

CDBG

Annual

Action

2024

Plan

The City of Sharon's Draft Annual Action Plan for the Community Block Grant Program (CDBG) is available for public review and comment from June 28, 2024 to July 29, 2024. Please contact the CDBG Program Manager Suzanne Kepple at skepple@cityofsharon.net or (724)983-3231 with comments or questions.

2024 FINAL

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Sharon, Pennsylvania is an entitlement community under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). In compliance with HUD regulations, the City of Sharon has prepared its Program Year (PY) 2024 Annual Action Plan for the period of October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025. The PY 2024 Annual Action Plan is a strategic guideline for the implementation of the City's housing, community, and economic development activities. This is the fifth and final Annual Action Plan under the City's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. The PY 2024 Annual Action Plan is a collaborative effort between the City, the community at large, social service agencies, housing providers, community development agencies, and economic development groups. The planning process was accomplished through input received at public meetings, analysis of statistical data, and review of the City's strategic plans, including:

- 2020-2024 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, prepared by Suzanne Kepple (2020)
- City of Sharon Blight Strategy Plan, developed by Pala Alto Partners and PA Housing Alliance (2020-2021)
- Save Small Business Memo, prepared by Recast City (2020)
- Sharon Downtown Strategic Plan, prepared by PA Downtown Center (2021)
- Sharon Community Development Corporation Action Plan (2022)

During the 2024 Program Year, the City of Sharon, PA will receive a CDBG Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 approximate allocation of:

- CDBG: \$554,128
- CDBG Program Income: \$60,000

Total: \$614,128

The City proposes to undertake the following activities with the 2024 FY CDBG Funds:

1. Administration - \$58,000
2. Public Facility Improvements - \$100,000
3. Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation - \$194,980
4. Shenango Valley Shuttle Service - \$22,611
5. Clearance Activities - \$100,000
6. Code Enforcement - \$70,000
7. Lots to Love - \$40,000

8. Employment Training - \$10,000

9. Rehabilitation of Commercial/Industrial Property - \$18,537

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.

Housing Priority: there is a need for additional affordable, decent, safe, and sanitary housing for homebuyers, homeowners, and renters.

Goals:

HS-1 Conserve and rehabilitate the existing housing stock in the community.

HS-2 Promote and enforce rehabilitation of rental housing to become decent, safe, and sound housing;

AI Goal 2.

Special Needs Priority: there is a need for housing opportunities, services, and facilities for persons with special needs.

Goals:

SN-3 Support social services, programs, and facilities for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons with other special needs; AI Goal 6.

Community Development Priority: there is a need to improve the community facilities, infrastructure, public services, and the quality of life in the City of Sharon.

Goals:

CD-1 Remove and correct slum and blighting conditions throughout the City.

CD-2 Improve the City's public facilities and infrastructure through rehabilitation and new construction.

CD-5 Promote and encourage neighborhood investment and revitalization with programs and community participation; AI Goal 3

Economic Development Priority: there is a need to increase employment, self-sufficiency, educational/job training, and empowerment for residents of the City of Sharon.

Goals:

ED-1 Support and encourage new job creation, job retention, and job training opportunities.

ED-2 Support business and commercial growth through expansion and new development.

Administration, Planning, and Management Priority: there is a need for planning, administration, management, and oversight of federal, state, and local funded programs.

Goals:

AM-1 Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of federal, state, and local funded programs.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

Each year the City prepares its Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER). This report is submitted within ninety (90) days after the start of the new program year. Copies of the CAPER are available for review at the City's Department of Community Development.

The City of Sharon did not make any changes to the FY 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan and its program objectives during this reporting period; however, Substantial Amendments were submitted for the 2020 and 2021 AAP, to include reallocating funds to eligible activities.

During the development of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Action plan, an emphasis on economic development needs and blight remediation needs were addressed. These identified needs contributed to the following decisions:

- Demolition and clearance funding will remain at approximately \$100,000 annually, and the City will contribute \$300,000 from the general fund and continue maintenance of blight properties in the city.
- Code Enforcement continues to support additional staff to assist with maintenance compliance throughout the City to ensure residents have safe living environments.
- Lots to Love continues to support staff to assist the community through this program by maintaining properties so they don't become a form of blight.
- Housing Rehabilitation continues to support staff to assist homeowners with the maintenance of their properties to ensure safe living environments.
- Sharon Community Development Corporation will support entrepreneurs and existing business owners in economic development.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The City prepared its Annual Action Plan in compliance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan. The City held its first public hearing on the needs of the community on Thursday, June 27, 2024 at 5:30 PM. This provided the residents, agencies, and organizations with the opportunity to discuss the City's CDBG program and to provide suggestions for 2024 Annual Action Plan priorities and activities. The City discussed potential CDBG funding activities with prospective applicants and stakeholders at the public hearing for FY 2024 CDBG funding.

A "Draft Plan" was placed on display on the City's website at www.cityofsharon.net under the Current News section of the homepage and hard copies of the plan were available for review at the Community Development Department and the City Clerk's Office, both located at 155 West Connelly Boulevard, Sharon, PA 16146, as well as on display at the Shenango Valley Community Library, 11 N Sharpsville Avenue, Sharon, PA 16146 from Friday June 28, 2024 until end of day Monday, July 29, 2024 for review and comment. The draft plan review period was advertised in The Herald on Friday June 28, 2024. The Second Public Hearing was held on Wednesday, July 10 at 12 PM to discuss the proposed FY 2024 CDBG activities.

The Annual Action Plan was also reviewed at the July 10, 2024 City Council Workshop Meeting. Upon completion of the thirty-day comment period, the Department of Community Development submitted the Plan to City Council for HUD submission approval at the City's regularly scheduled City Council

Meeting on Wednesday, August 14, 2024 at 5:30 PM. The Annual Action Plan was then electronically submitted through HUD's online IDIS system on August 15, 2024.

For a more detailed description of the citizen participation and consultation process, please refer to Sections AP-10 and AP-12.

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.

There was one public comment received, which is attached in the citizen participation attachment.

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

The one public comment included discussion over a first-time homebuyer program, homeowner rehab program, and training and more online jobs for stay-at-home parents. Discussions with the citizen included housing programs through the Community Action Partnership of Mercer County which include a homebuyer program; Sharon already has a homeowner rehab program; further research will be done to see feasibility of the online/remote job training/placement, and referenced the PA Career Link Center in Sharon.

7. Summary

The goal of the 2024 Annual Action Plan is to improve the living conditions for all residents of the City of Sharon, to create a suitable and sustainable living environment, and to address the housing, community and economic development needs of the City. The 2024 Annual Action Plan presents which activities the City will undertake during the program year beginning October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025. During the 2024 Program Year, the City anticipates the following federal financial resources: FY 2024 CDBG Funds of \$554,128 and CDBG Program Income of \$60,000.

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

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

Describe the agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	SHARON	Department of Community Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Suzanne Kepple, CDBG Program Manager
155 West Connelly Blvd.
Sharon, PA 16146

(724)983-3231
skepple@cityofsharon.net

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

1. Introduction

The City of Sharon staff has worked diligently to engage stakeholders and community members throughout the development of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan, which was used as the basis to inform this 2024 Annual Action Plan.

The City compiled the following reports to directly inform the Consolidated Action Plan: 2020-2024 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, Blight Strategy Plan and the Save Small Businesses Memo, Sharon Community Development Corporation Action Plan. Stakeholder engagement for these efforts include:

AI: City of Sharon staff, Mercer County Housing Authority, Community Action Partnership of Mercer County, Greater Mercer County Association of Realtors, Mercer County Housing Coalition, Palo Alto Partners, PA Housing Alliance, PA Human Relations Commission, Fair Housing Partnership of Greater Pittsburgh, Western PA CoC, Shenango Valley Urban League, AWARE, Inc., Veterans Affairs, Joshua's Haven, Prince of Peace Center, Salvation Army, Community Counseling Center, F.H. Buhl Club, Community Food Warehouse of Mercer County, Shenango Valley Community Library, Mercer County Regional Council of Governments, United Way of Mercer County, Richardson Inspection Services, Penn State Shenango Campus, Butler County Community College, Laurel Technical Institute, Sharon Community and Economic Development Commission, Shenango Valley Enterprise Zone Corporation, Shenango Valley Industrial Development Corporation, NW PA Regional Planning and Development Commission, Sharon Industrial Development Authority, Chamber of Commerce.

Blight Plan: The Blight Task Force includes representatives from City government, the school district, residents, landlords, and other stakeholders.

Small Business Plan: Coordination with the Shenango Valley Chamber of Commerce, Urban League and Small Business Development Center (SBDC), as well as more than 15 Sharon small businesses.

In 2021 the City has worked with the PA Downtown Center to develop a Downtown Sharon BID / Main Street Plan, in which all downtown property owners have been consulted. In 2022 the City hired a Downtown Development Director and Events Coordinator who is working with the Sharon businesses on community and economic development.

The Sharon Community Development Corporation (SCDC) is a recently formed 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, whose purpose is to supplement the City of Sharon's community and economic development efforts and work directly with the City including the Community Development Department, Downtown Development Director, and Events Coordinator. In the end of 2023, the SCDC hired a Executive Director and Community & Economic Development Director.

