

CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan. 91.520(a)

This could be an overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that were proposed and executed throughout the program year.

The Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) reflects the activities and expenditures for the City of Pocatello's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) during Program Year 2019 (PY19), which covered April 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019. The CAPER outlines the progress made toward accomplishing goals identified in the PY19 Action Plan, which are derived from the following overarching goals of the 2017-2021 Strategic Plan/Consolidated Plan: 1) Creation of affordable ownership and rental housing 2) Rehabilitation of owner-occupied and rental properties occupied by and affordable to low- and moderate-income residents 3) Improvements to sidewalks in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods and areas where elderly and persons with disabilities reside 4) Supportive services for elderly, persons with disabilities and other special needs residents 5) Improvements to employment and job training opportunities.

Despite the onset of a global pandemic due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), the City and its partner agencies forged ahead, providing assistance to low to moderate income residents and qualifying clientele in line with the goals and objectives of the CDBG Program as well as the City's five-year Consolidated Plan and PY20 Annual Action Plan. In fact, COVID-19 highlighted the importance and necessity of these services more than ever. The federal government authorized several stimulus packages to address the needs resulting from COVID-19 and as such the City was charged with implementing CDBG-CV funding as well throughout the program year. Overall this led to a great demand on staff who responded well and worked with partners to ensure goals were met.

Overall, the City contracted with six subrecipients to provide: affordable housing development; improvement of public service agencies' facilities to allow for continuation of services; and direct service delivery. Through a partnership with NeighborWorks Pocatello, the City contracted to provide CDBG funding for service delivery of their infill housing program which saw the development of one single family residence for an income eligible household. In addition, NWP continued to operate its mobile home rehabilitation program which provides funding and financing for those extremely low income individuals to complete necessary home repairs. This program works hand in hand with the City's RENEWAL housing rehab program, which provides direct grant funding for small home repairs and additional deferred or low interest loans to those income eligible applicants. For public facility improvements, the City continued its sidewalk improvement program. This resulted in over 2,700

square feet of sidewalk repaired and installed, creating ADA accessibility and improvements In addition, the CDBG program awarded 4 subrecipients contracts for awards for facility improvements which included Aid for Friends, Bannock Youth Foundation, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children in the 6th Judicial District), and New Day Products. Finally, public service agencies received funding to provide critical service delivery to low-moderate income Pocatello residents. Subrecipients of this funding included Aid For Friends and St. Vincent de Paul.

As with previous program years, Program Income is expended on the City's RENEWAL program as that money can be distributed immediately upon receipt. Administration funding was limited to 20% of the program year's HUD award and used for administration of the programs and any related fair housing activities. CDBG continues to be a necessary funding source to provide critical services related to affordable housing, improvements to public facilities, and supportive services to low-moderate income populations in target areas as identified in the five-year consolidated plan and strategic plan.

Comparison of the proposed versus actual outcomes for each outcome measure submitted with the consolidated plan and explain, if applicable, why progress was not made toward meeting goals and objectives. 91.520(g)

Categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee’s program year goals.

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Affordable Housing Production	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME/SHOP: \$ / NWP - Match Funds: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	0	0		15	0	0.00%

Affordable Housing Production	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME/SHOP: \$ / NWP - Match Funds: \$	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	15	1	6.67%			
Affordable Housing Production	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / HOME/SHOP: \$ / NWP - Match Funds: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	0	0		25	1	4.00%
Homeownership Assistance	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers	Households Assisted	15	39	260.00%			
Hsg Rehab, Emergency Repair and Accessibility Mod	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / City General Fund: \$ / NWP - Match Funds: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	10	4	40.00%	6	4	66.67%
Hsg Rehab, Emergency Repair and Accessibility Mod	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$ / City General Fund: \$ / NWP - Match Funds: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	150	32	21.33%	33	32	96.97%
Program Administration/Fair Housing	Program Administration	CDBG: \$ / City General Fund: \$90000	Other	Other	1	1	100.00%	1	1	100.00%

