffordability based on the gap between renters' wages and the cost of rental housing. In Middlesex County, to afford a Fair Market Rent (FMR) \$1,851 two-bedroom unit, a household would need an annual income of over \$74,000 to avoid being cost burdened (paying more than 30% of income towards housing costs.) To achieve this salary would require 110 hours per week at minimum wage, making it difficult for even a household with two lower paying jobs to afford a two bedroom at FMR.

There is also a need for additional rental assistance, with and without supportive services. This includes short- and medium-term assistance, such as Rapid Re-Housing funds and long-term subsidies like vouchers. Vouchers that are either tenant based, sponsored based or project based are needed to help the Homeless QP exit emergency shelter placement to permanent housing.

The Homeless QP is also the most in need for additional Supportive Services, especially around housing search and then wrap around services that could assist with housing stabilization.

At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

Although the recent use of federal American Rescue Plan funds through the Department of Treasury's Emergency Rental Assistance Program provided a large infusion to help households facing eviction, and therefore, at risk of homelessness, these funds are ending.

This QP limits eligibility to those making at or below 30% AMI. While this population could be served through different homelessness prevention funds provided by federal, state

or local funding sources, the non-profit organizations administering these funds have always had more demand than funding available.

As stated previously, many in this populations don't have their own permanent housing but are couch surfing or staying with others temporarily usually due to a family breakup and/or loss of income. Their low incomes coupled with the high cost of housing makes it difficult to secure new permanent housing. This indicates that there is a great need for additional affordable rental housing.

There is a Diversion Program that provides assistance to households that may otherwise enter the homeless system without these interventions. Even with a recent expansion, there is more demand to meet all those households that may benefit from this assistance.

Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice

The local Domestic Violence shelter program, Women Aware, does not have sufficient capacity to meet needs and could especially use additional non-congregate shelter capacity to serve all victim populations. Women Aware also noted in their most recent Impact Report that there has been a great increase in demand not only for shelter, but for services across all their programs as evidenced by increased hotline call. This is especially true for legal advocacy.

This QP has the same issues as the Homeless QP in that more affordable rental housing is needed for all household sizes, including permanent supportive housing.

Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability as defined by HUD in the Notice

This QP would mainly benefit from additional affordable housing options, both dedicated rental housing that's affordable to people at or below 50% Area Median Income (AMI) or long-term tenant-based vouchers.

There is also a need for additional prevention services that are more flexible and could provide financial assistance earlier in the eviction process. Most prevention funding has eligibility requirements that require a household to already have an eviction filing and be close to losing their housing before financial assistance can be provided. Lastly, for the subset of this QP that were previously homeless and in permanent supportive housing, there needs to be additional "Moving On" capacity, so these households could continue to receive the needed housing subsidy, but their original subsidy with housing and supportive services could be provided to a new homeless household.

Identify any gaps within the current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system:

Shelter

The Middlesex County CoC uses its Coordinated Entry system to prioritize placement in its emergency shelter facilities. Outside of dedicated beds for Board of Social Services (which does its own direct placement), other beds are filled through this prioritized list, which factors vulnerability, length of homelessness, presence of disabilities in establishing placement. When a shelter has an opening, it will go to the appropriate list (there are separate lists for Single Men, Single Women, and Families) and use the Shelter Prioritization list to fill the opening. Homeless individuals and families get on the list through either referral by the Homeless Hotline or referrals through various street outreach programs. Households are asked whether or not they want to be considered for shelter placement.

As stated above, there has constantly been a gap between the number of emergency shelter beds and the demand for these beds. Even with a large amount of Overflow beds provided through various means that supplement the year-round emergency shelter programs, there are still persons on shelter waiting lists and also other homeless persons who eschew these traditional shelters either because they don't like the congregate aspect of them or that their disabilities make the congregate shelters impractical. There is also an issue with where the existing emergency shelters are located. The Single Women and Family Shelter is located in Edison, which is somewhat centrally located in the county and close to municipalities that report the highest levels of homelessness (New Brunswick, Perth Amboy, Woodbridge, Edison). The only Mens' Shelter is located in New Brunswick. Many of the homeless population in the greater Perth Amboy area don't like to leave that locale because of jobs and/or the community supports they have their (social service agencies, medical personnel, friends/family etc.)

Women Aware has been able to increase their emergency shelter capacity using motels due to COVID related funding that has ended or will end soon. This documented a need for additional capacity to serve the QP3 population, especially non-congregate shelter space.

Coming Home has been operating an emergency sheltering program with COVID funding targeting unsheltered homeless who are at higher risk of contracting COVID due to age and/or certain disabilities, such as chronic heart or lung issues, asthma, immune compromised, etc. They also used motels for this additional non-congregate shelter space. Once sheltered, case management staff then worked with them on obtaining permanent housing and many individuals went from being unsheltered (and often chronically homeless) to being permanently and sustainably housed.

Housing Inventory

Data from multiple sources already cited in this document point very clearly to there being not enough affordable housing for individuals and families in all four QPs.

For the Homeless QP, even those who obtain some type of tenant-based voucher, often have difficulty finding landlords willing to rent to them because of their poor or non-existent credit history. For others in the Homeless QP, with temporary or no housing subsidy, their income is

often too low to be able to find suitable housing that won't have them paying more than 50% of their income in housing costs.

For QP3 (Fleeing Domestic Violence), they may or may not have higher incomes than QP1 but are still facing challenges in that their income isn't enough to obtain market rate rents and there are often long waits for affordable rental units.

