ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
FY 2021

Community Development Block Grant
and
HOME Investment Partnership Grant

for

Town of Cheektowaga
Amherst Cheektowaga Tonawanda
Consortium

April 1, 2021- March 31, 2022

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The Town of Cheektowaga is a federal entitlement community under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The Town of Cheektowaga in conjunction with the Towns of Amherst and Tonawanda also receive HUD HOME funding through their participation in the Amherst-Cheektowaga-Tonawanda (ACT) HOME Consortium. The Town of Amherst acts as the Lead Grantee for the ACT HOME Consortium. In this capacity, the Town of Amherst submits grant applications, executes fund disbursements, and prepares reports on all HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds utilized by the three towns.

As a HUD entitlement community, the town is required to prepare a Five-Year Consolidated Plan (CP) for the aforementioned federal grant programs to guide funding for housing, community development and economic development activities within their communities. The CP covers the period from FY 2020 through FY 2024 (April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2024).

The Annual Plan is guided by three overarching goals derived from the CP that are applied according to community needs. The goals are:

- To provide decent housing by preserving the affordable housing stock, increasing the availability of affordable housing, reducing discriminatory barriers, increasing the supply of supportive housing for those with special needs, and transitioning homeless persons and families into housing.
- To provide a suitable living environment through safer, more livable neighborhoods, greater integration of low- and moderate- income residents throughout the Consortium, increased housing opportunities, and reinvestment in deteriorating neighborhoods.
- To expand economic opportunities through more jobs paying self-sufficient wages, homeownership opportunities, development activities that promote long-term community viability, and the empowerment of low- and moderate- income persons to achieve self-sufficiency.

Focus of the Plan

As required by HUD, the identification of needs and the adoption of strategies to address those needs must focus primarily on low- and moderate-income individuals and households. The Annual Plan must

also address the needs of special needs populations, e.g., the elderly, persons with disabilities, large families, single parents, homeless individuals and families, and public housing residents.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

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

The Strategic Plan provides a framework to address the needs of the Town of Cheektowaga for the next five years using CDBG and HOME funds. The three overarching objectives guiding the proposed activities are:

- Providing Decent Affordable Housing
- Creating Suitable Living Environments
- Creating Economic Opportunities

Outcomes show how programs and activities benefit a community or the people served. The three outcomes that will illustrate the benefits of each activity funded by the CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs are:

- Improve Availability/Accessibility
- Improve Affordability
- Improve Sustainability

The overall goal of the CDBG program is the development of viable urban communities that will provide decent housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunities, principally for low-moderate income persons. The main focus of the Town's program is in the area of housing and neighborhood preservation. The CDBG program's broad goals can be accomplished by a variety of eligible activities including housing rehabilitation, improvements to public facilities and infrastructure, recreation improvements, code enforcement, economic development activities, and public services.

The Town also uses CDBG funds to create a suitable living environment by funding public services that improve the lives of its low-moderate income residents by providing services to seniors, youth, and battered spouses, as well as providing special police foot patrols to enhance Cheektowaga's neighborhoods.

An annual Action Plan is prepared each year that identifies specific projects and activities that will be carried-out to address the needs identified in the Consolidated Plan.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

The Town has successfully implemented its prior year allocations of CDBG and HOME funds as shown in its annual Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) that is submitted annually to HUD. It has succeeded in using those funds to assist hundreds of homeowners in extending the life of their homes, reducing the housing cost burden to low-moderate income residents, and enhancing the quality of life for citizens of the Town of Cheektowaga and Villages of Depew and Sloan.

Through the review and analysis of the rehab loan portfolio of past recipients, the Town has been successful in recapturing delinquent payments and increased program income over the past few years. Because of the increased revenue, focus was given to increased public infrastructure projects in targeted low-income neighborhoods.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The Citizen Participation Plan sets forth the procedures and policies the Town of Cheektowaga will use to encourage citizen participation in the development, operation, and reporting of their annual Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnership Grant. Citizens are encouraged to participate in the development of the Consolidated and Annual Plans, any substantial amendments to the Plans, and the Performance Report. This participation by low- and moderate-income persons, particularly those living in designated target areas and in areas where Community Development Block Grant funds are proposed to be used, and by residents of predominantly low- and moderate-income neighborhoods (as defined by the Federal guidelines) is particularly encouraged, as is the participation of all residents, including seniors, minorities, and persons with disabilities.