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

The City of Sharon acts as the single point of contact to coordinate efforts between public and assisted housing providers, as well as private and governmental health, mental health, and social service agencies. The City works with the following agencies to enhance funding and service allocations to address the housing and community development needs of the City:

- Mercer County Housing Authority - coordinating on affordable housing (Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers and Public Housing improvements) especially for the very low- and extremely low-income residents of the City.
- Social Services Agencies - coordinating on funding allocations to improve the availability and efficacy of social service programs for low- and moderate-income persons.
- Housing Providers - coordinating on rehabilitation and development affordable housing needs for low- and moderate-income households.
- Health Services Agencies – coordinating with these services to improve the accessibility and efficacy of health service programs for low- and moderate-income persons.

All members of the housing and social service community are encouraged to actively participate on the CoC's activities. Each year, as part of the CDBG application planning process, local agencies and organizations are invited to submit proposals for CDBG project funding for eligible project activities. These groups participate in the planning process by attending the public hearings and informational meetings, completing survey forms, and commenting on draft plans.

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 City of Sharon is a member of the PA 602 Northwest PA Continuum of Care. The City coordinates its activities with the Continuum of Care and supports its applications for funds. The City helps the CoC to address homelessness by working together to develop a framework to deliver housing and services to the homeless.

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

ESG - ESG funds for the CoC member communities are administered through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). The Western CoC is consulted by DCED regarding past program performance and involvement of ESG applicants. The CoC provides input on the allocation of ESG funding to subrecipients, through a Performance Interview Planning Checklist that was developed as a standardized tool for CoC input on applicant capacity and participation in the CoC. The Northwest PA Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB) provides input on ESG applications and ranks and reviews projects.

The Northwest and Southwest CoCs have merged to form the Western PA CoC. Data collection and

outcomes are standardized by DCED through the PA HMIS Policies and Standard Operating Procedures. Throughout different times of the year, the CoC and the HMIS lead work together to assess data quality throughout the CoC. This includes working on Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) submission, the PIT count, project review/ranking, and working with individuals programs while completing their Annual Performance Reports (APRs). Data quality has tremendously improved over the years, largely due to PA HMIS system enhancements. The system ensures data quality by requiring many of the universal data elements upon enrolling a participant into a program. Additionally, the system has an alert system with exit date reminders. The workflow of data entry has been updated to improve data quality. The HMIS lead supports users through the staffing of a Help Desk and ongoing training opportunities. Agency users are able to run self-reports to assess their program's data quality. CoC-funded organizations are motivated to have good data quality, because the CoC has moved toward a data-driven project review and ranking system. Projects with poor data quality are more likely to show poor outcomes, which can impact their funding.

2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdiction's consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	MERCER COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Market Analysis Economic Development 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 Mercer County Housing Authority was contacted for their input on the housing and community development needs and goals for the City of Sharon.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Shenango Valley Chamber of Commerce
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Employment Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Shenango Valley Chamber of Commerce was contacted for their input on the economic and community development needs and goals for the City of Sharon.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP OF MERCER COUNTY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Families with children Neighborhood Stabilization
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Community Action Partnership of Mercer County was contacted for their input on the housing and community development needs and goals for the City of Sharon.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Buhl Regional Health Foundation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Foundation
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Health
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Buhl Regional Health Foundation was consulted to discuss health needs within the community.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Foundation of Western PA and Eastern Ohio
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Foundation Foundation
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Families with children Economic Development 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 Community Foundation was consulted to better understand the overall needs of the community.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Mercer County Council of Governments
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Transportation

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Mercer County Council of Governments was contacted for their input on the economic and community development needs and goals for the City of Sharon.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	AWARE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Health
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	AWARE, Inc was consulted to better understand the most pressing needs of the community.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	Salvation Army
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Food
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment 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 Salvation Army was consulted to better understand the most pressing needs of the community.

9	Agency/Group/Organization	Prince of Peace Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Employment Food
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development 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 Prince of Peace Center was consulted to better understand the most pressing needs of the community.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	COMMUNITY FOOD WAREHOUSE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Food
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Health
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Community Food Warehouse of Mercer County was consulted to better understand the most pressing needs of the community.
11	Agency/Group/Organization	United Way of Mercer County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The United Way of Mercer County was consulted to better understand pressing needs of the community.

12	Agency/Group/Organization	Mercer County Federal Credit Union
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Credit Union Private Sector Banking / Financing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development 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 Mercer County Community Federal Credit Union was contacted for their input on the economic and community development needs and goals for the City of Sharon.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	Sharon City School District
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	School
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Community Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Sharon City School District was consulted to better understand the most pressing needs of the community.
14	Agency/Group/Organization	Penn State University - Shenango
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	College/University
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Penn State University was contacted for their input on the economic and community development needs and goals for the City of Sharon.
15	Agency/Group/Organization	Laurel Technical Institute - Sharon Campus
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Secondary Education

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Laurel Technical Institute was contacted for their input on the economic and community development needs and goals for the City of Sharon.
16	Agency/Group/Organization	HopeCAT
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Services-Employment Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	HopeCAT was contacted for their input on the economic and community development needs and goals for the City of Sharon.
17	Agency/Group/Organization	Buhl Community Recreation Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Health
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Buhl Community Recreation Center was contacted for their input on the community development needs and goals for the City of Sharon.
18	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Library of the Shenango Valley
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Library
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Development

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Community Library of the Shenango Valley was contacted for their input on the economic and community development needs and goals for the City of Sharon.
19	Agency/Group/Organization	Sharon Regional Medical Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Hospital
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Sharon Regional Medical Center was contacted for their input on the economic and community development needs and goals for the City of Sharon.
20	Agency/Group/Organization	Sharon Beautification Commission
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Organization Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Sharon Beautification Commission was contacted for their input on the community development needs and goals for the City of Sharon.
21	Agency/Group/Organization	Sharon Recreation Commission
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Organization Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Sharon Recreation Commission was contacted for their input on the community development needs and goals for the City of Sharon.

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

No agencies were intentionally not consulted.

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	Western PA CoC (PA-601)	Western PA CoC is the primary provider of housing and supportive services for the City of Sharon's homeless and at risk of being homeless population. The goals of the City and the CoC are complementary.
Blight Strategy Plan	PA Housing Alliance	In its continuing effort to fight blight and promote community investment, the City of Sharon assembled a Blight Task Force to develop a comprehensive plan to implement effective strategies to address blight.
Vision and Action Strategy	PA Downtown Center	The PA Downtown Center has lead a series of public meetings, survey and focus groups to determine a collective vision of stakeholders for the economic revitalization of the City.
Action Plan	Sharon Community Development Corporation	With the diligence of the steering committee, the Sharon Community Development Corporation will lead a series of public meetings to implement the actions items from the action plan for economic development of the City.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

The City of Sharon Department of Community Development is the lead planning and administrating agency for the City's CDBG program. Close coordination is maintained between the Department and other City departments to ensure the needs for affordable housing and community development are being met. Cooperation extends beyond the City limits to the county and state level.

The City did not consult with broadband providers in regards to CDBG planning efforts; the City's CDBG budget is not sufficient to support broadband infrastructure and it was not identified in the Consolidated Action Plan as a priority. There has been interest from a company to begin installation of broadband infrastructure. They are currently working with the city and other municipalities on this project.

Environmental agencies are contacted during the Environmental Review Record process for applicable projects.

The strategy of the City's Annual Action Plan is to develop a viable community by promoting integrated approaches that provide decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expand economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons. The primary means towards this end is the development of partnerships among all levels of government and the private sector, including for-profit and non-profit organizations. The Annual Action Plan combined with the Five Year Consolidated Plan act as a strategic vision to be followed by the City and its partners in carrying out programs that primarily benefit low- and moderate-income persons.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

In compliance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan, the City held a needs public hearing during the development phase of the Annual Action Plan and a second public hearing held during the thirty (30) day draft review and comment period on Thursday, June 27, 2024 at 5:30 PM and Friday, July 10, 2024 at 12 PM.

A "Draft Plan" was placed on display on the City's website at www.cityofsharon.net under the Current News section of the homepage and hard copies of the plan were available for review at the Community Development Department and the City Clerk's Office, both located at 155 West Connelly Boulevard, Sharon, PA 16146, and the Shenango Valley Community Library, 11 N Sharpsville Ave, Sharon, PA 16146 for a period of 30 days, beginning Friday June 28, 2024.

The draft plan review period was advertised in The Herald on Friday June 28, 2024.

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	A public hearing was held on June 27, 2024 to discuss the community needs for the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan. One citizen attended the meeting.	After discussion of the CDBG program, the citizen commented on having/finding a first time homebuyer program that would lead to her possibly being eligible for the city's rehab program. She also mentioned training for and access to more online jobs for stay-at-home parents.	We discussed that she should reach out to CAPMC for housing programs (first time homebuyer). The City currently funds various housing programs through CAPMC. We also discussed she should reach out to HopeCAT if she wanted to look into their medical programs as well as reaching out to PA CareerLink for other jobs that were more flexible. The CDBG Manager would have to look into jobs that would accommodate for stay-at-home parents.	