QP2 (At Risk) and QP4 (Other/Housing Instability) that live in their own permanent housing have incomes lower than 50% AMI and are very likely to be paying much more than 30% of their income in housing costs, which makes them susceptible to losing their housing if they have one large unplanned expense or temporary loss of income, such as a major car repair, unable to work due to a medical issue or family breakup.

The 2022 Out of Reach Report issued jointly by the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) and the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey noted that in Middlesex County the Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a 2-bedroom unit is \$1,851. For that to be affordable to a household (not paying more than 30% of their income towards housing cost), the household would have to earn over \$74,000. For a 1-bedroom unit with a FMR of \$1,455, the household would have to make over \$58,000 for that unit to be affordable.

According to the 2021 American Community Survey, out of over 105,000 rental units, there were only just over 11,000 that were priced under \$1,000/month in rent. There are most definitely not enough housing units priced at levels that most of the households in any of the QPs could afford. There is a high need for more affordable rental housing that is either dedicated specifically for homeless individuals and families or that is targeted to households making less than 40% of area median income.

Service Delivery System

There are multiple Street Outreach programs operating in the county, including two PATH programs targeting unsheltered persons with serious mental illness. These programs were able to expand during pandemic with additional COVID funding, but in some cases that funding is or has ended. Street Outreach programs work by continually engaging with individuals and being able to offer them access to shelter, non-congregate shelter, and/or permanent housing (either through a voucher or dedicated affordable unit.) The system could benefit from additional street outreach staffing, but also additional non-congregate shelter options and additional affordable rental housing options.

In the existing shelter systems, there is case management offered and some limited assistance with housing search. Shelter clients would benefit from additional staffing that could provide housing search assistance and system wide landlord engagement. In addition to the housing search help, the main issue is that there is not enough affordable rental housing, units dedicated or priced to very low-income households, and housing vouchers.

Households that are on the waiting list for housing are offered case management, but there is more demand than the case managers could realistically provide. This could be alleviated by additional case managers and additional housing supports. There is also a Diversion program that has been funded by NJ Department of Community Affairs for the past year that was recently expanded to include a second funded non-profit agency. While this increased capacity is appreciated, there is still not likely enough to assist all who would benefit or desire to access this program.

Under Section IV.4.2.ii.G of the HOME-ARP Notice, a PJ may provide additional characteristics associated with instability and increased risk of homelessness in their HOME-ARP allocation plan. These characteristics will further refine the definition of “other populations” that are “At Greatest Risk of Housing Instability,” as established in the HOME-ARP Notice. If including these characteristics, identify them here:

N/A

Identify priority needs for qualifying populations:

The main priority need identified by both consulting with organizations working with or representing the different QPs and by data, is the need for non-congregate shelter. Since the implementation of Coordinated Entry for shelter placement in 2015, there has never been a time when there weren't multiple people waiting on a list for the congregate shelters for Men, Single Women, or Families. These lists exceed demand even with the use of overflow units in motels by the Board of Social Services and non-profit agencies help increase shelter capacity. While primarily benefiting the Homeless QP and the Fleeing Domestic Violence QP, it will also benefit the other two QPs (At Risk of Homelessness and Other Populations/Housing Instability) who could end up falling into the Homeless QP and be in need of emergency shelter.

Another main priority need is to develop more affordable rental housing, especially for those at or below 50% of Area Median Income. This would benefit all four QPs. Permanent Supportive Housing, which couples low-income rental housing with offered supportive services was specifically identified as a need for the Homeless and Fleeing Domestic Violence QPs. Individuals and families are staying in shelters longer because of the lack of affordable housing in the community. All four QPs need affordable rental housing that is targeted to households making no more than 50% of Area Median Income (AMI), but ideally set for households making no more than 30% AMI. Any units dedicated to serve the QPs will be helpful, but it is especially crucial for those in most need, or the Homeless and Fleeing DV QPs.

Supportive Services have been identified as a priority need, both in conjunction with non-congregate shelter and affordable rental housing and also as standalone services to all QPs. One crucially identified service need was the need for housing search assistance and landlord engagement. There are many other needs that could benefit all QPs from obtaining permanent housing, maintaining permanent housing, increasing income (through accessing qualified mainstream resources or increased employment opportunities), transportation, childcare assistance, and many more.

Explain how the PJ determined the level of need and gaps in *the PJ's* shelter and housing inventory and service delivery systems based on the data presented in the plan:

Middlesex County used both the data cited in this allocation plan, plus the information derived from the subject matter experts through the consultation process in making determinations of the needs and gaps in the shelter and housing inventory and service delivery system. Data used included HMIS data, Point in Time Count data and analysis, Housing Inventory Count, and Census data including from the American Community Survey. Many non-profit agencies that work directly with one or more of the QPs also provided data on clients served, documented increased demand, and noted where there is increased level of need than they are able to provide. Since Middlesex County Division of Housing is both the prepared of this plan and also the lead entity for the jurisdiction's CoC, there is also known information about how the system operates and existing service gaps and unmet need.

HOME-ARP Activities

Describe the method(s) that will be used for soliciting applications for funding and/or selecting developers, service providers, subrecipients and/or contractors:

There will be different processes depending on the HOME-ARP eligible activity.

For the **Development of Affordable Rental Housing**, Middlesex County will use a similar process as it does for the HOME Program and its county funded Housing First Capital Fund (HFCF). Potential applicants will be required to submit an application that includes detailed project description, a development budget, sources and uses of funds, an operating pro forma for the applicable term of affordability, agency experience and capacity, social services provided, rents and utilities, and municipal approval, endorsement or support.

The Rental Housing applicant could within the same application, request funding for Non-Profit Operating and/or Capacity Building and/or Supportive Services. They would have to describe how these funds would be used and why they are needed to bring the project to fruition.