Sidewalk Improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	0	0		1500	1500	100.00%
Sidewalk Improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Other	Other	6500	1500	23.08%			
Supportive Services and Facilities Improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / Subrecipient Match - Public Federal: \$ / Subrecipient Match: \$132000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	0	0		3200	536	16.75%
Supportive Services and Facilities Improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / Subrecipient Match - Public Federal: \$ / Subrecipient Match: \$132000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	0	0		600	129	21.50%

Supportive Services and Facilities Improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / Subrecipient Match - Public Federal: \$ / Subrecipient Match: \$132000	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	500	116	23.20%			
Supportive Services and Facilities Improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / Subrecipient Match - Public Federal: \$ / Subrecipient Match: \$132000	Homelessness Prevention	Persons Assisted	1250	151	12.08%			
Supportive Services and Facilities Improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / Subrecipient Match - Public Federal: \$ / Subrecipient Match: \$132000	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	5	1	20.00%			

Supportive Services and Facilities Improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / Subrecipient Match - Public Federal: \$ / Subrecipient Match: \$132000	Other	Other	2000	514	25.70%			
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Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date

Assess how the jurisdiction’s use of funds, particularly CDBG, addresses the priorities and specific objectives identified in the plan, giving special attention to the highest priority activities identified.

In PY20, the City addressed housing needs through partnerships with local agencies that provide infill housing as well as rehabilitation of existing housing stock. In PY20, NeighborWorks Pocatello sold one home to a moderate income family as part of their service delivery. NWP assisted 40 clients with home repairs, utilizing their grant program which significantly increases the affordability of these projects. The City’s RENEWAL rehab program provided similar funding, as 23 rehab projects were completed in small rehab grants or loans. The combination of these programs (either direct grants, deferred loans, or low interest loans) allows them to address serious health, safety, and wellness concerns (such as the replacement of a furnace or roof) while also preserving the City’s housing stock. The Lead Hazard Control Grant provided 9 homes with lead abatement and 4 rental units, to which CDBG served as a match on numerous Lead projects. A major sidewalk improvement project was completed on North 9th as well as ADA accessible ramps at Optimus Park. Over 2,700 square feet of sidewalk was repaired and installed.

The CDBG program engages with a number of public service agencies to implement public facility improvements or provide direct services in accordance with eligible CDBG activities. In PY20 the City partnered with Aid For Friends, CASA, New Day Products, and St. Vincent de Paul.

Aid for Friends, Bannock Youth Foundation, CASA, and New Day Products were provided CDBG funding for public facilities projects. Aid for Friends (AFF) received \$50,000 as part of a five-year agreement related to the construction of a new homeless shelter. CDBG funds will be used over 5 years to provide a total of \$250,000 in funding toward the lending for the project. The new shelter is ADA accessible throughout, has a large dining area, industrial kitchen, public bathrooms and showers, and accommodations for over 75 people. Bannock Youth Foundation (BYF)

provides emergency sheltering and services to youths in the county. CDBG funding was used to complete electrical upgrades at BYF's Family Resource Center in Pocatello. The center served 116 unduplicated clients during the program year. CASA received CDBG funding for the replacement of a roof section at their primary office. CASA provides advocacy for abandoned, abused, or neglected children in the 6th judicial district. In PY20, 322 children in 168 different family groups were assisted. New Day Products and Resources received funding to complete the installation of a new roof on their facility resulting in the removal of asbestos, environmentally friendly drainage design installation, and resolving all leakage issues. New Day Products provides a safe environment for persons with disabilities to receive vocational training and assisted 97 clients, all of whom had disabilities and were in the extremely low income range.