The Town will provide copies of this Citizen Participation Plan upon request. As an office policy, all members of the community are encouraged to comment on the housing and community development needs in their neighborhoods at any time throughout the year by stopping in the Community Development Department's office located in the Alexander Community Center or via email.

In order to afford citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties a reasonable opportunity to examine its contents and to submit comments, the Town will publish a summary of the proposed Annual Plan and a notice of availability of the document for public review in the Cheektowaga BEE as a display advertisement at least 30 days prior to its submission to the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Complete copies of the Annual Plan will be available online as well as at all Town libraries, the Village Clerks' offices in Depew and Sloan, the Town Clerks' office, and on the Towns' website. The summary will describe the contents and purpose of the Annual Plan and will include a list of the locations where copies of the entire proposed Plan may be examined. In addition, the Town will provide a copy of the plan to citizen groups and individuals that request it.

Notice of a public hearing to be held during the development of the Annual Plan to invite public comments and inquiries will be placed in the legal section of the Cheektowaga BEE at least 10 days prior to the date of the hearing and as a display ad in this paper. The Town will consider any comments or views of citizens received in writing, or orally at the public hearings, during the preparation of the final Annual Plan. A summary of these comments or views, and a summary of any comments or views not accepted and the reasons, therefore, shall be attached to the final Annual Plan.

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.

No official public comments were received during the comment period.

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

N/A

7. Summary

N/A

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	CHEEKTOWAGA TOWNSHIP	Office of Community and Economic Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The Town of Amherst Community Development Department is the lead agency for the preparation of the Five-Year Strategic Plan and administration of the HOME programs. The Towns of Cheektowaga and Tonawanda serve as Participating Grantees in the ACT HOME Consortium.

The Town of Cheektowaga Office of Community and Economic Development is primarily responsible for administering Community Development Block Grant funded programs covered by the Consolidated Plan.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

The Town of Amherst Community Development Department administers the Amherst HOME Consortium allocation for the three towns of Amherst, Cheektowaga, and Tonawanda. The Town of Amherst Office of Community and Economic Development is responsible for the Consolidated Plan process in collaboration with the Towns of Cheektowaga and Tonawanda along with the Erie County Consortium. Inquiries related to this Plan can be made to Rachel Straker, Director, Office of Community and Economic Development, Town of Cheektowaga, 275 Alexander Avenue, Cheektowaga, NY 14211, by telephone at (716) 897-7200, ext. 3, or via email at rstraker@tocny.org. All questions and comments are encouraged.

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

1. Introduction

The Town of Cheektowaga has developed and coordinated outreach efforts to maximize input from a large cross-section of stakeholders. Several housing, social service agencies, and other organizations serving Cheektowaga were consulted during the development of this Annual Plan. They provided information and context that was invaluable to the planning process. Just like for all other CDBG-related activities, Cheektowaga also strongly encouraged all known stakeholders to participate.

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

Under a joint agreement with the ACT Consortium and Erie County, the Town contracted with a consultant to help prepare the FY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for the Consortium which was used to develop this annual plan. As part of that process, staff members from the Town, the ACT Consortium, Erie County, and the consultant conducted consultations with officials from government, human service agencies, regional planning and transportation agencies, as well as many others, to identify needs of our community. The agencies from these consultations, and other local providers, will be part of the solutions to the needs of our citizens.

To strengthen the foundation in communities where residents are struggling, the John R. Oishei Foundation created the Mobile Safety–Net Team Initiative to go into communities and assess how the effects of the downturn in the economy were impacting residents, help connect residents with the services they need, build relationships with service providers, and gather information about human service needs. In Cheektowaga, the Mobile Safety–Net Team has connected various Town departments with individuals, non-profit organizations, local schools, and colleges to help understand and address the needs of the citizens in the Town. Through monthly meetings and sub-committees, the group continues to plan ways to address those needs. From food banks to job training, the group steadily looks to connect and not duplicate services available for Town residents. Where appropriate and feasible, the Town will coordinate its housing programs with services designed to assist low-income households to break the cycle of poverty.

The Town of Cheektowaga has also established a working relationship with Belmont Housing Resources for WNY, Inc. to administer a housing counseling program, financial education services for first-time homebuyers, counseling for households in danger of mortgage default or at-risk of becoming homeless, and counseling relating to tenant-landlord disputes. Consultation on reverse mortgages is also available for eligible senior homeowners.