The application will be evaluated by a special committee consisting of county staff, members of the county's Housing & Community Development (HCD) Committee and Coming Home staff. All these individuals/entities currently review applications for either the HOME, HFCF or both. The committee will evaluate the project on several factors, including: overall costs and cost per unit; location (proximity to transportation, stores, employment opportunities, social services, schools); rental affordability; unit size; social services offered onsite and ability to connected to mainstream resources; agency experience in development & management; leveraging of other funding sources; and project timeline for completion. Projects recommended by the committee will be submitted to County Administration for final review and then placed on a Board of County Commissioners meeting for approval.

Non-Congregate Shelter was identified as the highest need activity and represents the largest portion of our HOME-ARP allocation. Because the development of sustainable non-congregate shelter is more difficult in many ways than the development of affordable rental housing, Middlesex County will hold a Technical Assistance (TA) session for agencies interested in potentially applying for this portion of funding. This TA session will not only go over federal HOME-ARP requirements, but also State of NJ requirements for the operation of emergency shelters and explain the process that the county will use to select applicants under this eligible activity.

The county anticipates using a Notice of Intent (NOI) process for the development of non-congregate shelter. It will solicit NOI applications from agencies interested in developing non-congregate shelter and they will be evaluated on criteria such as agency experience, planned service area, and fiscal feasibility. The NOI will also include an opportunity to apply for Non-Profit Operating Assistance and/or Capacity Building Assistance for qualified applicants.

The county will select one or more applicants through the NOI process. The NOI selection will indicate that the applicant is eligible to receive HOME-ARP funds for the development of a non-congregate shelter, upon successful submission of a full application that will include the site selected, full development and operating pro forma and sources and uses of funds. The full application can also request Supportive Services if they can be shown to be an eligible HOME-ARP expense and not part of operating cost. The full application will then be reviewed by the County, in consultation with the CoC, with the funding recommendation made and authorized by the County Board of Commissioners.

Supportive Services, as stated above, can be part of applications for Development of Affordable Rental Housing and for Non-Congregate Shelter. Those requests will be evaluated, and funding decisions made based on the overall application and in conjunction with the primary HOME-ARP activity.

The county will also have a process for standalone Supportive Services. It is anticipated that the county will use Competitive Contracting to award such funds to applicant organizations. Competitive Contracting is a purchasing process where the county will solicit proposals from organizations to provide staffing for the provision of specific services. The proposals will be evaluated on not only price, but on agency capacity, experience, and the effectiveness of their program design and service delivery model. The services will have been identified as crucial to the homeless system through consultation with the CoC and based on input received from this process on system gaps and identified need. The Supportive Services may be for an expansion of existing services, for new services, or to continue a provided services that have an expiring funding source, such as CDBG-CV. Final funding recommendations will be approved by the County Board of Commissioners.

Requests for **Non-Profit Operation & Capacity Building Assistance**, as stated above, can be included with other HOME-ARP applications for Development of Affordable Rental Housing and Non-Congregate Shelter. The county will also accept on a rolling basis, applications for this activity not connected to another project. These applications will have to identify what type of HOME-ARP project they intent to later apply for, how the funds will be used, how funding will enable them to submit a full HOME-ARP application, and the agency experience and capacity. Decisions on funding for this category will also depend on the amount of HOME-ARP funding uncommitted in the activity category the applicant proposes for their project, in addition to evaluative criteria on project feasibility and agency capacity. Funding decisions will be made by the county and authorized by the County Board of Commissioners.

The county did not include **Tenant Based Rental Assistance** in its Allocation Plan.

Describe whether the PJ will administer eligible activities directly:

The county does not plan on administering the eligible HOME-ARP activities directly. HOME-ARP funding will be awarded to eligible entities through the processes outlined above. The county will provide technical assistance, monitoring and report on all HOME-ARP activities.

If any portion of the PJ's HOME-ARP administrative funds are provided to a subrecipient or contractor prior to HUD's acceptance of the HOME-ARP allocation plan because the subrecipient or contractor is responsible for the administration of the PJ's entire HOME-ARP grant, identify the subrecipient or contractor and describe its role and responsibilities in administering all of the PJ's HOME-ARP program:

N/A

HOME-ARP Funding by Eligible Activities

In accordance with HUD regulatory guidance, the county must indicate the amount of HOME-ARP funding that is planned for each eligible HOME-ARP activity type and demonstrate that any planned funding for nonprofit organization operating assistance, nonprofit capacity building, and administrative costs is within HOME-ARP limits.

Use of HOME-ARP Funding

	Funding Amount	Percent of the Grant	Statutory Limit
Supportive Services	\$ 504,246		
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	\$ 3,500,000		
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$ 0		
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$ 1,000,000		
Non-Profit Operating	\$ 290,000	4.96 %	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	\$ 150,000	2.57 %	5%
Administration and Planning	\$ 400,000	6.84 %	15%
Total HOME ARP Allocation	\$ 5,844,246		

Describe how the PJ will distribute HOME-ARP funds in accordance with its priority needs identified in its needs assessment and gap analysis:

Middlesex County is utilizing HOME-ARP funding to increase non-congregate shelter capacity, to fund the Development of Affordable Rental Housing, and to fund Supportive Services to support these two eligible activities and to provide other system supports. These activities were all noted as high priority needs by all data metrics and by consultation required for this HOME-ARP plan.

Describe how the characteristics of the shelter and housing inventory, service delivery system, and the needs identified in the gap analysis provided a rationale for the plan to fund eligible activities:

The shelter and housing inventory, service delivery system, and the needs identified in the gap analysis indicated a strong need for all the eligible activities under HOME-ARP funding. This was especially true of the Homeless QP and the Fleeing DV QP, as they are the populations most in need of increased shelter capacity. All four QPs would benefit from additional rental housing that is affordable to households making less than 50% AMI, and especially households at or below 30% AMI.