Finally, CDBG funded the AFF bus ticket program and St. Vincent de Paul services. AFF provides shelter clients with Pocatello Regional Transit (PRT) tickets to assist with transportation to destinations including: work, job search, medical, probation, DMV, vocational rehab, social security agency, or housing. Thirteen shelter clients utilized the bus ticket service. St. Vincent de Paul received funding for their social services financial assistance to the needy program. The program assisted 94 clients with needs such as rent, utilities, or car repairs. Each client received assistance ranging from \$500-\$1000. Of the 90 clients assisted over 75% were extremely low income, while 14% were very low and just under 10% were low income.

CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted).

91.520(a)

	CDBG
White	553
Black or African American	10
Asian	1
American Indian or American Native	59
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	3
Total	626
Hispanic	81
Not Hispanic	545

Table 2 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds

Narrative

The racial and ethnic status of the families that are assisted with CDBG-funding closely resembles the overall the demographic composition of Pocatello. Using the most recent ACS estimates (2019) for comparison, as a percentage of total population, more people in minority racial categories were assisted (except for Asian) than are represented in the general population. In addition, not represented above, 29 of more than one race were assisted as well as 195 individuals identifying as handicapped. This is reflective of the City and its partners' work to ensure that underserved populations are made aware of the variety of assistance options available to the public as well as the extensive outreach conducted by the programs and staff.

CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	746,623	421,219
Other	private	1,408,445	661,851
Other	public - federal	1,408,445	661,851
Other	public - local	1,408,445	661,851

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

The City received \$449,917 in entitlement funding for PY20. During PY20, the City allocated \$106,000 toward its Rehab program and \$120,000 toward its sidewalk program. These programs have been annual appropriations as part of achieving goals articulated in the Consolidated Plan and also utilize any program income that the City receives. Therefore, these expenditures are still ongoing. In addition, the City has allocated just under \$120,000 for public services and public facility improvements. This included: Aid for Friends Shelter at \$50,000; Aid for Friends Bus Tickets at \$750; Bannock Youth Foundation HVAC at \$2,649; CASA roof replacement at \$10,250; NeighborWorks Pocatello infill service delivery at \$5,125; New Day Products roof at \$37,990; and St. Vincent de Paul service delivery at \$12,925.59.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
Central Neighborhoods	85	90	Locally Designated Area

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

Pocatello uses all of the CDBG non-administrative funding in the targeted Central Neighborhoods which are within the low- and moderate-income areas as defined by the most recent HUD data provided by the US Census. The Consolidated Plan identifies the Central Neighborhoods, which are aligned with the City's neighborhood associations in the central parts of the City. The Consolidated Plan housing market analysis identified these neighborhoods as the highest concentration of low- and moderate-income households; the area with the greatest number of persons with disabilities; and the oldest housing stock in the City, leading to the highest concentration of houses most likely to have lead-based paint risk. Focusing efforts in these areas enables the City to best utilize its allocation of Community Development Block Grant funds for its intended benefit, benefiting both individual LMI households and the residents of low- and moderate-income neighborhoods.

The CDBG programs benefiting those qualifying as limited clientele is used anywhere within the City limits. Also, for the City and subrecipient NeighborWorks Pocatello's home rehab programs, these services are available anywhere within the Pocatello city limits. This policy helps keep affordable housing available throughout the community by improving the existing housing stock and allowing qualifying applicants to remain in their homes by completing necessary emergency repairs.

Leveraging

Explain how federal funds leveraged additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements were satisfied, as well as how any publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that were used to address the needs identified in the plan.

The City leverages many resources outside of direct CDBG entitlement funding to ensure the federal funding goes further and has broader reach. This occurs through City general fund match, partner match funds, use of public resources, and additional grant funding. The City administers a HUD-funded Lead Hazard Control Grant which allows for the abatement of identified lead hazards in qualifying homes. Many of these homes are identified through the City's RENEWAL program or have qualifying additional work. CDBG serves as a match for the LHC grant, allowing for additional work to be funded through these two grants which otherwise would not be applicable for either project. Lead work can be covered by the LHC appropriation while additional necessary emergency rehab needs are provided through the RENEWAL program, improving the renter or homeowner's dwelling. The Lead grant leveraged about \$559,400 in funding to complete related projects and outreach.