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 Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	A public hearing was held on July 10, 2024 to discuss the community needs for the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan. No comments were received.	n/a	n/a	
3	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	There was a newspaper Needs ad published on June 12, 2024. There was a newspaper Display ad published on June 28, 2024. No written comments were received.	n/a	n/a	
4	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	Outreach was conducted multiple times through the City of Sharon website and its Facebook page. No written comments were received.	n/a	n/a	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City of Sharon anticipates the following resources for the 2024 program year:

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	554,128.00	60,000.00	0.00	614,128.00	554,128.00	CDBG Entitlement Funds

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

The City of Sharon will leverage CDBG resources on a number of projects. Public Facilities funding will be matched with state and local funds. Demolition funds will be matched with city funds and funding from the Sanitation Authority. The Lots to Love program has additional funds via the Neighborhood Assistance Program, PHARE grant and private donations. The Shenango Valley Shuttle Service has additional funds from other state and local funds. Code Enforcement has additional funds from other local funds. Projects through the Sharon Community Development Corporation has additional funds from other state and local 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

n/a

Discussion

n/a

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	HS-1	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Housing Priority	CDBG: \$194,980.00	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 10 Household Housing Unit
2	HS-2	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$70,000.00	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 520 Household Housing Unit
7	SN-3	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Special Needs Priority	CDBG: \$22,611.00	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 13109 Persons Assisted
8	CD-1	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$100,000.00	Buildings Demolished: 15 Buildings
9	CD-2	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$100,000.00	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 13109 Persons Assisted
12	CD-5	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Community Development Priority	CDBG: \$40,000.00	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 3710 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
13	ED-1	2020	2024	Economic Development	Citywide	Economic Development Priority	CDBG: \$10,000.00	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5 Persons Assisted
14	ED-2	2020	2024	Economic Development	Citywide	Economic Development Priority	CDBG: \$18,537.00	Businesses assisted: 5 Businesses Assisted
15	AM-1	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development Economic Development	Citywide	Administration, Planning and Management Priority	CDBG: \$58,000.00	Other: 13109 Other

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	HS-1
	Goal Description	<p>HS-1 is to conserve and rehabilitate the existing housing stock in the community and this goal will be met through the City's Housing Rehab Program. During the 2021 program year, the City implemented a Minor Repair Program and Roof Repair Program. During the 2023 program year, the City will continue to implement these programs. Prior to the 2020 program year, the City utilized HOME funds from the Department of Community and Economic Development in addition to entitlement CDBG funding and offered full housing rehabilitations.</p> <p>In 2020, the City provided services to 10 homeowners, 1 (10%) was extremely low-income, 6 (60%) were low-income and 3 (30%) were moderate-income.</p> <p>In 2021, the City provided services to 7 homeowners, 6 (86%) were extremely low-income, 1 (14%) were low-income, and 0 (0%) were moderate-income. The City has received 5 applications for services: 3 were extremely low-income, 2 were low-income, and 0 were moderate-income. Total percentages of the 12 projects are: 75% extremely low-income, 25% low-income, and 0% moderate-income.</p> <p>In 2022, the City provided services to 8 homeowners, 1 (13%) were extremely low-income, 4 (50%) were low-income, and 3 (37%) were moderate-income. The City has received 5 applications for services: 0 were extremely low-income, 4 were low-income, and 1 were moderate-income. Total percentages of the 13 projects are: 8% extremely low-income, 61% low-income, and 31% moderate-income. These numbers will be reported prior to submission to HUD></p> <p>Utilizing the averages of previous years, the City anticipates serving approximately 27% extremely low-income, 47% low-income, and 26% moderate-income families. The City intends to serve approximately 10 families; the Minor Repair Program and Roof Repair Programs are funded at a lower-level than the Home Rehabilitation Program offered in previous years and more clients can be served.</p>
2	Goal Name	HS-2
	Goal Description	<p>HS-2 is to promote and enforce rehabilitation of rental housing to become decent, safe, and sound housing; AI Goal 2.</p> <p>This will be accomplished by Code Enforcement .</p>

7	Goal Name	SN-3
	Goal Description	SN-3 is to support social services, programs, and facilities for the elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons with other special needs; AI Goal 6. This Goal will be accomplished by assisting the Shenango Valley Shuttle Service.
8	Goal Name	CD-1
	Goal Description	Clearance and demo projects will raze approximately 15 dilapidated homes that are unfit for human habitation.
9	Goal Name	CD-2
	Goal Description	Public Facility Improvements such as street and sidewalk replacement will be completed in qualifying LMI areas throughout the City.
12	Goal Name	CD-5
	Goal Description	CD-5 is to promote and encourage neighborhood investment and revitalization with programs and community participation through the Lots to Love program; AI Goal 3. Approximately 50 vacant lots will be revitalized as denoted in the Goal Outcome Indicator.
13	Goal Name	ED-1
	Goal Description	Support and encourage new job creation, job retention, and job training opportunities. This is done through the Employment Training project.
14	Goal Name	ED-2
	Goal Description	Support business and commercial growth through expansion and new development. This will be done through the Rehabilitation of Commercial/Industrial Property project.
15	Goal Name	AM-1
	Goal Description	AM-1 is to provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of federal, state, and local funded programs. General Program Administration supports this Goal. Goal Outcome Indicator reflects present Sharon population.

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

In order to address the identifiable needs of the City of Sharon, the proposed 2024 Annual Action Plan proposes the following activities:

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Lots to Love
2	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation
3	Clearance and Demolition
4	Public Facility Improvements
5	Code Enforcement
6	Shenango Valley Shuttle Service
7	General Administration
8	Employment Training
9	Rehabilitation of Commercial/Industrial Property

Table 7 - Project Information

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

The allocations and priorities were established by the participation of City and County decision makers, stakeholders and public hearing participants. The major obstacle that the City experiences in addressing underserved needs of the community is access to additional federal, state, and local financial funding resources to accomplish the housing and community development goals of the City.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Lots to Love
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-5
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$40,000.00
	Description	This activity is providing operating support for Community Action Partnership Mercer County, which operates various programs to benefit low/mod populations, such as the Lots to Love Program, employment, housing and early childhood development. The purpose of the Lots to Love project is to ensure vacant lots in Sharon do not perpetuate blight. If vacant lots are unkempt, the purpose of blight remediation through demolition become null and void. Regulatory Citation: 24 CFR 570.201(e) Matrix Code: 05Z: Other Public Services Not Listed in 03T and 05A-05Y 24 CFR 570.201(e) or 42 USC 5305(a)(8) + 24 CFR 570.482(c)(2) An example of a legitimate use of this code is when the CDBG funds are provided to a non-profit organization that provides multiple types of social services for operating costs. National Objective: LMA - LOW/MOD AREA BENEFIT.
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 50 vacant lots will be maintained. We estimate that each of the 50 lots will impact 20 households (5 to the left of the lot, 5 to the right of the lot and 10 in front of the lot) with an estimate of 3.5 individuals per household, for a total of 3,500 residents. (Neighborhood Assistance Program metric)
	Location Description	The program began as a pilot in the neighborhood north of Buhl Club (Hull to the north, Jefferson to the east, State to the south and Sharpville to the west). The program continues to gro into other neighborhoods and expanding into current neighborhoods.
Planned Activities	Community Action Partnership of Mercer County will serve as the subrecipient to administer the Lots to Love Program. A Project Supervisor and Field Coordinator will implement three lot revitalization strategies: Adopt-a-Lot, Sponsor-a-Lot and the Side Lot program.	
2	Project Name	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HS-1
	Needs Addressed	Housing Priority

Funding	CDBG: \$194,980.00
Description	Funding to support a Minor Repair Program and Roof Repair Program. Regulatory Citation: 24 CFR 570.202(a)(1) Privately owned buildings and improvements for residential purposes; improvements to a single-family residential property which is also used as a place of business, which are required in order to operate the business, need not be considered to be rehabilitation of a commercial or industrial building, if the improvements also provide general benefit to the residential occupants of the building; Matrix Code: 14A: Housing Rehab; Single Unit Residential. National Objective: LMH - LOW/MOD HOUSING BENEFIT \$135,000.00 for Project plus \$57,039.00 for Activity Delivery Cost
Target Date	9/30/2025
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	10 projects will be completed.
Location Description	Citywide; homeowners must income qualify.
Planned Activities	<p>This Activity was derived from the 2020-2024 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and Blight Strategy Plan (organized by CDBG IDIS Matrix Code and Plan Name and Number).</p> <p>14A: Housing Rehab</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AI IMPEDIMENT #3: NEED FOR HOUSING REHABILITATION AND NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTMENT 2. 3-A: Continue to support and encourage housing rehabilitation of existing housing units to become decent, safe, and sound housing that is affordable to lower income households, including managing the Community Development Department’s Housing Rehab program. 3. AI IMPEDIMENT #4: NEED FOR ACCESSIBLE HOUSING 4. 4-A: Continue to promote programs that increase housing accessibility through the rehabilitation of existing housing stock by homeowners and landlords who will make handicap improvements.4-B: Promote programs to assist elderly homeowners in the City so they are able to make accessibility improvements to their properties in order for those residents to stay in their homes. 5. BLIGHT PLAN PRIORITY STRATEGY #4 <p>4: Work with Banks and Non-Profits to Provide Financing for Home Rehabs</p>

3	Project Name	Clearance and Demolition
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-1
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$100,000.00
	Description	Demolition and Clearance of 15 scattered-site residential units. Regulatory Citation: 24 CFR 570.208(b)(2) Activities to address slums or blight on a spot basis. The following activities may be undertaken on a spot basis to eliminate specific conditions of blight, physical decay, or environmental contamination that are not located in a slum or blighted area: acquisition; clearance; relocation; historic preservation; remediation of environmentally contaminated properties; or rehabilitation of buildings or improvements. However, rehabilitation must be limited to eliminating those conditions that are detrimental to public health and safety. If acquisition or relocation is undertaken, it must be a precursor to another eligible activity (funded with CDBG or other resources) that directly eliminates the specific conditions of blight or physical decay, or environmental contamination. Matrix Code: 04-Demolition and Clearance. National Objective: SBS - SLUM/BLIGHT SPOT BENEFIT
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	We estimate 15 structures will be demolished. We estimate that each of the 15 lots will impact 20 households (5 to the left of the lot, 5 to the right of the lot and 10 in front of the lot). Therefore, our estimate is that 300 families in LMI neighborhoods will benefit.
	Location Description	Demolitions may be completed city-wide.