Since there is only limited HOME-ARP funding, it's a one-time funding source and it has a longer expenditure time frame than other CARES and American Rescue Plan funding targeting homeless or at-risk households, the allocation plan did not recommend funding for Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA). Developing more Non-Congregate Shelter was the highest priority, and it is a continual system need, which is why it is the highest funded eligible activity. The next

highest need was creation of more affordable housing. This could be accomplished through allocating funding to the Development of Affordable Rental Housing and/or through allocation of funding to TBRA. Middlesex County is recommending that funding be used for the Development of Affordable Housing and not TBRA. Based on current Fair Market Rents, to fund a 1-bedroom unit for 3 years, could cost over \$50,000 in funding. While the \$1M currently allocated to Development of Affordable Rental Housing could potentially serve 20 households using TBRA, it would only be for a 3-year period and then there is no sustainability. So, while that same \$1M in Affordable Rental Housing is projected to create 10 dedicated units, these units will be available for a minimum of 15 years. It was determined that this is more desirable to have a longer-term impact. There are other funding sources for the Development of Affordable Housing, so HOME-ARP funds are anticipated to be used as gap funding in projects. HOME-ARP allow rental housing projects to fund operating reserves, which isn't usually allowable with other sources. There is also the ability to couple HOME-ARP rental housing development funds with supportive services funding and for non-profit developers to apply for operating and capacity building funding. This flexibility in the Affordable Rental Housing activity was the reason it was chosen as a way to increase the county's dedicated housing inventory.

Supportive Services were also a high priority need and have been funded accordingly. Non-Profit Operating and Capacity Building were also recommended for funding. This was seen as necessary to allow non-profits to submit competitive applications for HOME-ARP funding for rental housing development and for non-congregate shelter development.

HOME-ARP Production Housing Goals

Estimate the number of affordable rental housing units for qualifying populations that the PJ will produce or support with its HOME-ARP allocation:

The county estimates that approximately 10 affordable rental housing units for qualifying populations will be produced with the HOME-ARP allocation. The \$100K/per unit is a typical level of assistance for similar HOME and county funded Housing First Capital Fund (HFCF) projects. This estimation is based on HOME-ARP not being the sole source of funding used in the creation of these units, but that HOME-ARP may be primarily used as a gap financing source to help bring planned rental housing units for qualifying populations to fruition.

Describe the specific affordable rental housing production goal that the PJ hopes to achieve and describe how the production goal will address the PJ's priority needs:

Middlesex County anticipates using HOME-ARP funding to create 10 affordable rental housing units. Because of the deed restrictions required for HOME-ARP funds, these created units will serve the CoC homeless system for a minimum of 15 years. The County and CoC continually looks to increase the number of dedicated homeless units since they will be able to serve multiple families during the deed restricted period and helps address a priority need identified by consultation and substantiated by data.

Preferences

A preference provides a priority for the selection of applicants who fall into a specific QP or category (e.g., elderly or persons with disabilities) within a QP (i.e., subpopulation) to receive assistance. A preference permits an eligible applicant that qualifies for a PJ-adopted preference to be selected for HOME-ARP assistance before another eligible applicant that does not qualify for a preference. A method of prioritization is the process by which a PJ determines how two or more eligible applicants qualifying for the same or different preferences are selected for HOME-ARP assistance. For example, in a project with a preference for chronically homeless, all eligible QP applicants are selected in chronological order for a HOME-ARP rental project except that eligible QP applicants that qualify for the preference of chronically homeless are selected for occupancy based on length of time they have been homeless before eligible QP applicants who do not qualify for the preference of chronically homeless.

Please note that HUD has also described a method of prioritization in other HUD guidance. Section I.C.4 of Notice CPD-17-01 describes Prioritization in CoC CE as follows:

“Prioritization. In the context of the coordinated entry process, HUD uses the term “Prioritization” to refer to the coordinated entry-specific process by which all persons in need of assistance who use coordinated entry are ranked in order of priority. The coordinated entry prioritization policies are established by the CoC with input from all community stakeholders and must ensure that ESG projects are able to serve clients in accordance with written standards that are established under 24 CFR 576.400(e). In addition, the coordinated entry process must, to the maximum extent feasible, ensure that people with more severe service needs and levels of vulnerability are prioritized for housing and homeless assistance before those with less severe service needs and lower levels of vulnerability. Regardless of how prioritization decisions are implemented, the prioritization process must follow the requirements in Section II.B.3. and Section I.D. of this Notice.”

If a PJ is using a CE that has a method of prioritization described in CPD-17-01, then a PJ has preferences and a method of prioritizing those preferences. These must be described in the HOME-ARP allocation plan in order to comply with the requirements of Section IV.C.2 (page 10) of the HOME-ARP Notice.

In accordance with Section V.C.4 of the Notice (page 15), the HOME-ARP allocation plan must identify whether the PJ intends to give a preference to one or more qualifying populations or a subpopulation within one or more qualifying populations for any eligible activity or project.

- Preferences cannot violate any applicable fair housing, civil rights, and nondiscrimination requirements, including but not limited to those requirements listed in 24 CFR 5.105(a).
- The PJ must comply with all applicable nondiscrimination and equal opportunity laws and requirements listed in 24 CFR 5.105(a) and any other applicable fair housing and civil rights laws and requirements when establishing preferences or methods of prioritization.