Public service agencies participating in the CDBG program often provide match funding as well. Aid for Friends partnered with Idaho Housing and Finance Agency (IHFA) to construct a new shelter. CDBG is funding a portion of the lending (\$50,000 per year over 5 years) for the project which is a total of over \$2M. On a smaller scale, Bannock Youth Foundation provided a match of \$601 toward their HVAC upgrades; and CASA matched the roof replacement with \$1,850 in funds. In addition, subrecipients including those mentioned as well as New Day Products, St. Vincent de Paul, and NeighborWorks Pocatello all administer and run their daily programs, providing indirect match through salary, personnel, and additional expenses.

Finally, the City of Pocatello provided general fund support of approximately \$100,000 for the CDBG Program Manager's salary and benefits as well as engineering design and oversight support from internal staff for ongoing sidewalk projects.

CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

Evaluation of the jurisdiction's progress in providing affordable housing, including the number and types of families served, the number of extremely low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and middle-income persons served.

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	39	37
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Total	39	37

Table 5 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	0	0
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	13	1
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	26	36
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	0	0
Total	39	37

Table 6 – Number of Households Supported

Discuss the difference between goals and outcomes and problems encountered in meeting these goals.

The City addresses affordable housing through a subrecipient partnership with NeighborWorks Pocatello as well as the City RENEWAL program. In PY20, NWP was contracted for infill service delivery for a total of \$5,000. Directly through this funding, NWP was able to create one infill development for a moderate income household, This was the sole new unit produced during the PY. Because of the increased cost of construction due to a highly competitive housing market as well as outside factors linked to the

pandemic along with the lack of available land area for development of affordable units, the program did not meet the goal of 13 new units.

Despite the issues with the creation of new units, the rehab of existing units continued on a positive trend. In PY20, NWP completed the rehab of 40 units through their housing and mobile home rehab program. In addition, the city saw the rehab of 4 rental units (all funded through the Lead Hazard Control grant) and 32 housing units (9 of which were funded through LHC and 23 of which were exclusively through the RENEWAL program). These projects ranged from small grants to interest free or interest deferred loans for LMI, qualifying households. When looking at CDBG alone, the City was in line with its goal of rehabbing about 26 units with the completion of 23 units. This is an achievement as the country was in the midst of a global pandemic and the City has been understaffed without a rehab specialist and a CDBG Program Coordinator for large portions of the 2020 program year.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

The rehab programs continue to be in high demand across the City. As the demand continues and is anticipated to remain high as a result of the pandemic and challenging housing market, the City will continue to expeditiously implement the rehab program and align it with the existing Lead grant as applicable. Similarly, the City will hire necessary rehab specialist staff to address the demand. Finally, the City will continue to partner with NWP in order to address funding gaps and leverage loan programs for the LMI applicants. In addition, NWP continues to address the need for development and the CDBG program will work with their agency to align goals and objectives in this regard.

As the demand continues, it is anticipated this will inform future action plans. The City will undergo a new five-year consolidated plan planning process in PY21 in anticipation of the PY22 start of that plan. A market analysis will likely provide more data showing the need for affordable housing and affordable development. The City will engage an outside consultant to complete this analysis and use this to inform the future plans.

Include the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income persons served by each activity where information on income by family size is required to determine the eligibility of the activity.

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	6	0
Low-income	17	0
Moderate-income	14	0
Total	37	0

Table 7 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

The breakdown of income levels is provided by subrecipients awarded CDBG funding. The agencies verify income of households served through their programs and provide that documentation to the City in their annual yearend report. NeighborWorks Pocatello provided one infill development to a household qualifying as moderate income. The City's RENEWAL program completes similar income verification and is unable to approve an applicant's grant or loan unless they meet income qualification standards. Of the applicants, 6 were extremely low income, 11 were low-income, and 6 were moderate income. The Lead Hazard Control grant also requires income verification with 4 renters qualifying an 9 homeowners. Of those 6 were extremely to low-income and 7 were moderate to low income. Internally, income verification is conducted through a review of previous years' tax returns and account statements from applicants. This applies to the lead grant and renewal program to ensure all HUD standards are met.

CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)

Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:

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

The City partners with agencies and coalitions specializing in homelessness and assisting those individuals with their needs. The City is a member of the Homeless and Housing Coalition of Southeast Idaho which is composed of 20 different public agencies and nonprofit organizations that address homelessness, affordable housing, mental and behavioral health, and social services. The Coalition meets quarterly providing an opportunity to share CDBG program goals and outreach as well as learn about offerings from other agencies that could align with CDBG program goals. In addition, the attendance at the Coalition, the City also participates in the Idaho Balance of State Continuum of Care (CoC) which works with the Idaho Homelessness Coordinating Committee (IHCC) and Idaho Housing and Finance Association (IHFA).

On a more localized level, the City partners with a number of subrecipients who work directly with homeless, such as Aid for Friends and the Bannock Youth Foundation. Through these agency partnerships, outreach is conducted to the homeless and informs CDBG programming.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

As noted, the City addresses needs of homeless through relationships with partners, agencies, and stakeholders. Specifically in PY20, Aid for Friends was contracted for 2 CDBG funding awards. The first provided service delivery of a transportation assistance program which funded PRT bus tickets for those individuals seeking services from AFF. Transportation was provided to appointments, job searches, housing, and more. In addition, the CDBG program funded year 1 of a five year agreement to provide funding for the new AFF emergency housing shelter. The new shelter will house over 75 individuals and directly serve those in need of emergency sheltering and assistance. Similarly, Bannock Youth Foundation received a PY20 award. This will enable them to continue their service provision to homeless youth in the City.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after 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); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

The City's various partners work very closely with low-income individuals and families who are likely on the verge of homelessness. St. Vincent de Paul, for example, received PY20 funding to continue their social services program which provides funding assistance for rent and utilities which enables individuals and families to remain housed. As noted, AFF and BYF provide direct services to those who have lost housing or are transitioning housing. In addition, the City continues to administer its rental assistance program through the CDBG-CV funding which responds to and prevents effects from the COVID-19 global pandemic. Rental assistance for those qualifying applicants has prevented those families who are likely to become homeless.

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

As noted, the City engages with myriad partners who address homelessness and work to prevent chronic homelessness or those from becoming homeless again. Through the partnering agencies, the City is able to inform those groups of available funding and ways in which CDBG can assist their programs. This information is also shared with the CDBG Advisory committee to expand outreach and opportunities. In addition to participation in coalitions and outreach, the City also invites over 70 service agencies to an annual technical assistance meeting to invite applications for the subsequent program year. This serves as a major outreach opportunity and provides agencies with an opportunity to seek CDBG funding which can address these concerns. Finally, the City's work on creating and maintaining a viable stock of affordable housing will aid in the prevention of chronic homelessness especially in a housing market directly affected by COVID-19 and a lack of supply.

CR-30 - Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j)

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

The Housing Authority of the City of Pocatello (HACP) offers services to local residents and the community, all tailored to the needs of the most underserved Pocatello citizens. Even though the City and HACP are separate public entities, a portion of the land on which one of the public housing structures sits is owned by the City of Pocatello. The two organizations have a close working relationship, including annual reporting to the Pocatello City Council on the operations of the HACP and a consistency review by the Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee on its annual action plan and request for funding. The HACP is a member of the Homeless and Housing Coalition of Southeast Idaho and participates in the work of that organization. Through this partnership the City is able to ensure needs of public housing are taken into account when the Annual Action Plan is developed.

The HACP owns and maintains 348 rental units in 14 properties, of which 72 are public housing (Christensen Courts) and 227 are affordable housing. The Housing Authority also administers 692 Section 8 vouchers, 597 of which are leased. The demand for leases annually outweighs the supply and there are lengthy waiting lists for housing. It is anticipated public housing will continue to be at capacity.