	Planned Activities	<p>This Activity was derived from the 2020-2024 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and Blight Strategy Plan (organized by CDBG IDIS Matrix Code and Plan Name and Number).</p> <p>04: Clearance and Demolition</p> <p>1. AI IMPEDIMENT #3: NEED FOR HOUSING REHABILITATION AND NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTMENT</p> <p>2. 3-C: Continue to use funds and expand resources for housing demolitions and lots program.</p> <p>3. BLIGHT PLAN PRIORITY STRATEGY #1</p> <p>1: Prioritize and Demolish Unsafe Structures and Prepare for Reinvestment</p>
4	Project Name	Public Facility Improvements
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CD-2
	Needs Addressed	Community Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$100,000.00
	Description	<p>City administrators and City Council will work with citizens to prioritize 2023-2024 projects, as detailed below. Regulatory Citation: 24 CFR 570.201(c) Matrix Code: 03K Street Improvements 24 CFR 570.201(c) or 42 USC 5305(a)(2) Installation or repair of streets, street drains, storm drains, curbs and gutters, tunnels, bridges, and traffic lights/signs. Also use 03K: For improvements that include landscaping, street lighting, and/or street signs (commonly referred to as streetscaping. If sidewalk improvements (see code 03L) are part of more extensive street improvements. National Objective: LMA - LOW/MOD AREA BENEFIT</p>
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Improvements are determined by selecting projects that will be most impactful to Sharon residents. The Sharon population of 2018 is 13,109 and that figure is used as a common metric for city-wide projects included in the 2020-2024 Con Plan.
	Location Description	Activities may be completed citywide.
	Planned Activities	The following projects are under consideration for PY 2024: General Street Repairs
5	Project Name	Code Enforcement
	Target Area	Citywide

Goals Supported	HS-2
Needs Addressed	Housing Priority
Funding	CDBG: \$70,000.00
Description	Sharon Code Officers work with residents to establish safe and healthy living environments. Regulatory Citation: 24 CFR 570.202(c) Code enforcement. Costs incurred for inspection for code violations and enforcement of codes (e.g., salaries and related expenses of code enforcement inspectors and legal proceedings, but not including the cost of correcting the violations) in deteriorating or deteriorated areas when such enforcement together with public or private improvements, rehabilitation, or services to be provided may be expected to arrest the decline of the area. Matrix Code: 15- Code Enforcement. National Objective: LMA - LOW/MOD AREA BENEFIT
Target Date	9/30/2025
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	We estimate code officers to assist approximately 3 houses/day (52 weeks).
Location Description	These activities are city-wide in LMI areas.

	Planned Activities	<p>This Activity was derived from the 2020-2024 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and Blight Strategy Plan (organized by CDBG IDIS Matrix Code and Plan Name and Number).</p> <p>15: Code Enforcement</p> <p>1. AI IMPEDIMENT #2: NEED FOR AFFORDABLE AND SAFE RENTAL HOUSING</p> <p>2. 2-A Continue to prioritize rental inspection with higher Code Office capacity, efficient scheduling, and building relationships with landlords to promote more private investment. 2-B Effectively and efficiency increase enforcement of housing violations, whether tenants or landlords, including continuing to work with court system and receiving resources from Mercer County Courthouse.</p> <p>3. AI IMPEDIMENT #3: NEED FOR HOUSING REHABILITATION AND NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTMENT</p> <p>4. 3-B: Encourage residents, especially youth, to maintain their property by providing resources (including on city’s website), education, and opportunities with community organizations.</p> <p>5. AI IMPEDIMENT #8: NEED FOR MORE STAFF CAPACITY</p> <p>6. 8-A: Hire and train employees for these departments to meet capacity demands. 8-B: Aspects of the rental ordinances need to be updated or performed better.</p> <p>7. BLIGHT PLAN PRIORITY STRATEGY #2</p> <p>Coordinate with Mercer County Tax Claim Bureau to Disqualify Negligent & Tax Delinquent Property Owners from Bidding at Sale</p>
6	Project Name	Shenango Valley Shuttle Service
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	SN-3
	Needs Addressed	Special Needs Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$22,611.00
	Description	<p>The shuttle provides rides throughout the County, offering affordable, accessible transportation. Regulatory Citation: 24 CFR 570.201(e) Matrix Code: 05E: Transportation Services 24 CFR 570.201(e) or 42 USC 5305(a)(8) + 24 CFR 570.482(c)(2) General transportation services. Transportation services for a specific client group should use the matrix code for that client group. For example, use 05A for transportation services for the elderly. National Objective: LMC</p>
	Target Date	9/30/2025

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The Sharon population of 2018 is 13,109 and that figure is used as a common metric for city-wide activities.
	Location Description	County-wide
	Planned Activities	This Activity was derived from the 2020-2024 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (organized by CDBG IDIS Matrix Code and Plan Name and Number). 05E: Transportation Services 1. AI IMPEDIMENT #5: NEED FOR AWARENESS OF SOCIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS 5-C: Work with Mercer County Council of Governments on improving efficiency and outreach of public transportation, especially low-income areas.
7	Project Name	General Administration
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	AM-1
	Needs Addressed	Administration, Planning and Management Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$58,000.00
	Description	General administration includes day-to-day oversight of projects, grant management, reporting and accounting. Regulatory Citation: 570.206 Program administrative costs. Matrix Code: 21A: General Program Administration
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The Sharon population of 2018 is 13,109 and that figure is used as a common metric for city-wide projects.
	Location Description	Activities are completed throughout the city; administration offices are located at 155 West Connelly Boulevard.

	Planned Activities	<p>This Activity was derived from the 2020-2024 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and Blight Strategy Plan (organized by CDBG IDIS Matrix Code and Plan Name and Number)</p> <p>21A General Program Admin</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AI IMPEDIMENT #5: NEED FOR AWARENESS OF SOCIAL SERVICE 2. 5-A: Building relationships and continue to support local agencies, organizations, and banks that provide these services to citizens, especially low-income individuals. These agencies include Shenango Valley Urban League, Community Action Partnership of Mercer County, and Mercer County Housing Authority. 3. AI IMPEDIMENT #6: NEED FOR RACIAL DIVERSITY 4. 6-A: Survey these individuals and families on their determination in finding a home in general and in Sharon neighborhoods (location, income, job, etc.).6-B: Continue research by talking with agencies that help these individuals and families.6-C: Create and implement solutions determined from survey and other resources to help individuals and families explore more housing options. 5. BLIGHT PLAN PRIORITY STRATEGY #5 6. 5: Adopt Tax Abatement and Other Programs Authorized by State Law that Provide Incentives for Private Development
8	Project Name	Employment Training
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	ED-1
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000.00
	Description	<p>Assistance to increase self-sufficiency, including literacy, independent living skills, resume writing, job coaching, how to get and keep a job training, or training students in a particular field or skill when there is no tie to a specific position or business. Regulatory Citation: 24 CFR 570.201(e). Matrix Code 05H: Employment Training</p>
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	5 people/year
	Location Description	Citywide; individuals and businesses must qualify.

	Planned Activities	<p>This Activity was derived from the 2020-2024 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and Blight Strategy Plan (organized by CDBG IDIS Matrix Code and Plan Name and Number).</p> <p>o AI IMPEDIMENT #5: NEED FOR AWARENESS OF SOCIAL SERVICE 5-B: (Urban League) Build relationships with local grade schools and colleges/universities to promote educational and employment opportunities, especially local businesses (industrial, healthcare, service industry).</p>
9	Project Name	Rehabilitation of Commercial/Industrial Property
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	ED-2
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development Priority
	Funding	CDBG: \$18,537.00
	Description	Funding to support rehabilitation of commercial/industrial property. 24 CFR 570.202(a)(3) Rehabilitation of commercial/industrial property. If the property is privately owned, CDBG-funded rehab is limited to: Exterior improvements and correction of code violations. Matrix Code: 14E Rehabilitation: Publicly or Privately Owned Commercial/Industrial. National Objective: LMA - Low/Mod Income Area.
	Target Date	9/30/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	5 businesses/year
	Location Description	May be completed city-wide; eligible businesses.
	Planned Activities	Based on stakeholder and Sharon Community Development Corporation meetings, qualified businesses who would benefit from rehabilitation of property.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

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

The City of Sharon will direct CDBG funds citywide.

The City of Sharon identified the following CTs and BGs with minority concentrations at least 30%, as determined by the 2020 Census:

CT 305 30% and CT 332 47%.

The City of Sharon has identified the following CTs and BGs as qualifying low-mod areas:

CT 301, BG 1, 64.9%; CT 301, BG 2, 59.8%; CT 301, BG 3, 83.8%; CT 303, BG 2, 61.1%; CT 303, BG 3, 85%; CT 304 BG 2 74.7%; CT 305, BG 1, 65%*; CT 305, BG 3, 72.5%; CT 332, BG 1, 95.5%; CT 332, BG 2, 96.6%; CT 332, BG 3, 73.8%; CT 332, BG 4, 75.4% (using the LMISD calculation from CPD Notice 24-04).