While PJs are not required to describe specific projects in its HOME-ARP allocation plan to which the preferences will apply, the PJ must describe the planned use of any preferences in its HOME-ARP allocation plan. This requirement also applies if the PJ intends to commit HOME-ARP funds to projects that will utilize preferences or limitations to comply with restrictive eligibility requirements of another project funding source. **If a PJ fails to describe preferences or limitations in its plan, it cannot commit HOME-ARP funds to a project that will implement a preference or limitation until the PJ amends its HOME-ARP allocation plan. For HOME-ARP rental housing projects, Section VI.B.20.a.iii of the HOME-ARP Notice (page 36) states that owners may only limit eligibility or give a preference to a particular qualifying population or segment of the qualifying population if the limitation or preference is described in the PJ's HOME-ARP allocation plan.** Adding a preference or limitation not previously described in the plan requires a substantial amendment and a public comment period in accordance with Section V.C.6 of the Notice (page 16).

Identify whether the PJ intends to give preference to one or more qualifying populations or a subpopulation within one or more qualifying populations for any eligible activity or project: Middlesex County will give preference to the Homeless QP and the Fleeing or Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence QP for all HOME-ARP funded activities and projects. This preference is in line with how the Coordinated Entry system works to prioritize shelter and permanent housing opportunities to those identified as having the most critical need at that time as evidenced by criteria such as length of homelessness, chronic homeless history, and having disabilities.

If a preference was identified, explain how the use of a preference or method of prioritization will address the unmet need or gap in benefits and services received by individuals and families in the qualifying population or subpopulation of qualifying population, consistent with the PJ's needs assessment and gap analysis:

The Middlesex County Allocation Plan prioritized Non-Congregate Shelter as its primary need and is allocating over 60% of its overall HOME-ARP funding for this purpose. Through both the comprehensive consultation process and the examination of Point in Time, Housing Inventory Count, and HMIS data, there is a clear need for our jurisdiction to increase its shelter capacity. Therefore, it makes sense for Middlesex County to prioritize the two QPs that contain homeless persons with no other safe or accessible shelter options. The households in these two QPs are the most vulnerable and are currently having a housing crisis.

HOME-ARP Rental Housing activities will also prioritize the Homeless QP and the Fleeing or Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence QP. These two QPs are comprised of households that are unsheltered and living in places not meant for human habitation or currently in emergency shelter or overflow shelter beds, including motels paid for by agencies. For the past decade and likely much longer, Middlesex County has lacked shelter capacity to serve its homeless population. There are often significant barriers for homeless persons & DV households in being able to exit shelter into permanent housing opportunities, which results in longer shelter stays,

especially when persons prioritized for shelter through the Middlesex County Coordinated Entry process are often chronically homeless and/or previously unsheltered for long periods of time. By prioritizing these two QPs for HOME-ARP Rental Housing activities, it will enable them to more quickly exit shelter, which then frees up those shelter units for persons waiting for and in need of shelter opportunities.

For standalone Supportive Services project, the Homeless QP and the Fleeing or Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence QP may be utilized if that particular HOME-ARP support service activity does not have the capacity to serve all QPs or households in all QPs desiring that service. It is anticipated that HOME-ARP funded Supportive Services project will be made available system wide and county wide.

Referral Methods

PJs are not required to describe referral methods in the plan. However, if a PJ intends to use a coordinated entry (CE) process for referrals to a HOME-ARP project or activity, the PJ must ensure compliance with Section IV.C.2 of the Notice (page10).

A PJ may use only the CE for direct referrals to HOME-ARP projects and activities (as opposed to CE and other referral agencies or a waitlist) if the CE expands to accept all HOME-ARP qualifying populations and implements the preferences and prioritization established by the PJ in its HOME-ARP allocation plan. A direct referral is where the CE provides the eligible applicant directly to the PJ, subrecipient, or owner to receive HOME-ARP TBRA, supportive services, admittance to a HOME-ARP rental unit, or occupancy of a NCS unit. In comparison, an indirect referral is where a CE (or other referral source) refers an eligible applicant for placement to a project or activity waitlist. Eligible applicants are then selected for a HOME-ARP project or activity from the waitlist.

The PJ must require a project or activity to use CE along with other referral methods (as provided in Section IV.C.2.ii) or to use only a project/activity waiting list (as provided in Section IV.C.2.iii) if:

1. the CE does not have a sufficient number of qualifying individuals and families to refer to the PJ for the project or activity;
2. the CE does not include all HOME-ARP qualifying populations; or,
3. the CE fails to provide access and implement uniform referral processes in situations where a project's geographic area(s) is broader than the geographic area(s) covered by the CE

If a PJ uses a CE that prioritizes one or more qualifying populations or segments of qualifying populations (e.g., prioritizing assistance or units for chronically homeless individuals first, then prioritizing homeless youth second, followed by any other individuals qualifying as homeless, etc.) then this constitutes the use of preferences and a method of prioritization. To implement a CE with these preferences and priorities, the PJ **must** include the preferences and method of

prioritization that the CE will use in the preferences section of their HOME-ARP allocation plan. Use of a CE with embedded preferences or methods of prioritization that are not contained in the PJ's HOME-ARP allocation does not comply with Section IV.C.2 of the Notice (page10).

Identify the referral methods that the PJ intends to use for its HOME-ARP projects and activities. *PJ's may use multiple referral methods in its HOME-ARP program. (Optional):* Middlesex County proposed to use an enhanced Coordinated Entry process as the referral method for its HOME-ARP projects and activities. The Middlesex County CoC implemented its Coordinated Entry (CE) system in 2015. It was implemented for both prioritizing most Emergency Shelter placements and for prioritizing permanent housing (with or without supports). While all CoC funded housing projects are required to use CE, the county has also been successful in getting other permanent housing dedicated for the homeless to also agree to use CE as its only referral method.