Through a partnership with Child and Family Services, a Haven House advocate is available at the Cheektowaga Police Department to assist domestic violence victims with necessary services such as safety planning, legal advocacy, support with child needs, and support with economic needs. The advocate is also able to serve as a liaison between the court and the police, and make necessary referrals based on individual needs.

Supportive Services Corp. will continue to administer weatherization services for low-income owner and tenant households (excluding multi-unit complexes) providing energy efficient heating, insulation, windows, and weatherproofing. Referrals are made by the Town on an ongoing basis to this program.

We continue to provide funding to the Cheektowaga Police Department to execute foot patrols in low-mod income areas in the Town. The patrols focus on building trust between citizens and their police officers, creating positive interactions between officers and youth, and improving the quality of life in these neighborhoods.

Though the Town of Cheektowaga Office of Community Development does not provide CDBG funding to the WNY Law Center, frequent referrals are made for legal services. The WNY Law Center has the ability to represent low-income residents at no charge not only in civil matters, but also in various real estate issues, including, but not limited to title issues and working with homeowners in jeopardy of foreclosure to find solutions.

Lastly, we provide funding for a part-time Senior Outreach Assistant who provides needs assessment services to seniors and linkages to appropriate social service agencies.

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

The Town of Cheektowaga and the HOME Consortium work with the Homeless Alliance of Western New York, our Continuum of Care for the homeless and at risk population of the area, to identify and meet the needs of this population and work to provide shelter and affordable, stable housing to prevent homelessness. Because homelessness is less concentrated in Cheektowaga, it is not as noticeable as it is in the nearby City of Buffalo. No homeless shelters are located within Town, and rapid re-housing is difficult due to the suburban nature of the Town. The Town of Cheektowaga does not receive any ESG funding and any monetary assistance is through CDBG.

The Town does contract with HUD-certified housing counseling agencies to provide one-on-one counseling with low-moderate income eligible residents with housing issues who are often at risk of homelessness. This counseling includes credit/financial issues, apartment searches, tenant-landlord issues, fair housing issues, etc. Belmont Housing Resources for WNY administers the Section 8 rental assistance program for all of Erie County (except for City of Buffalo) and provides the greatest amount of

housing and credit counseling for individuals and families. The Town also refers residents to the WNY Law Center for no-cost foreclosure and bankruptcy legal assistance, as well as the Consumer Credit Counseling Service to provide credit counseling for those households at the risk of mortgage default or foreclosure.

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

The Town of Cheektowaga does not receive ESG funding.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	**Agency/Group/Organization**	CHEEKTOWAGA TOWNSHIP
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special 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 Town was consulted via activity proposal forms to obtain information on the housing and community development needs of town residents.
2	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Belmont Housing Resources for WNY, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services-homeless Services-Education Service-Fair Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The agency was consulted via a project proposal form to obtain information on the need for counseling relating to housing and financial issues. Based on need, funding will be provided for counseling relating to various housing and financial issues.

3	**Agency/Group/Organization**	The John R. Oishei Foundation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Services - Victims Foundation
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Service Gaps
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The agency was consulted via a project proposal form to obtain information on the need for additional public services for the low-moderate income residents of the Town.
4	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Cheektowaga Senior Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The agency was consulted via a project proposal form to obtain information about the various needs of clients served by the agency. Based on need, funding will be provided for outreach services for seniors.
5	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Cheektowaga Youth and Recreation Department
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Other government - Local

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Service Gaps
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The agency was consulted via a project proposal form to obtain information about the various needs of clients served by the agency. Funding will be provided based on determined need.
6	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Child and Family Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Service Gaps
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The agency was consulted via a project proposal form to obtain information about the various needs of clients served by the agency. Funding will be provided based on determined need.
7	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Village of Depew
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The agency was consulted via a project proposal form to obtain information about the various needs of its constituents. Funding will be provided based on determined need.
8	**Agency/Group/Organization**	VILLAGE OF SLOAN
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The agency was consulted via a project proposal form to obtain information about the various needs of its constituents. Funding will be provided based on determined need.
9	**Agency/Group/Organization**	Supportive Services Corporation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The agency was consulted via a project proposal form to obtain information about the needs of clients served by the agency. Based on information received, we will continue to provide funding for a weatherization program.

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

Cheektowaga does not have any public housing within the Town.