The HACP operates Portneuf Towers, where the only residents are elderly persons or persons with disabilities. The Housing Authority has worked to integrate these two populations, and offers amenities such as a beauty salon, pet grooming facility, and common use areas which include an exercise room and game room for the benefit of the residents. Christensen Courts also houses only elderly and special needs residents, with 72 apartments.

To date, the City's CDBG program has not provided direct funding for any public housing projects, however, close collaboration is maintained between the two entities to ensure the best possible service is provided to the community. Each spring the HACP requests a Certificate of Consistency review for their federal funding plans. This provides the CDBG Advisory Committee an opportunity to review the housing authority's activities and levels of service in meeting public housing needs and for the HACP to express any unmet needs or concerns. Additionally, the Pocatello City Council meets in work session with the HACP each year to discuss mutual concerns and upcoming projects. CDBG staff had several meetings with HACP staff to explore partnership opportunities to help aid the community with job training and new housing opportunities.

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

The HACP works directly with agencies who frequently partner with the City through the CDBG program such as NeighborWorks Pocatello and SEICCA. Through this partnership, NWP and SEICCA have qualified

individuals for loans to purchase infill developments funded through CDBG or the service delivery . In addition to operating public housing and administering the federal public housing programs, HACP provides the Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) program to assist those participating in the program to gain economic independence.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

N/A

CR-35 - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j)

Actions taken 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. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)

Annually, the governing bodies of the City, namely the City Council, makes a concerted effort to review a number of public policies, structures, fees, regulations, codes, and other provisions that may serve as barriers to affordable housing. Each fiscal year, the Council reviews the fees structure to ensure current rates do not inhibit development. Similarly, as projects move through the review process to Council approval, unintended barriers or potential issues that arise are reviewed by the Council and often included in discussion for future review. Currently, the City's Planning and Development Services Department is completing a new Comprehensive Plan which will serve as a long-term plan with actionable deliverables to address the City's future growth and development, including affordable housing needs. The City Council is committed to keeping the property tax level as low as possible. CDBG program customers are encouraged to take advantage of the Homeowner's Exemption and the Circuit Breaker Exemption to reduce tax burden on low- and moderate-income households.

Actions taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

As is consistent with the previous years' implementation of the City's CDBG entitlement funding, strong local partnerships have been paramount to addressing obstacles to meeting underserved needs. The City has numerous local partners and stakeholders and continues to grow this cadre of organizations. Staff provide technical assistance on a day to day basis for current subrecipients and residents while also holding the annual technical assistance meeting for new partners or other interested organizations. The City's CDBG website serves as a repository for information while other information is distributed through the City's Public Information Office, legal notices, advertisements in the Idaho State Journal, direct mailers or email communication, at public meetings, or through public hearings. In addition, the City's Outreach Coordinator attends local events regularly and presents on the available programs offered by the Neighborhood and Community Services Division. The Outreach Coordinator also serves as a member of multiple community based organizations and groups, providing for information sharing and information gathering. City Staff present on programs at various meetings as well as meet one on one with potential service provider subrecipients. Finally, the CDBG Advisory Committee holds monthly meetings to discuss improving strategies for addressing obstacles.

The CDBG Program's Policies and Procedures also guide the work of the program to address obstacles to underserved needs. The Language Assistance Plan was adopted to improve program accessibility for those individuals for whom English is not their primary language. In addition, the City ensures compliance with Section 3 when expending CDBG funds, adhering to the adopted policy. The program also references the Citizen Participation Plan within the 5-year Consolidated Plan to ensure depth of outreach. The City's broad base of partner agencies results in a robust referral system for those seeking

assistance for whom CDBG funding is not an option.

Overall, there are a vast array of resources, techniques, and policies the Neighborhood and Community Services Division implements to address obstacles; however, this is an iterative and continuous process to improve service deliver and ensure needs are being met in an ever-evolving program.