The data included in this report includes the data referencing the CPD 24-04, which will begin on 8/1/2024.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Citywide	100

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The City of Sharon has allocated its CDBG funds for the 2024 program year based on which activities will principally benefit low and moderate income persons.

The Public Facilities Improvements activities are either located in a low and moderate income census area or have a low and moderate income service area benefit or clientele. The Housing Rehabilitation Improvements activities have an income eligibility criterion; therefore, the income requirement restricts funds only to low- and moderate-income households throughout the City. The Public Services activities are for social service organizations with low-income clients. The economic development activities are either low and moderate income census area or have a low and moderate income service area benefit or clientele.

Discussion

Under the FY 2024 CDBG Program, the City of Sharon will receive a grant in the amount of \$554,128 and anticipates program income of \$60,000. The City will budget \$58,000 for general administration. The balance of funds will be allocated to: activities which principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons in the amount of at least 70% and \$100,000 for the removal of slums and blight (less than 20%).

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The City of Sharon will utilize its CDBG funds to rehabilitate existing affordable housing units.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	10
Special-Needs	0
Total	10

Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	10
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	10

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

Discussion

During the FY 2024 CDBG program year, the City of Sharon does not plan to fund any projects that will construct new units, acquire existing units, or provide any rental assistance. The City of Sharon will fund Housing Rehabilitation to support a Minor Repair Program and Roof Repair Program.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Mercer County Housing Authority is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for people who need affordable, safe housing choices, and supportive services in well maintained neighborhoods for the residents of Mercer County and the City of Sharon. MCHA provides affordable housing in the most efficient and effective manner to qualified individuals in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Mercer County, the City of Sharon, and any other entity providing funding for affordable housing programs. This is achieved by MCHA assisting individuals and families through its public housing communities and Housing Choice Vouchers.

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

There are ongoing renovations to all the units that are being converted to RAD are receiving new kitchens and baths by 2027. MCHA installed security cameras in other housing units in 2021/2022. There have been no other updates reported to the City from the Housing Authority.

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

MCHA encourages residents of its public housing units to organize community resident groups to become more involved in housing management. MCHA publishes a quarterly newsletter that keeps residents informed of various events and activities specific to residents. MCHA staffs a Resident Services Department that offers programs to encourage self-sufficiency, improve quality of life, and encourage healthy communities. The following is a list of some of the services offered through the MCHA: After-school and Summer Programs (school-aged children); Pre-K playgroup (ages 3-5); Job board for resident employment opportunities; Community Events and Resource Fairs; Resume writing assistance; Health & Fitness Programs; Youth Programs; Use of on-site computer lab, copier, and fax machine; Financial literacy classes; and Referrals to community resources. In addition, MCHA promotes and provides information and technical assistance to residents concerning Section 3 opportunities. Part of MCHA's PHA Plan is to be more proactive when it comes to letting the residents know what their options are and what violations can be addressed to prevent termination of the lease. This will help with keeping the units filled and bring down the amount of turnover.

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

provided or other assistance

MCHA was not classified as “troubled” by HUD and was performing satisfactorily according to HUD.

Discussion

The City of Sharon has identified that there is a need for decent, safe, and sanitary housing to address the households affected by housing problems, severe housing problems, and housing cost burdens. The largest income group affected by housing problems is the extremely low-income households. The Mercer County Housing Authority is an important part of the City of Sharon’s housing strategy. MCHA is the primary assisted housing provider of housing for extremely low income, very low income, and lower income residents of Mercer County and the City of Sharon.

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

Introduction

The City of Sharon is a member of the Western PA CoC. the Western PA CoC is comprised of the Northwest RHAB (Crawford, Warren, McKean, Potter, Mercer, Venango, Forest, Elk, Cameron, Lawrence, Clarion, Jefferson, and Clearfield counties) and the Southwest RHAB (Butler, Armstrong, Indiana, Washington, Westmoreland, Greene, and Fayette counties).

The City's Housing Rehab Program implements a minor rehab program and roof repair program where many applicants are elderly, frail elderly, or persons with disabilities. The City also informs citizens of loans programs through the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA). These programs promote increased housing accessibility and assist elderly homeowners in the City so they are able to make accessibility improvements to their properties.

The City of Sharon coordinates efforts between public and assisted housing providers, as well as private and governmental health, mental health, and social service agencies. The City works with the Mercer County Housing Authority (MCHA), social service agencies, housing providers, and health service agencies. Those agencies who participated in this action plan are utilized for their housing and supportive services for the citizens, including the non-homeless special needs population. MCHA is the primary assisted housing provider of housing for extremely low income, very low income, and lower income residents of Mercer County and the City of Sharon. Community Action Partnership of Mercer County is a primary resource for housing and community needs.

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

DCED and the Balance of State CoCs have customized a standardized assessment that utilizes Southwest PA 211 to expand and improve coverage. The tool was designed to be a detailed common assessment tool to identify housing and services appropriate to the individuals' needs.

The methods for conducting the unsheltered count utilized by CoC members:

1. Public places with interviews on PIT night: Standardized Interview Forms were used in interviewing households to collect/record data
2. Public places count: During count, if a family/person was sleeping, not willing to be interviewed or safely reached, details about their household size, gender, estimated age, location, clothes, and appearance were recorded on the Interview Form.
3. Service-based count: Some counties within the CoC have moved to a service-based count. This includes conducting interviews at soup kitchens, day centers, food pantries, health clinic, etc. Some

counties conducted the service-based count in combination with the public places count.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City does not have plans for program year 2024 to fund projects that address emergency shelter housing.

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

The Balance of State CoC supports the Housing First approach to ending homelessness that centers on providing people experiencing homelessness with housing as quickly as possible – and then providing services as needed. This approach has the benefit of being consistent with what most people experiencing homelessness want and seek help to achieve. Housing First programs share critical elements: A focus on helping individuals and families access and sustain permanent rental housing as quickly as possible without time limits; A variety of services delivered to promote housing stability and individual well-being on an as-needed basis; and A standard lease agreement to housing – as opposed to mandated therapy or services compliance.

Currently PAHMIS is the primary tool to track returns to homelessness. It has the capability of tracking people through the recently implemented “client data sheet” which provides users the ability to see other places in the CoC where that client has appeared for service. Providers are trained in its value for tracking returns to homelessness and for developing strategies to prevent future returns. PAHMIS staff will, through user input, develop reports that can be used to further this effort. A current limitation of this is that in rural communities, where there are few shelters and reliance on informal support, there are numerous instances of people not returning to CoC programs after returning to homelessness. When coordinated assessment is fully operational, integrated with HMIS and well-advertised as point of entry for homeless assistance, the CoC will have greater ability to track returns to homelessness.

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

The Western PA CoC follows the State’s Homeless Plan, known as the PA Agenda to End Homelessness.

On 1/10/13, the PA Housing Advisory Committee endorsed and adopted Opening Door's 4 goals, with a caveat on the timeline. The State Homeless Steering Committee has established subcommittees responsible for recommendations and implementation of goals. Examples of outcomes to date include: letter to the Department of Public Welfare to request consideration of TANF funds for housing; improved outreach for youth and veterans; recommendations for improved data collection and housing options for youth; and prioritization of chronic, Veterans, youth and families for State ESG. Children aging out of foster care are protected by laws to ensure that youth are not discharged into homelessness. The Federal Fostering Connections Act and State Court Rule require a Transition Plan before discharge from foster care. The PA Office of Children, Youth & Families guides Transition Plan components. Also, recent state law allows youth under 21 who have aged out to re-enter foster care and receive placement and services. County agencies are required to enter into youth-driven transition planning as early as age 16 and at least 6 months prior to discharge. The court approved Plan may not include referrals to shelters and must address living arrangements for 6 months, as well as a budget and source of income to address the youth's living expenses. However, County agencies provide limited housing support upon discharge, ending at age 21. Youth go to relatives or family, transitional living placements, four year schools, to live with roommates/friends, reunite with family of origin, or remain with foster family. There are two reported unaccompanied youth in 2023 between ages 18 and 24. There were many households with children experiencing homeless in 2024. Hospitals must have written discharge policies for "appropriate referral and transfer plans" including evaluation of a patient's capacity for self-care and possibility of being cared for in "the environment from which s/he entered the hospital." The actual discharge varies with the individual being discharged, their primary and behavioral health needs, and resources and supports available. While planners try to send individuals home or to family, sometimes they discharge to a nursing home, rehab hospital or as last resort, non-HUD funded shelter. Some shelters have protocols against accepting certain individuals directly from a hospital.

Discussion

Western PA Continuum of Care delivers data through a Point-in-Time Count which takes households/persons experiencing homeless. This data was compiled from 2022 to early 2024. The CoC had the highest count in 2024. The majority of homeless in Mercer County were adults who were 25 years old or more with no children. Households with at least one adult and one child under 18 were the next highest. The total count of unaccompanied youth (young people experiencing homelessness that are not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian) was low. There were many households with children experiencing homeless in 2024. Fifty-six percent (56%), 17%, 17% of homeless were victims of domestic violence in 2022, 2023, and 2024, respectively.

At the present time, there are no reported chronically homeless families; there were three chronically homeless adults in 2023.

Of the Civilian population 18-years-old and over, 7.4% are veterans. From 2022-2024, Western PA Continuum of Care (CoC) did not report has reported homeless veterans in Mercer County. This report does not account for all homeless veterans.