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	Homeless Alliance of WNY	Avoiding homelessness

Table 3 - Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative

The Town of Cheektowaga does not receive ESG although we maintain a relationship with Erie County and the Homeless Alliance of WNY to address issues regarding those residents that may be at risk of homelessness or actually identified as homeless.

AP-12 Participation - 91.401, 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

The Town of Cheektowaga is committed to increasing citizen awareness and involvement in the preparation and implementation of the CDBG and HOME Programs. Through the citizen participation process, the Town will become more aware and sensitive to low-and moderate-income citizen's needs and the needs of people with disabilities and the organizations representing persons with disabilities. It will also afford an opportunity to better inform the public of the purpose of the CDBG and HOME grants and the funding allocation process, and ensure that selected projects are meeting the needs of constituents.

The Town of Cheektowaga's goal for citizen participation is to ensure broad participation of its residents; housing, economic development, and other service providers; local departments; nonprofit organizations; neighborhood groups; and other stakeholders in the planning and implementation of community development and housing programs. The Town, through the ACT HOME Consortium, has laid out a Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) to broaden citizen participation. The purpose of the CPP is to establish the process by which citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties can actively participate in the development of the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, Substantial Amendments, and the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), and to set forth the Town's policies and procedures for citizen participation.

Prior to the solicitation and selection of the 2021 projects, a series of meetings were held with representatives of municipalities, community-based organizations and housing-related agencies to encourage citizen participation. A summary table of all the meetings held during the 2021 Annual Plan citizen participation process is included on the following page.

The formal public comment period on the Draft 2021 Annual Plan extended from December 11, 2020 to January 11, 2021. A public hearing was also held on January 26, 2021 to accept and review comments on the draft. All hearings were advertised in the Cheektowaga Bee and posted on Cheektowaga's website. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the Town of Cheektowaga's State of Emergency all hearings were held virtually, though constituents were still encouraged to participate by signing up prior to the hearing.

In addition, the Town sent letters to homeowner associations in the town inviting them to provide input on neighborhood needs and inviting members to the public hearing. Unfortunately, no comments were received.

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	Letters	Non-targeted/broad community	Sent to 4 known community groups and received 1 reply; 6 nonprofit providers were contacted and 4 replied; and 4 town department providers were contacted and 4 replied; 2 letters sent to other local municipalities and 2 replied.	There is an increased need for housing counseling, financial education, service referrals, and mental health counseling, as well as youth and senior programs.	None	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
2	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	1st Public Hearing held via Zoom on October 13, 2020 and 2nd Public Hearing held via Zoom on January 26, 2021.	None	None	http://www.tocny.org/Departments/CommunityDevelopment.aspx
3	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Ad for 1st public hearing published September 24,2020, notice of availability of draft copy of plan to public published December 10,2020, and final public hearing notice published January 14, 2021.	None	None	www.cheektowagabee.com

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)
4	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	Availability of draft Action Plan for review is posted on the Town's website under the Community Development Department - Posted December 10, 2020	None	None	http://www.tocny.org/Departments/CommunityDevelopment.aspx

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The Town of Cheektowaga will receive an amount $1,041,515 in Community Development Block Grant funding for PY 2021 per HUD's final announcement of funding. The Town is expected to receive an anticipated amount of $452,700 in program income from previous years' rehabilitation and economic development activities. The Amherst, Cheektowaga, Tonawanda HOME Consortium will receive $941,899 in 2021 HOME Investment Partnerships Grant funding, with $282,570 allocated to the Town of Cheektowaga, and an additional $200,000 expected to be earned in program income from previous years HOME rehabilitation, homebuyer, and acquisition rehabilitation activities (as lead agency for the A-C-T Consortium, the Town of Amherst reports the projects for HOME dollars in its Annual Action Plan).

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan $	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: $	Program Income: $	Prior Year Resources: $	Total: $		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	1,041,515	452,700	0	1,494,215	4,511,841	CDBG

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: $		
Other	public - federal	Other	0	0	0	0	0	

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 Town of Cheektowaga has been awarded a $450,000 grant from the New York State Affordable Housing Corporation that offers eligible single-family homeowners a forgivable grant amount toward the rehabilitation of their home. The grant matches the Town's CDBG or HOME rehabilitation funds 60/40.