Actions taken to reduce lead-based paint hazards. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The Neighborhood and Community Services Division was awarded a HUD Lead Hazard Control Grant in 2017 for \$1.5M. This allowed for funds to directly assist income-eligible households with lead hazard control services. CDBG funding can be utilized as an eligible match for the LHC grant, providing for a more comprehensive approach to the home rehab program. In several instances, lead based paint work that was LHC eligible would be coupled with eligible lead work that could be funded by CDBG. During PY20, 4 rental units and 9 homes were abated through the LHC grant.

With the majority of housing in Pocatello having been constructed before 1978, there are a number of potential leaded homes around the City. The City staffs two EPA-Certified Risk Assessors to implement the program as well as conducts extensive outreach. In addition, CDBG funds are used directly for the RENEWAL program. City staff work with homeowners and renters to identify and remove not only lead-based paint hazards, but other environmental hazards in homes that effect the health of the occupants.

Actions taken to reduce the number of poverty-level families. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The objectives of the CDBG program are to address the needs of low to moderate income residents in Pocatello. Generally, the CDBG funded programs for PY2020 work toward this end whether through direct service delivery through contracted subrecipients or infrastructure improvements to reduce blight and address accessibility issues. In PY20, public service agencies directly utilized CDBG funding to address the needs of poverty-level families. St. Vincent de Paul provided funding for those qualifying applicants who needed rental assistance, utility assistance, or social services. In addition, Aid For Friends used CDBG funding for bus tickets to provide transportation for poverty-level individuals to access job interviews, medical appointments, and more. In a less direct manner, CDBG-funded housing, public facility, and public infrastructure programs provide necessary funding for continued service delivery or financial assistance to LMI populations so as to reduce financial burden, increase access to resources, or prevent future financial burden and increased poverty. Year over year, the CDBG programs, primarily through partner agencies, assist LMI families to reduce poverty. CDBG-funded programs can be seen as actions to reduce poverty by improving the status of LMI and special populations and building prosperity.

In addition to the programs, the City has developed many partnerships with service providers, non-profits, state agencies, and other entities to address issues affecting poverty. As in previous years, the City is exploring ways to improve workforce training and development as well as outreach to hard to reach populations. This was inhibited by the COVID-19 pandemic which severely limited and restricted

meetings, training opportunities, and other outreach efforts. The implementation of the COVID-19 rental assistance program through CDBG-CV funds will hopefully familiarize individuals with the available programs to expand their reach when potential opportunities arise. Partners such as SEICCA, Public School District #25, and the rotary clubs, all serve as valuable partner resources so that services can be identified for potential CDBG funding to reduce poverty level families.

Actions taken to develop institutional structure. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City bases its community delivery system on CDBG federal regulation, guidance, and the City's adopted CDBG Program Policies and Procedures. In its 25 year history as an entitlement community, the City has developed many institutional structures inherent in the delivery system through internal operational procedures which ensure compliance with the aforementioned requirements. As programs are administered by subrecipients, these requirements are reviewed by staff, contained in contract terms and conditions, and staff is made available to provide technical assistance to ensure compliance. The City's Neighborhood and Community Services Division employs staff to implement the program who are required to complete training on CDBG programs and requirements to ensure compliance with federal regulation. In addition, the Neighborhood and Community Services Division is housed in the Planning and Development Services Department and works with the City's Finance Department to ensure continuity of the internal structure and cross-department checks and balances on program activities. The City's program is subject to City Council approval with the CDBG Advisory Committee serving as the appointed body to make recommendations to the Council. A City Council member serves as a liaison to the CDBG Advisory Committee to foster communication on issues and keep the Council apprised of ongoing activity as well. Finally, the long-established relationships with community partners allows for frequent communication of issues, areas of success, and potential changes in institutional structure or service delivery.