If the PJ intends to use the coordinated entry (CE) process established by the CoC, describe whether all qualifying populations eligible for a project or activity will be included in the CE process, or the method by which all qualifying populations eligible for the project or activity will be covered. (Optional):

All four QPs will be eligible for HOME-ARP activities through the enhanced CE process. Currently, all four QPs are eligible for CE screening and placement on lists for shelter and permanent housing opportunities and the expansion of the CE system (which will have multiple physical locations to access CE) planned for July 2023 will also aid in more QP households being aware of all potential CoC system resources, not just HOME-ARP. The HOME-ARP funding will not be enough to serve all those in the four QPs that have needs, especially around affordable rental housing, which is why the prioritization is so important. So, while households in QP2 and QP4 aren't as likely to receive referrals for HOME-ARP placements, they will also be referred for other system programs they may be eligible to receive and can help them maintain existing permanent housing or locate new permanent housing. For example, QP2 and QP4 households are likely eligible for Diversion funding. HOME-ARP funding for standalone supportive services will be available for households in all four QPs.

If the PJ intends to use the CE process established by the CoC, describe the method of prioritization to be used by the CE. (Optional):

The current CE process for shelter placement maintains lists for openings for men, single women, and families with minor children. The lists are done through a prioritization that factors their current housing situation is, the length of time they may have been homeless, if they are chronically homeless, any previous homeless history, and any disabilities. This means that someone who is living in their car would "jump over" someone who is couch surfing on a shelter list even if the couch surfer has been in their situation longer. When HOME-ARP non-congregate shelter is created, that program will use this same priority lists, but since its non-congregate, they would take the household prioritized highest for that unit size regardless of whether its from the men's, single female, or family list.

CE is already used for almost all permanent supportive housing within the CoC and for many permanent housing programs. Using CE is a requirement for any program that has been funded by federal CoC or any county funding and for any projects with homeless dedicated unit that have requested a letter of support from the CoC. CE prioritization for permanent housing factors in whether the household has been chronically homeless; their history with institutions like foster care medical, mental health, or corrections; presence of disabilities; and also, now includes a metric to check for COVID vulnerability. CE also collects data on current household income. When there is a housing opportunity, a CE referral is made based on the unit size and that the household meets whatever requirements that particular housing may require. For example, some homeless units aren't subsidized by a voucher, but are targeted to a household at 20-30% AMI. This means that when a referral is made, it won't necessarily be the household at the top of the list, but the household the furthest up the list that has income to support that unit. HOME-ARP units will be handled the same. Because of how the CE system works, households in QP1 and QP3 are almost always likely to be prioritized higher than households in QP2 and QP4.

If the PJ intends to use both a CE process established by the CoC and another referral method for a project or activity, describe any method of prioritization between the two referral methods, if any. (Optional):

N/A

Limitations in a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project

Limiting eligibility for a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project is only permitted under certain circumstances.

- PJs must follow all applicable fair housing, civil rights, and nondiscrimination requirements, including but not limited to those requirements listed in 24 CFR 5.105(a). This includes, but is not limited to, the Fair Housing Act, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, section 504 of Rehabilitation Act, HUD's Equal Access Rule, and the Americans with Disabilities Act, as applicable.
- A PJ may not exclude otherwise eligible qualifying populations from its overall HOME-ARP program.
- Within the qualifying populations, participation in a project or activity may be limited to persons with a specific disability only, if necessary, to provide effective housing, aid, benefit, or services that would be as effective as those provided to others in accordance with 24 CFR 8.4(b)(1)(iv). A PJ must describe why such a limitation for a project or activity is necessary in its HOME-ARP allocation plan (based on the needs and gap identified by the PJ in its plan) to meet some greater need and to provide a specific benefit that cannot be provided through the provision of a preference.
- For HOME-ARP rental housing, section VI.B.20.a.iii of the Notice (page 36) states that owners may only limit eligibility to a particular qualifying population or segment of the qualifying population if the limitation is described in the PJ's HOME-ARP allocation plan.

- PJs may limit admission to HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS to households who need the specialized supportive services that are provided in such housing or NCS. However, no otherwise eligible individuals with disabilities or families including an individual with a disability who may benefit from the services provided may be excluded on the grounds that they do not have a particular disability.

Describe whether the PJ intends to limit eligibility for a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project to a particular qualifying population or specific subpopulation of a qualifying population identified in section IV.A of the Notice:

Middlesex County does not intend to use any limitations or limit eligibility for any particular QP for any of the funded HOME-ARP activities.

If a PJ intends to implement a limitation, explain why the use of a limitation is necessary to address the unmet need or gap in benefits and services received by individuals and families in the qualifying population or subpopulation of qualifying population, consistent with the PJ's needs assessment and gap analysis:

N/A

If a limitation was identified, describe how the PJ will address the unmet needs or gaps in benefits and services of the other qualifying populations that are not included in the limitation through the use of HOME-ARP funds (i.e., through another of the PJ's HOME-ARP projects or activities):

N/A

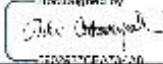
HOME-ARP Refinancing Guidelines

Middlesex County does not currently intend to use HOME-ARP funds to refinance existing debts secured by multifamily rental housing that may be rehabilitated with HOME-ARP funds.


If the County determined at a future date that it was in the best interest to allow this activity, then it would be considered a Substantial Amendment, and this HOME-ARP Allocation Plan would have to be amended to include guidelines in accordance with [24 CFR 92.206\(b\)](#) and will describe and provide the necessary detail the conditions under which such refinance would occur. This type of Substantial Amendment would include additional public participation requirements.