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 - 91.420, 91.220(c)(3)&(e)

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Residential Rehabilitation	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs	Town Wide	Residential Rehab - Owner Occupied	CDBG: $668,577	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 35 Household Housing Unit
2	Provide Weatherization Assistance	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Town Wide	Resident Rehab-Weatherization	CDBG: $30,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 20 Household Housing Unit
3	Housing Counseling	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Town Wide	Housing Counseling	CDBG: $11,875	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Households Assisted
4	Public Services-Summer Day Camp, Youth Services	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Cedargrove Heights Walden Avenue Pine Hill/Genesee St. Depew Sloan Clinton Town Wide	Public Services-Summer Day Camp, Youth Services	CDBG: $47,500	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 135 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	Public Services-Crime Awareness	2020	2024	Public Service	Cedargrove Heights Walden Avenue Pine Hill/Genesee St. Sloan Clinton	Public Services-Crime Awareness	CDBG: $33,250	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 16522 Persons Assisted
6	Public Services-Senior Services & Transportation	2020	2024	Public Services	Depew Town Wide	Public Services-Senior Services & Transportation	CDBG: $53,200	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 450 Persons Assisted
7	Public Services-Domestic Violence	2020	2024	Public Services	Town Wide	Public Services-Domestic Violence Counseling	CDBG: $8,550	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 150 Persons Assisted
8	Public Infrastructure	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Pine Hill/Genesee St. Depew Sloan	Public Infrastructure & Improvements	CDBG: $218,800	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 3970 Persons Assisted
9	Economic Development	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Town Wide	Economic Development-Rehab, Direct, Technical Asst	CDBG: $122,160	Jobs created/retained: 5 Jobs Businesses assisted: 1 Businesses Assisted

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	**Goal Name**	Residential Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	The program will improve the housing stock through the rehabilitation of owner-occupied 1-4 family units and reduction of lead-based paint hazards to benefit low- and moderate-income households by providing low-cost loans. Approval is based on income, owner-occupancy, payment of property taxes, and sufficient equity. Rehabilitation activities include interior and exterior system replacement, code violations, lead-based paint and asbestos remediation, and accessibility improvements. Mobile Home Rehabilitation will also be completed for mechanical systems, roofing, window replacement, and accessibility improvements. Additionally, an Emergency Program will provide for the repair or replacement of certain elements of a housing unit in emergency situations that impair the health and safety of the resident(s). The purpose of the loan is restricted to the cited emergency condition and the whole house must otherwise be in a habitable condition, defined as free from health and safety dangers.
2	**Goal Name**	Provide Weatherization Assistance
	Goal Description	The Town contracts with Supportive Services Corporation or other non-profit corporation to provide energy audits for Town and Village residents. Any inefficiency identified in the audit may be eligible for grant funded work items such as insulation, caulking, or newer energy-efficient appliances.
3	**Goal Name**	Housing Counseling
	Goal Description	The Town contracts with HUD-certified housing counseling agencies to provide one-on-one counseling with low-moderate income eligible residents with housing issues, credit/financial issues, apartment searches, tenant-landlord issues, fair housing issues, etc. The Town also provides referrals to existing mortgage-foreclosure services with other non-profits.

4	**Goal Name**	Public Services-Summer Day Camp, Youth Services
	Goal Description	The Town of Cheektowaga Youth and Recreation Department offers a Summer Day Camp Program which provides structured recreational activity for youth ages 4-12 throughout the summer season. Assistance is also being provided to the Boys and Girls Club of Depew for after-school programming in the Alexander Community Center to better serve low-moderate income families in the surrounding area.
5	**Goal Name**	Public Services-Crime Awareness
	Goal Description	A Community Policing Program offers residents in low-moderate income areas of the Town and the Village of Sloan an opportunity to interact with police officers through neighborhood watch programs.
6	**Goal Name**	Public Services-Senior Services & Transportation
	Goal Description	Funding will pay for the cost of a part-time outreach coordinator (counselor) who will perform outreach and needs assessment services in order to assist elderly residents with various issues and problems, and link them to the appropriate agencies and service providers. The Village of Depew Senior Center also seeks to add to its fleet of vehicles to promote health and wellness amongst its senior population.
7	**Goal Name**	Public Services-Domestic Violence
	Goal Description	Funding will be provided to Child and Family Services/Haven House to supplement the cost of a full-time advocate to counsel victims of domestic violence and help them develop strategies to protect themselves from the offender. The advocate will assist the victim in obtaining safe shelter, long-term counseling, and civil legal assistance. The advocate will also accompany the victim to Court and assist victims in speaking with the Police and Assistant District Attorney.
8	**Goal Name**	Public Infrastructure
	Goal Description	There is a high demand for replacing aging infrastructure in the Town and both Villages. Most of the critical water infrastructure is over 50 years old, as well several hundred miles of local roads, sidewalks, and sewer lines in low-moderate income areas that are in need of repair and replacement. Wherever possible, replacement projects will be done by Town employees while others require private contractors.