Actions taken to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

As noted, the City has developed relationships with many service agencies that address housing as well as the Housing Authority. The City provides technical assistance to service agencies interested in utilizing CDBG funding through the technical assistance meeting or remote technical assistance offered on a case by case basis via email or phone communication. The City participates in the Housing and Homeless Coalition to stay apprised of public housing and service agency housing activity. In regards to private housing, the CDBG program is housed within the Planning and Development Services Department so there is frequent communication about ongoing or planned developments. This is enhanced with monthly department meetings. The CDBG program goals and objectives are included in the City's Comprehensive Plan as well. The PDS Department is redoing the Comprehensive Plan and will be including actionable deliverables of which CDBG program goals and objectives will be reviewed and incorporated as applicable. Staff maintain open lines of communication so that partners can share project updates and CDBG priorities can be shared externally as well. Overall, the City will continue its participation in various coalitions and work to address housing needs by leveraging opportunities for

coordination amongst the various public and private entities.

Identify actions taken to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in the jurisdictions analysis of impediments to fair housing choice. 91.520(a)

The City's Consolidated Plan includes an Analysis of Impediments and Fair Housing Plan (AI) which serves as the guiding document for identifying and addressing fair housing impediments. As part of this AI, a member of the CDBG staff is designated as the fair housing point person for the City. This point person is available for any fair housing related issues. In addition, the City provides education and outreach related to fair housing to ensure compliance from relevant entities (the city, housing producers, sellers, buyers, real estate agents, etc.). The City has a fair housing website with information, posts educational documentation in City Hall, and does education and outreach such as presentations to real estate agents or other groups. Due to COVID-19, this was limited as compared to previous years. No fair housing complaints were received in PY2020.

CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

Describe the standards and procedures used to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and used to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements

The City implements the CDBG Program Policies and Procedures as adopted and amended by the City Council in 2017. These Policies and Procedures ensure compliance with Section 3 of the HUD regulations as well as other federal regulation requirements. These requirements are also included in subrecipient contracts to ensure compliance. Included in the CDBG Policies and Procedures is subrecipient monitoring which includes a risk assessment of the subgrantee, desk monitoring (monthly submission of invoices and required documentation), and technical assistance provided as needed for all subgrantees. Policies and Procedures and ensure long-term compliance and adherence to the five-year consolidated plan as well as annual action plan as adopted by the City Council.

Citizen Participation Plan 91.105(d); 91.115(d)

Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports.

The City takes several steps to provide citizens with reasonable notice and opportunity to comment on performance reports. All reports are heard at public hearings held at regular City Council meetings prior to adoption by the City Council. This public hearing is preceded by a public comment period, allowing for written submission of comments to be read into the record at the public hearing. The hearing is advertised in the Idaho State Journal and the reports are made available to anyone who requests it. In addition, all plans and reports are public records subject to the Idaho Records Law and HUD record retention requirements, making them available to the public at any time.

This is in accordance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan requires that the community be given an opportunity to comment on all performance reports. This is accomplished through publication of a notice in the Idaho State Journal, advertising the release of the draft report for a 15-day written comment period, as well as designating an opportunity to present oral comments to the Pocatello City Council. The notice, as well as a copy of the draft plan, is posted on the City's website. The CDBG Advisory Committee also receives a copy of the Plan and is able to submit comment, suggestions, and recommend release for public comment.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.

Program Year 2020 is year four of the current five-year Consolidated Plan. As the City begins the planning for the next five-year Consolidated Plan, program objectives may evolve and change based on the market analysis, needs assessment, and outreach conducted. In PY20, it is clear the needs identified in the original five-year plan are still in demand in PY20. This includes a need for affordable housing, both the creation and maintenance of existing affordable housing. In recent PYs, the City has worked to address public infrastructure improvements, such as sidewalks, without compromising needed funding for public service agencies. Due to the need of these public facilities, the City adopted a new contract to provide funding over multiple program years (a five-year allocation to AFF). Because of the shift in demand, this has necessitated some changes in the programs. However, the annually funded activities still align with the Con Plan and needs in the community. This will help inform the next five-year plan moving into PY22.

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

No

[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

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