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424		
* 1. Type of Submission: <input type="checkbox"/> Preapplication <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Changed/Corrected Application	* 2. Type of Application: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision	* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s): <input type="text"/> * Other (Specify): <input type="text"/>
* 3. Date Received: 09/22/2023	4. Applicant Identifier: M-21-DP-34-0228	
5a. Federal Entity Identifier: <input type="text"/>	5b. Federal Award Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
State Use Only:		
6. Date Received by State: <input type="text"/>	7. State Application Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:		
* a. Legal Name: County of Middlesex		
* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): 22-6002454	* c. UEI: N7TRKBN87HP5	
d. Address:		
* Street1: 75 Bayard Street	Street2: <input type="text"/>	
* City: New Brunswick	County/Parish: <input type="text"/>	
* State: NJ: New Jersey	Province: <input type="text"/>	
* Country: USA: UNITED STATES	* Zip / Postal Code: 08901-2112	
e. Organizational Unit:		
Department Name: Office of Human Services	Division Name: Division of Housing	
f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:		
Prefix: Ms.	* First Name: Melissa	
Middle Name: <input type="text"/>	* Last Name: Bellamy	
Suffic: <input type="text"/>	Title: Division Head	
Organizational Affiliation: Middlesex County Division of Housing		
* Telephone Number: 732-745-3025	Fax Number: 732-745-4117	
* Email: melissa.bellamy@co.middlesex.nj.us		

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type: B: County Government	
Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type: 	
Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type: 	
* Other (specify): 	
* 10. Name of Federal Agency: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	
11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 14.239	
CFDA Title: HOME Investment Partnerships Program	
* 12. Funding Opportunity Number: 14.239	
* Title: HOME Investment Partnerships Program	
13. Competition Identification Number: 	
Title: 	
14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.): <input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>	
* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project: County of Middlesex HOME-ARP	
Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions. <input type="button" value="Add Attachments"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachments"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachments"/>	

DocuSigned by:

 73327454117

NIKI Athanasopoulos, Esq.
First Deputy County Counsel

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
16. Congressional Districts Of:	
* a. Applicant	06, 12
* b. Program/Project	06, 12
Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.	
<input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>	
17. Proposed Project:	
* a. Start Date:	07/01/2021
* b. End Date:	06/30/2027
18. Estimated Funding (\$):	
* a. Federal	5,844,246.00
* b. Applicant	
* c. State	
* d. Local	
* e. Other	
* f. Program Income	
* g. TOTAL	5,844,246.00
* 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?	
<input type="checkbox"/> a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on <input type="text"/> .	
<input type="checkbox"/> b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.	
* 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
If "Yes", provide explanation and attach	
<input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/> <input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>	
21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications** and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ** I AGREE	
** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.	
Authorized Representative:	
Prefix:	Mr.
* First Name:	Ronald
Middle Name:	G.
* Last Name:	Rios
Suffix:	
* Title:	County Commissioner Director
* Telephone Number:	732-745-5792
Fax Number:	732-745-4117
* Email:	ronald.rios@co.middlesex.nj.us
* Signature of Authorized Representative:	
* Date Signed:	03/16/2023

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington, DC 20503.


PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

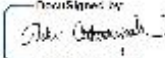
1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee- 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
19. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL 	TITLE Director, County Commissioners
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION County of Middlesex	DATE SUBMITTED 03/16/2023

Standard Form 424B (Rev. 7-97) Back

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

DocuSigned by:

 NIKI ATHANASOPOULOS

Niki Athanasopoulos, Esq.
 First Deputy County Counsel

ASSURANCES - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Number: 4040-0009
Expiration Date: 02/28/2025

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0042), Washington, DC 20503.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the Awarding Agency. Further, certain Federal assistance awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

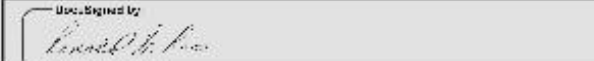
1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the assistance; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will not dispose of, modify the use of, or change the terms of the real property title or other interest in the site and facilities without permission and instructions from the awarding agency. Will record the Federal awarding agency directives and will include a covenant in the title of real property acquired in whole or in part with Federal assistance funds to assure non-discrimination during the useful life of the project.
4. Will comply with the requirements of the assistance awarding agency with regard to the drafting, review and approval of construction plans and specifications.
5. Will provide and maintain competent and adequate engineering supervision at the construction site to ensure that the complete work conforms with the approved plans and specifications and will furnish progressive reports and such other information as may be required by the assistance awarding agency or State.
6. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
7. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
8. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards of merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
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Standard Form 424D (Rev. 7-97)
Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

11. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal and federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
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15. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
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20. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	TITLE
	Director, County Commissioners
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION	DATE SUBMITTED
County of Middlesex	03/16/2023

SF-424D (Rev. 7-97) Back

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY


 Niki Athanasopoulos, Esq.
 First Deputy County Counsel

HOME-ARP CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the participating jurisdiction certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing --The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing pursuant to 24 CFR 5.151 and 5.152.

Uniform Relocation Act and Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan --It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4601-4655) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24. It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements contained in the HOME-ARP Notice, including the revised one-for-one replacement requirements. It has in effect and is following a residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan required under 24 CFR Part 42, which incorporates the requirements of the HOME-ARP Notice. It will follow its residential anti-displacement and relocation assistance plan in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the HOME-ARP program.

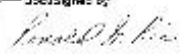
Anti-Lobbying --To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions; and
3. It will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of Jurisdiction --The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations and program requirements.

Section 3 --It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 75.