9	**Goal Name**	Economic Development
	Goal Description	The Town will provide a low-interest loan of variable duration and training to microenterprises that are in need of working capital to establish or sustain their business operations within the Town. The Town will also provide low interest loans to assist businesses that promise to hire low-moderate income workers, training them if necessary to fulfill the requirements of the position.

AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

Introduction

The proposed projects for the estimated allocation of 2021 CDBG and HOME funds have been determined through citizen participation, community outreach, Town department, neighborhood organizations' and non-profit agencies' requests for funding based upon the goals and objectives of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan.

#	Project Name
1	Housing Rehabilitation
2	Weatherization
3	Program Administration
4	Program Delivery Expenses
5	Environmental Hazard Testing
6	Housing Counseling
7	Summer Day Camp
8	Boys & Girls Club
9	Senior Outreach Assistant
10	Village of Depew - Senior Van Acquisition
11	Police Foot Patrols
12	Economic Development
13	Village of Sloan - Celina, Mann, & Wrazen Street Curbs
14	Village of Depew - Sidewalk Replacement
15	Curb Replacement - Olcott Place & Andrews Avenue
16	Domestic Violence Counseling

Table 7 – Project Information

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

The 2021 projects meet the criteria set forth by the Town in its five-year Consolidated Plan and the needs identified in the priorities of the plan.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	**Project Name**	Housing Rehabilitation
	Target Area	Cedargrove Heights Walden Avenue Pine Hill/Genesee St. Depew Sloan Clinton Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Residential Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Residential Rehab - Owner Occupied
	Funding	CDBG: $241,362
	Description	Low-interest and no-interest repayment loans, as well as deferred, interest free loans to income qualified low-moderate income homeowners to undertake necessary repairs to their homes including accessibility and emergency concerns. CDBG housing rehab for 2021 will be accomplished with entitlement funds and revolving loan funds. NYS Affordable Housing Corporation Grant funds will supplement the funding in designated target areas.
	Target Date	3/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 35 households will benefit from this program.
	Location Description	Town Wide, Villages of Depew (west of Transit Road) and Sloan
	Planned Activities	Housing Rehabilitation for needed repairs to bring properties to code and provide safe secure housing units.
2	**Project Name**	Weatherization
	Target Area	Cedargrove Heights Walden Avenue Pine Hill/Genesee St. Depew Sloan Clinton Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Provide Weatherization Assistance

	Needs Addressed	Resident Rehab- Weatherization
	Funding	CDBG: $30,000
	Description	The Town contracts with Supportive Services Corporation to provide energy audits for Town and Village residents. Any inefficiency identified in the audit may be eligible for grant funded work items such as insulation, caulking, or newer energy-efficient appliances.
	Target Date	3/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 20 households will benefit from this program.
	Location Description	Town-Wide, Villages of Depew (west of Transit Road) and Sloan
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code: 14f Housing Rehabilitation for needed repairs to improve energy efficiency in housing units.
3	**Project Name**	Program Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: $209,763
	Description	Administration staff costs, fringe benefits, supplies and equipment, training, audit costs, etc. associated with planning, oversight, reporting, and implementation of mandated HUD programs. General Program Administration for 2021 will be accomplished with CDBG entitlement funds of $207,763, anticipated CDBG program income of $60,000, and $30,540 of anticipated CEDC revolving loan funds. Entitlement funding in the amount of $2,000 will also be used for concentrated Fair Housing outreach through mailings and/or flyers.
	Target Date	3/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	

	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code: 21a
4	**Project Name**	Program Delivery Expenses
	Target Area	Cedargrove Heights Walden Avenue Pine Hill/Genesee St. Depew Sloan Clinton Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Residential Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Residential Rehab - Owner Occupied
	Funding	CDBG: $177,215
	Description	Administration staff costs, fringe benefits, supplies and equipment, training, etc. associated with program delivery and implementation of residential rehabilitation and economic development activities implemented under eligible HUD activities.
	Target Date	3/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	35 Low to Moderate Income Households will be assisted.
	Location Description	Town-Wide, Villages of Depew (west of Transit Road) and Sloan
	Planned Activities	
5	**Project Name**	Environmental Hazard Testing
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Residential Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Residential Rehab - Owner Occupied
	Funding	CDBG: $10,000
	Description	Lead-based paint risk assessment/evaluation and asbestos testing for CDBG and HOME rehabilitation activities and clearance testing after repairs.
	Target Date	3/31/2022