There are two reported unaccompanied youth in 2023 between ages 18 and 24.

In long-term partnership with Community Action Partnership of Mercer County and the City of Sharon, AWARE offers emergency housing and transitional housing for victims of domestic violence. Their long-term facility has provided safety and support for women and children since 1989.

In 2024, there were 6 families in need of housing. According to the report, there were no families of veterans in need.

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

Introduction:

The City will monitor and review public policies for discriminatory practices and/or impacts on housing availability. The City is committed to removing or reducing barriers to the development of affordable housing whenever possible. A variety of actions include, among others, to reduce the cost of housing to make it affordable:

- Provide developers with incentives for construction of affordable housing
 - Restructuring of fees for construction, tap-ins, plan review, etc.
 - Modifying development standards to increase density
 - Reuse of the 2nd and 3rd floors in the downtown business district to promote new residential housing units

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

The City will monitor and review public policies for discriminatory practices and/or impacts on housing availability. The City is committed to removing or reducing barriers to the development of affordable housing whenever possible.

In 2024, after review of the personal care home/group home section of the City's zoning ordinance, it was amended to include that these types of housing are permitted in zoning districts of single family dwellings. With the creation of the city's comprehensive plan (and the updating of the zoning ordinance) underway, the following public policies will be further analyzed:

- Tax policies affecting land and other property
- Use Controls
- Zoning Ordinance
- Building Codes
- Fees and Charges
- Growth Limits
- Return on residential investment

The City will continue to undertake the following actions through CDBG funding:

- City will leverage its financial resources and apply for additional public and private housing funding
- Continue to provide funds for housing rehabilitation for both owner and renter occupied housing units
- Provide funding for housing counseling programs

- Use of state funds to abate housing units from lead-based paint hazards

Discussion:

The City of Sharon will fund the following affordable housing projects with FY 2024 CDBG funds:

1. Housing Rehabilitation

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The City of Sharon has developed the following actions to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs, foster and maintain affordable housing, reduce lead-based hazards, reduce the number of poverty-level families, develop institutional structures, and enhance coordination between public, private housing and social service agencies.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The primary obstacle to meeting the underserved needs in the City of Sharon is the limited financial resources available to address the priorities identified in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the lack of quality affordable housing. The City of Sharon is not a HUD entitlement jurisdiction under the HOME program. Therefore, resources for housing activities are limited. Under the FY 2024 CDBG Program the City will take the following actions:

- Continue to leverage its financial resources and apply for additional public and private funds
- Continue to provide financial assistance for housing rehabilitation
- Continue to provide funding for public service activities
- Continue to do provide public facility improvements
- Continue to remove slum and blighting conditions in the City
- Continue to provide funding for code enforcement activities
- Continue to support economic development opportunities for LMI individuals.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City of Sharon will fund the following affordable housing projects with FY 2024 CDBG funds:

- Housing Rehabilitation

The Mercer County Housing Authority will continue to fund the following activities to foster and maintain affordable housing in the City of Sharon:

- Continue to provide Housing Choice Vouchers and public housing units
- Continue to rehabilitate and make improvements to public housing units

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City of Sharon will continue to comply with Title 24 Part 35: Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention in Certain Residential Structures (Current Rule) for its Housing Rehabilitation Program. In order to meet the requirements of the new lead-based paint regulations, the City of Sharon will take the following actions regarding housing rehabilitation:

- Applicants for rehabilitation funding receive the required lead-based paint information and understand their responsibilities.

- Staff properly determines whether proposed projects are exempt from some or all lead-based paint requirements.
- The level of Federal rehabilitation assistance is properly calculated, and the applicable lead-based paint requirements determined.
- Properly qualified personnel perform risk management, paint testing, lead hazard reduction, and clearance services when required.
- Required lead hazard reduction work and protective measures are incorporated into project rehabilitation specifications.
- Risk assessment, paint testing, lead hazard reduction, and clearance work are performed in accordance with the applicable
- Standards established in 24 CFR Part 35, Subpart R.
- Required notices regarding lead-based paint evaluation, presumption, and hazard reduction are provided to occupants and documented.
- Program documents establish the rental property owner's responsibility to perform and document ongoing lead-based paint maintenance activities, when applicable.
- Program staff monitors owner compliance with ongoing lead-based paint maintenance activities.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City's goal is to reduce the extent of poverty by actions the City can control and through work with other agencies and organizations. During this program year the City will fund:

- Shenango Valley Shuttle Service
- Community Action Partnership Mercer County - Lots to Love
- Employment training through various organizations

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City of Sharon Department of Community and Economic Development will coordinate activities among the public and private agencies and organizations in the City. This coordination will ensure that the goals and objectives outlined in the FY 2020-2024 Five-Year Consolidated Plan will be effectively addressed by more than one agency. Staff will facilitate and coordinate the linkage between these public and private partnerships and develop new partnership opportunities in the City.

This coordination and collaboration between agencies is important to ensure that the needs of the residents of Sharon are being addressed. The main agencies that are involved in the implementation of the Plan, as well as additional financial resources that are available are the following:

Public Agencies:

- City of Sharon Department of Community and Economic Development – is responsible for administration of the CDBG program.
- Mercer County Housing Authority – is responsible for administering Housing Choice Vouchers and

public housing units.

Non-Profit Agencies:

There are several non-profit agencies that serve low-income households in the City. The City continued to collaborate with these agencies. Some of these agencies are the following:

- Shenango Valley Urban League
- Community Action Partnership of Mercer County
- Mercer County Housing Coalition
- The Salvation Army
- Mercer County Area Agency on Aging
- Community Food Warehouse
- Shenango Valley Community Library
- F.H. Buhl Community Recreation Center
- Mercer County Regional Council of Governments (Shenango Valley Shuttle Service)
- United Way of Mercer County
- Hope Center for Arts & Technology
- AWARE, Inc
- Prince of Peace Center

Foundations:

- Buhl Regional Health Foundation
- Community Foundation of Western PA and Eastern OH

City Commissions/Boards:

- Sharon Beautification Commission
- Sharon Recreation Commission

Private Sector:

The private sector is a key collaborator in the services and programs associated with the Five-Year Consolidated Plan. The private sector brings additional financial resources and expertise that can be used to supplement existing services in the City. Examples of these private sectors are: local lenders, affordable housing developers, business owners, community and economic development organizations, healthcare organizations, and others. The City will continue to collaborate with local financial institutions, private housing developers, local realtors, etc.

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

The City of Sharon is committed to continuing its participation and coordination with social service agencies, housing agencies, community and economic development agencies, county, federal, and state agencies, as well as with the private and non-profit sectors, to serve the needs of target income individuals and families in the City of Sharon.

During this program year, the City funded Program Administration in the amount of \$58,000 to

accomplish this.

Discussion:

The City monitors its performance with meeting its goals and objectives with its Five-Year Consolidated Plan. It reviews its goals on an annual basis in the preparation of its CAPER and makes adjustments to its action plan as necessary.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

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.

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%

All funding will support low-mod activites, except for the Administration line item. This plan will be used for Program Year 2024 activities.

Attachments

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
CITY OF SHARON, PENNSYLVANIA
2024 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Sharon, Mercer County, PA will hold public hearings on Thursday June 27, 2024 at 5:30 PM and Wednesday, July 10, 2024 at 12 PM prevailing time, in the Council Chambers, 155 West Connelly Boulevard, Sharon, PA 16146. The Sharon Municipal Building and the Council Chambers are accessible to persons with physical disabilities. If special arrangements need to be made to accommodate residents in order for them to participate in the public hearing, please call Ms. Suzanne Kepple, CDBG Program Manager, Community Development Department, City of Sharon, at (724) 983-3231 or skepple@cityofsharon.net to make those arrangements, or for the hearing-impaired call 711.

The purpose of these public hearings are to gather information for the City's Annual Action Plan for FY 2024 which the City must submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Funds Program. The City of Sharon anticipates based on last fiscal year's allocation that it will receive an estimated CDBG entitlement grant in the amount of approximately \$579,650 and program income in the amount of \$60,000 for FY 2024. These funding levels are contingent upon the final approval of the Federal Budget for FY 2024. In order to receive those funds, the City of Sharon must prepare a One Year Annual Action Plan for the use of CDBG funds. At least 70% of the CDBG funds must benefit low- and moderate-income persons living in the City of Sharon. In preparing its CDBG application the City intends to afford citizens, local agencies, and interested parties the opportunity to become involved in the planning process.

The following types of activities may be eligible for funding under the CDBG program: Acquisition of property; disposition costs; improvements to public facilities, including the removal of architectural barriers; demolition and environmental clean-up; public services that are new or a quantifiable increase in the level of service; interim assistance; relocation payments for persons displaced as a result of a CDBG activity; rehabilitation of houses; code enforcement; special economic development activities; special activities undertaken by a community based development organization; home ownership assistance for purchase; planning; environmental; program administration; audit; and other miscellaneous activities.

If the City would undertake an activity that would result in the displacement of families or individuals, then the City would utilize its policy for minimizing such displacement. Furthermore, the City is responsible for replacing all low- and moderate-income housing units that may be demolished or converted as a result of CDBG funds.

All interested citizens are encouraged to attend this public hearing and they will be given the opportunity to present oral or written testimony concerning the needs of the City of Sharon and the use of CDBG funds to address those needs over the next fiscal year. Written comments may be addressed to Ms. Suzanne Kepple, CDBG Program Manager, Community Development Department, 155 West Connelly Boulevard, Sharon, PA 16146.