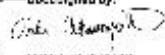
HOME-ARP Certification --It will use HOME-ARP funds consistent with Section 3205 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (P.L. 117-2) and the CPD Notice: Requirements for the Use of Funds in the HOME-American Rescue Plan Program, as may be amended by HUD, for eligible activities and costs, including the HOME-ARP Notice requirements that activities are consistent with its accepted HOME-ARP allocation plan and that HOME-ARP funds will not be used for prohibited activities or costs, as described in the HOME-ARP Notice.

DocuSigned by:

Signature of Authorized Official

03/16/2023
Date

Director, County Commissioners
Title

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

DocuSigned by:

Niki Athanasopoulos, Esq.
First Deputy County Counsel

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Brown County

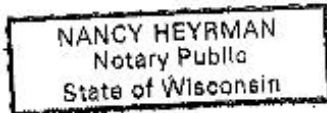
Personally appeared Lothar

Of the Home News Tribune, a newspaper printed in Freehold, New Jersey and published in East Brunswick, in the State of New Jersey and County of Middlesex, and of general circulation in Middlesex County, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith that the advertisement of which the annexed is a true copy, has been published in the said newspaper 1 time(s), once in each issue as follows:

3/1/2023 A.D. 2023


Notary Public, State of Wisconsin, County of Brown
5.19.23
My commission expires

AD NO: GCI1025050



PUBLIC NOTICE
MIDDLESEX COUNTY HOME-APP ALLOCATION PLAN
 Public Meetings & Public Comment Period

The County Board of Supervisors is currently reviewing the proposed Home-APP Allocation Plan for the year 2023. The plan is designed to allocate funds to various public programs and services. The Board will hold public meetings to discuss the plan and receive input from the community. The meetings will be held on the following dates and times:

DATE: Tuesday, March 7, 2023
TIME: 7:00 PM
LOCATION: Middlesex County Board of Supervisors Meeting Room, 100 North Main Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

DATE: Wednesday, March 8, 2023
TIME: 7:00 PM
LOCATION: Middlesex County Board of Supervisors Meeting Room, 100 North Main Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

The Board will also hold a public hearing on the plan on the following date and time:

DATE: Thursday, March 9, 2023
TIME: 7:00 PM
LOCATION: Middlesex County Board of Supervisors Meeting Room, 100 North Main Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Public comments will be accepted during the public meetings and the public hearing. Comments should be submitted to the County Board of Supervisors at the following address:

ADDRESS: Middlesex County Board of Supervisors, 100 North Main Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

The Board will consider all comments received and will make any necessary adjustments to the plan. The final plan will be adopted by the Board at a public meeting on the following date and time:

DATE: Friday, March 10, 2023
TIME: 7:00 PM
LOCATION: Middlesex County Board of Supervisors Meeting Room, 100 North Main Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

PLAN DE ASIGNACIÓN HOME-APP DEL CONDADO DE MIDDLESEX
 Reuniones públicas y período de comentarios públicos

El Condado de Middlesex está actualmente evaluando el plan de asignación de fondos HOME-APP para el año 2023. El plan está diseñado para asignar fondos a varios programas y servicios públicos. El Consejo del Condado de Supervisores celebrará reuniones públicas para discutir el plan y recibir comentarios de la comunidad. Las reuniones se celebrarán en las siguientes fechas y horas:

FECHA: Martes 7 de marzo de 2023
HORA: 7:00 PM
LUGAR: Sala de Reuniones del Consejo del Condado de Supervisores, 100 North Main Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

FECHA: Miércoles 8 de marzo de 2023
HORA: 7:00 PM
LUGAR: Sala de Reuniones del Consejo del Condado de Supervisores, 100 North Main Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

El Consejo del Condado de Supervisores también celebrará una audiencia pública sobre el plan en la siguiente fecha y hora:

FECHA: Jueves 9 de marzo de 2023
HORA: 7:00 PM
LUGAR: Sala de Reuniones del Consejo del Condado de Supervisores, 100 North Main Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Se aceptarán comentarios públicos durante las reuniones públicas y la audiencia pública. Los comentarios deben enviarse al Consejo del Condado de Supervisores en la siguiente dirección:

DIRECCIÓN: Consejo del Condado de Supervisores, 100 North Main Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

El Consejo del Condado de Supervisores considerará todos los comentarios recibidos y hará los ajustes necesarios al plan. El plan final será adoptado por el Consejo del Condado de Supervisores en una reunión pública en la siguiente fecha y hora:

FECHA: Viernes 10 de marzo de 2023
HORA: 7:00 PM
LUGAR: Sala de Reuniones del Consejo del Condado de Supervisores, 100 North Main Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Use approved or last revised HOME-APP

Activity	2022	2023	Percentage of the Allocation
Public Safety	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	100%
Public Works	\$800,000	\$800,000	100%
Public Health	\$600,000	\$600,000	100%
Public Housing	\$400,000	\$400,000	100%
Public Transportation	\$200,000	\$200,000	100%
Public Utilities	\$100,000	\$100,000	100%
Public Administration	\$50,000	\$50,000	100%
Public Information	\$25,000	\$25,000	100%
Public Services	\$12,500	\$12,500	100%
Public Programs	\$6,250	\$6,250	100%
Public Facilities	\$3,125	\$3,125	100%
Public Equipment	\$1,562	\$1,562	100%
Public Supplies	\$781	\$781	100%
Public Materials	\$390	\$390	100%
Public Labor	\$195	\$195	100%
Public Contract	\$97	\$97	100%
Public Other	\$49	\$49	100%
Public Total	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	100%

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STATE OF TEXAS				DEPARTMENT OF STATE SERVICES			
BUDGETARY INFORMATION				PERSONNEL INFORMATION			
Agency	Position	Grade	Rate	Position	Grade	Rate	Comments
...

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