Robert Fiscus, City Manager, City of Sharon

**NOTICE OF DISPLAY OF PLAN AND PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE
2024 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF SHARON, PA**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania has prepared its Program Year 2024 Annual Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. In accordance with the regulations and requirements of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), this plan will be on public display for a period of 30 days, beginning Friday, June 28, 2024 at the following locations:

**The Shenango Valley Community Library
11 North Sharpsville Avenue, Sharon, PA**

**City Clerk's Office, Sharon Municipal Building
155 West Connelly Boulevard, Sharon, PA**

**Community Development Office, Sharon Municipal Building
155 West Connelly Boulevard, Sharon, PA**

These plans will be available for public inspection during normal business hours of operation. Written or oral comments will be accepted until Monday, July 29, 2024. Comments may be directed to Ms. Suzanne Kepple, CDBG Program Manager, Community Development Department, City of Sharon, Sharon Municipal Building, 155 West Connelly Boulevard, Sharon, PA 16146, (724) 983-3231.

A public hearing will be held on Wednesday, July 10, 2024 at 12 PM in the City Council Chambers of the Sharon Municipal Building. The plan will also be available for public comment at the City Council workshop meeting held on Wednesday, July 10, 2024 at 5:30PM in the City Council Chambers of the Sharon Municipal Building.

The purpose of the public hearing is to present the PY 2024 Annual Action Plan the City has prepared for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in the amount of \$614,128, which is based on FY 2024 HUD allocation of \$554,128 and program income of \$60,000. The plans must be submitted to HUD no later than August 16, 2024.

The Sharon Municipal Building and the City Council Chambers are accessible to persons with physical disabilities. If special arrangements need to be made to accommodate residents in order for them to participate in the public hearing, please call Ms. Suzanne Kepple, CDBG Program Manager, Community Development Department, City of Sharon, Sharon Municipal Building, 155 West Connelly Boulevard, Sharon, PA 16146, (724)983-3231, to make those arrangements. Any person requiring an interpreter for the hearing impaired or the visually impaired should contact Ms. Kepple at least five (5) calendar days prior to the meeting and an interpreter will be provided. In addition, hearing-impaired persons may call Pennsylvania Relay at 7-1-1. Any non-English speaking person wishing to attend the public hearing should contact Ms. Kepple at least five (5) calendar days prior to the meeting and, if needed, a language interpreter will be provided.

The proposed 2024 Annual Action Plan was prepared after conducting meetings with community stakeholders and meetings with the City's staff and officials.

In order to address the identifiable needs of the City of Sharon, the proposed 2024 Annual Action Plan proposes the following activities:

Lots to Love Program	\$40,000
Funding to support acquisition and disposition of property, and lot remediation	
Public Facility Improvements	\$100,000
Improvements for streets and sidewalks	
Clearance and Demolition	\$100,000
Funding for residential demolition	
Shenango Valley Shuttle Service	\$22,611
Employment Training	\$10,000
Funding to support new job creation, job retention, and job training opportunities	
Rehabilitation of Commercial/Industrial Property	\$18,537
Housing Rehabilitation	\$194,980
Owner-occupied housing rehabilitation	
Code Enforcement	\$70,000
Program Administration	\$58,000
Total	\$614,128

The plan will be voted on at the regularly scheduled City Council Meeting on Wednesday, August 14, 2024 at 5:30PM.

If the City would undertake an activity that would result in the displacement of families or individuals, then the City would utilize its policy for minimizing such displacement. Furthermore, the City is responsible for replacing all low- and moderate-income housing units that may be demolished or converted as a result of CDBG Funds.

All interested persons, groups, and organizations are encouraged to attend public hearing will be given the opportunity to present oral or written testimony concerning the proposed plans and use of Federal funds. Written comments or oral comments may be addressed to Ms. Suzanne Kepple, CDBG Program Manager, Community Development Department, City of Sharon, Sharon Municipal Building, 155 West Connelly Boulevard, Sharon, PA 16146, (724) 983-3231.

Robert Fiscus, City Manager, City of Sharon

City of Sharon
2024 Annual Action Plan Public Comment Form

Please note that by completing this it will become public record and be included in the City of Sharon 2024 Annual Action Plan submitted to Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Form should be submitted to Suzanne Kepple at skepple@cityofsharon.net or delivered to 125 West Connelly Blvd., Community Development Department.

Name Lauryn Hughes

Address 357 E. Connelly Blvd. Sharon PA 16146

Telephone 724-815-1842

Email Lauryn.Hughes1995@gmail.com

Comments:

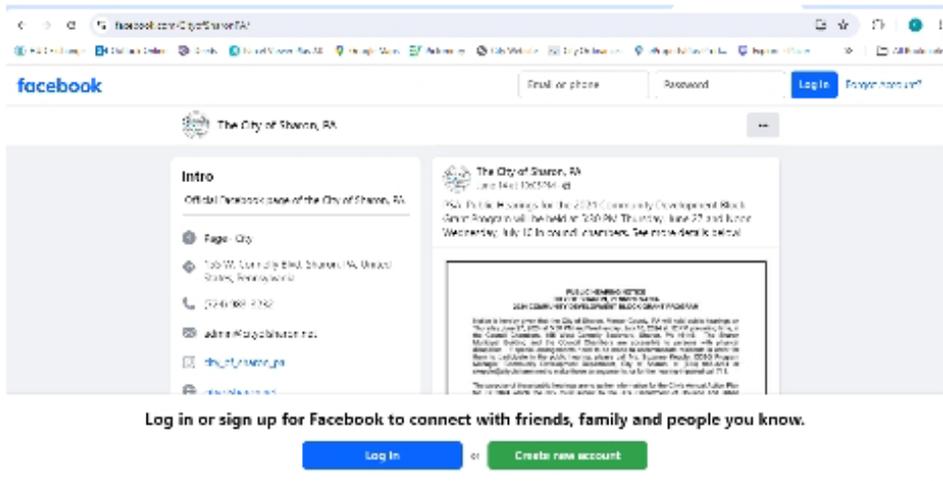
First time home buyer program.
Possible home owner rehab.
Training and more online jobs for stay-at-home parents.

Signature: Lauryn Hughes
Date: 6/27/24

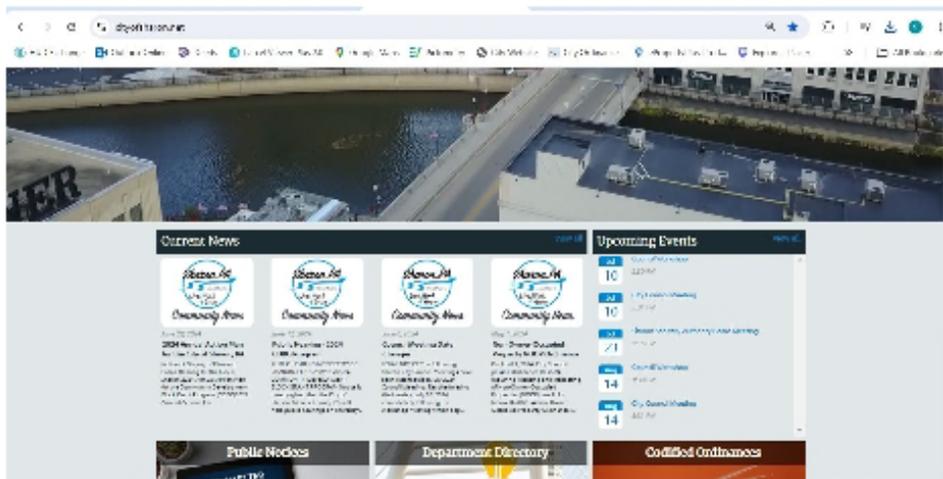
The screenshot shows the City of Sharon website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the city logo and various utility links. Below this, the main content area is divided into two primary sections: 'Current News' and 'Upcoming Events'. The 'Current News' section features four articles, each with a 'Sharon, PA' logo and a category label: 'Community News', 'Community News', 'Community News', and 'Business News'. The 'Upcoming Events' section is a vertical list of events with dates and times, including 'Sharon Rotary Auxiliary Board Meeting', 'CDBG Workshop', 'City Council Meeting', and another 'Sharon Rotary Auxiliary Board Meeting'. At the bottom of the page, there are three buttons for 'Public Notices', 'Department Directory', and 'Codified Ordinances'.

This screenshot displays a public hearing advertisement for the 2024 CDBG Program. The ad features the Sharon, PA logo and the text 'Community News'. The main heading is 'Public Hearing - 2024 CDBG Program'. Below the heading, there is a detailed notice regarding the City of Sharon Board of Mayor and Council's meeting on Thursday, June 27, 2024, at 7:00 PM. The notice describes the purpose of the hearing, which is to receive public input on the proposed 2024 CDBG program. It includes information about the program's goals, the amount of funding available, and the process for submitting comments. The ad also provides contact information for the City of Sharon and a link to the public hearing page.

City of Sharon Website Public Hearing Ad (6/12/24)

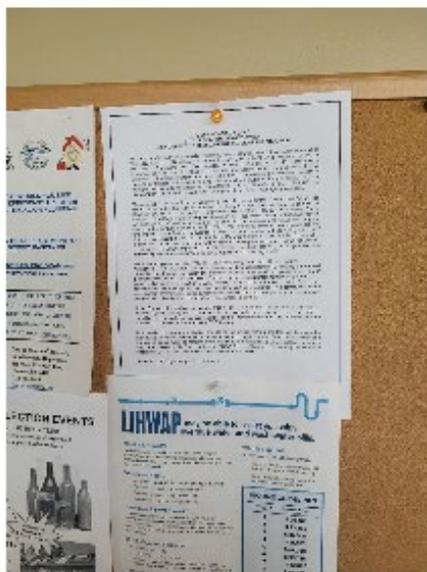


City of Sharon Facebook Page – Posted 6/14/24

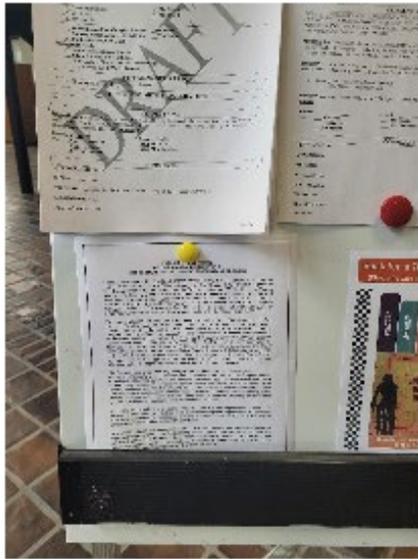




City of Sharon Website Display Ad (6/28/24)



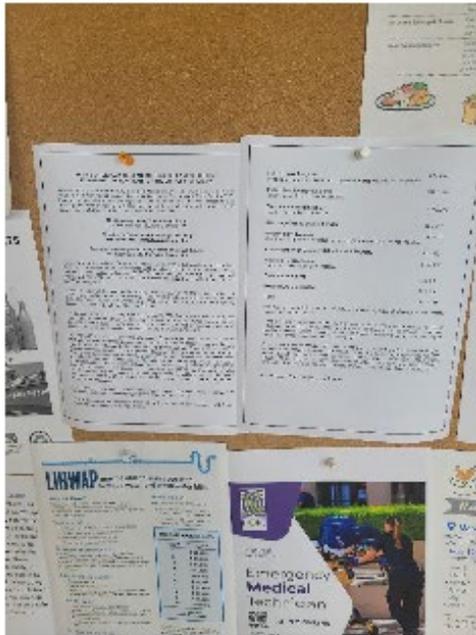
2024 AAP Needs Ad – CD Dept City of Sharon



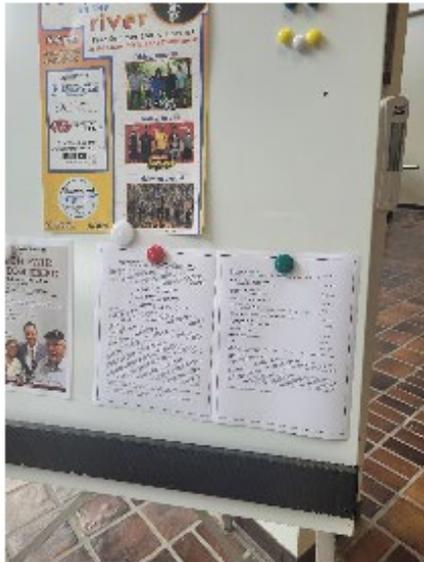
2024 AAP Needs Ad – City Building City of Sharon



2024 AAP Needs Ad – Shenango Valley Library



2024 AAP Display Ad – CD Dept City of Sharon



2024 AAP Display Ad – City Building City of Sharon



2024 AAP Display Ad – Shenango Valley Library

**CITY OF SHARON, PENNSYLVANIA
RESOLUTION NO. 63-24**

A RESOLUTION of the Council of the City of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania, approving the City of Sharon 2024 Fiscal Year Annual Action Plan.

SECTION 1 The Council of the City of Sharon, Pennsylvania hereby approves the City of Sharon 2024 Fiscal Year Annual Action Plan.

ADOPTED IN COUNCIL this 14th day of August 2024.

CITY OF SHARON

By 
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL.

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK

Grantee SF-424's and Certification(s)

OMB Number: 4310-0006
Expiration Date: 1/30/2025

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424		
* 1. Type of Submission: <input type="checkbox"/> Reapplication <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Change/Correction Application	* 2. Type of Application: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision	* If Revision, to what equivalent date apply: <input type="text"/> * Other (Specify): <input type="text"/>
* 3. Date Received: <input type="text"/>	4. Applicant Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
5a. Federal Entity Identifier: <input type="text"/>	5b. Federal Agency Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
State Use Only:		
6. Date Received by State: <input type="text"/>	7. State Application Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
B. APPLICANT INFORMATION:		
* a. Legal Name: <input type="text" value="City of Sharon"/>		
* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): <input type="text" value="00-0000000"/>	* c. UFI: <input type="text" value="0000000000"/>	
d. Address:		
* Street 1: <input type="text" value="100 Main Street"/>	<input type="text"/>	
* Street 2: <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
* City: <input type="text" value="Sharon"/>	<input type="text"/>	
* County/Parish: <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
* State: <input type="text" value="PA"/>	<input type="text"/>	
* Province: <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
* County: <input type="text" value="0000000000"/>	<input type="text"/>	
* ZIP/Postal Code: <input type="text" value="00000000"/>	<input type="text"/>	
e. Organizational Unit:		
Department Name: <input type="text"/>	Division Name: <input type="text"/>	
f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:		
* First Name: <input type="text" value="Skepple"/>	<input type="text"/>	
* Middle Name: <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
* Last Name: <input type="text" value="Kepple"/>	<input type="text"/>	
* Suffix: <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
* Title: <input type="text" value="CDBG Program Manager"/>	<input type="text"/>	
Organizational Address: <input type="text"/>		
* Telephone Number: <input type="text" value="717-422-1001"/>	Fax Number: <input type="text"/>	
* Email: <input type="text" value="skepple@cityofsharon.net"/>	<input type="text"/>	

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type: <input type="text" value="City of Washington, DC"/>	
Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type: <input type="text"/>	
Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type: <input type="text"/>	
Other (as of): <input type="text"/>	
* 10. Name of Federal Agency: <input type="text" value="US Department of Housing and Urban Development"/>	
11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: <input type="text" value="15.820"/>	
CFDA Title: <input type="text" value="Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlements Program"/>	
* 12. Funding Opportunity Number: <input type="text" value="CDBG-DR-19-01"/>	
Title: <input type="text" value="Continuing Rebuilding Consolidated Disasters and Disaster Action Plan for Fiscal Year (FY) 2019"/>	
13. Competition Identification Number: <input type="text"/>	
Title: <input type="text"/>	
14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.): <input type="text"/> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment </div>	
* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project: <input type="text" value="FY 2014 Annual Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program"/>	
All other supporting documents as specified in agency instructions. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> Add Attachments Delete Attachments View Attachments </div>	

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424	
16. Congressional District Of	
* a. Applicant: <input type="text" value="City of ..."/>	* b. Program/Project: <input type="text" value="IA 14"/>
Attach an additional list of Programs/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="10/01/2024"/>	* b. End Date: <input type="text" value="09/30/2025"/>
18. Estimated Funding (\$):	
* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="50,000,000"/>
* 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" value="50,000,000"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="50,000,000"/>
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 or <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 1301)	
<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 award specific instructions.	
Authorized Representative:	
* First Name: <input type="text" value="Robert"/>	* Last Name: <input type="text" value="..."/>
* Title: <input type="text" value="City Manager"/>	* Telephone Number: <input type="text" value="724-983-3201"/>
* Fax Number: <input type="text"/>	
* Email: <input type="text" value="...@cityof...pa.gov"/>	
* Signature of Authorized Representative: 	* Date Signed: <input type="text" value="8/15/24"/>

ASSURANCES - CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Number: 4040-0039
Expiration Date: 02/26/2021

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 this 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 (0548-0042), 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 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 persons § 3.1.
8. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. §§4708-4763) 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. 903, Subpart F).
9. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4901 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residential 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 1973 (P.L. 93-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1972 (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 VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. §§2001 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the selection 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.

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Standard Form 4240 (Rev. 7-87)
Prescribed by GSA 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. 91-548) 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 7324-7325) 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 for 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 11735; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11988; (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-123, "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 108(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 City Manager
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION City of Sharon	DATE SUBMITTED 8/15/24

SF 424D (Rev. 7/84) Back

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.

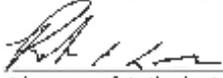
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form 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.

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 (42 U.S.C. 1701i) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 75.



Signature of Authorized Official

8/15/24

Date

City Manager

Title

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) 2024 [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 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.

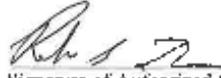
Excessive Force -- It has adopted and is enforcing:

1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individual's 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.



Signature of Authorized Official

8/15/24
Date

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Title

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 570.204(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.



Signature of Authorized Official

8/15/24
Date

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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.



Signature of Authorized Official

8/15/24
Date

City Manager
Title

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.

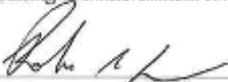
Matching Funds – The recipient will obtain matching amounts required under 24 CFR 576.201.

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.



Signature of Authorized Official

8/15/24
Date

City Manager
Title

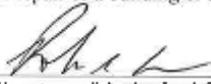
Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS Certifications

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 this 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-embaratnial rehabilitation or repair of a building or structure.



Signature of Authorized Official

8/15/24

Date

City Manager

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.