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	35 Low to Moderate Income Households will be assisted.
	Location Description	Town-Wide, Villages of Depew (west of Transit Road) and Sloan
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code: 14i The Town contracts with a qualified environmental firm prior to rehabilitation to conduct a risk assessment to determine lead-based paint hazards and conducts a clearance test at the completion of the project to ensure elimination of all lead hazards.
6	**Project Name**	Housing Counseling
	Target Area	Cedargrove Heights Walden Avenue Pine Hill/Genesee St. Depew Sloan Clinton Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Housing Counseling
	Needs Addressed	Housing Counseling
	Funding	CDBG: $11,875
	Description	The Town contracts with HUD certified housing counseling agencies to provide one-on-one counseling with low-moderate income eligible residents with housing issues, credit/financial issues, apartment searches, tenant/landlord issues, fair housing issues, first-time home buyer information, etc. The Town also provides referrals to existing mortgage foreclosure services with other non-profits.
	Target Date	3/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 100 households will be assisted.
	Location Description	Town-Wide, Villages of Depew (west of Transit Road) and Sloan
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code: 05u

7	**Project Name**	Summer Day Camp
	Target Area	Cedargrove Heights Walden Avenue Pine Hill/Genesee St. Depew Sloan Clinton Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Public Services-Summer Day Camp, Youth Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services-Summer Day Camp, Youth Services
	Funding	CDBG: $23,750
	Description	The Town of Cheektowaga Youth and Recreation Department offers a Summer Day Camp Program which provides structured recreational activity for youth ages 4-12 throughout the summer season. Through our program, tuition assistance is offered to low-moderate income residents.
	Target Date	3/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 35 children will be provided tuition assistance to attend camp at reduced or no cost.
	Location Description	Town-Wide, Villages of Depew (west of Transit Road) and Sloan
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code: 05d Children will attend recreational, educational, and enrichment activities.
8	**Project Name**	Boys & Girls Club
	Target Area	Cedargrove Heights Walden Avenue Pine Hill/Genesee St. Sloan Clinton Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Public Services-Summer Day Camp, Youth Services
	Needs Addressed	Public Services-Summer Day Camp, Youth Services

	Funding	CDBG: $23,750
	Description	Funding will be provided towards annual operating expenses for the Boys & Girls Club housed at the Alexander Community Center. This after-school program is a safe haven to provide recreational activities and support for persons ranging from 10 to 18 years of age.
	Target Date	3/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 100 people will be assisted.
	Location Description	Town-Wide
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code: 05z The Boys & Girls Club will serve the youth of Cheektowaga and provide safe after-school programming.
9	**Project Name**	Senior Outreach Assistant
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Public Services-Senior Services & Transportation
	Needs Addressed	Public Services-Senior Services & Transportation
	Funding	CDBG: $9,500
	Description	Funding will pay for the cost of a part-time outreach assistant who will perform needs assessment services for Seniors, assist them with various issues, and link them to the appropriate social service agencies and providers.
	Target Date	3/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 1,500 seniors will receive assistance under this program.
	Location Description	Town-Wide
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code: 05a Outreach worker will support seniors and assist in connecting them to necessary public service providers.

10	**Project Name**	Village of Depew - Senior Van Acquisition
	Target Area	Depew
	Goals Supported	Public Services-Senior Services & Transportation
	Needs Addressed	Public Services-Senior Services & Transportation
	Funding	CDBG: $43,700
	Description	Purchase a senior van to be operated by the Village of Depew Senior Center to transport Village seniors.
	Target Date	3/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 150 seniors will receive assistance under this program.
	Location Description	Village of Depew
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code: 05a Purchase a senior van to be operated by the Village of Depew Senior Center to transport Village seniors.
11	**Project Name**	Police Foot Patrols
	Target Area	Cedargrove Heights Walden Avenue Pine Hill/Genesee St. Sloan Clinton
	Goals Supported	Public Services-Crime Awareness
	Needs Addressed	Public Services-Crime Awareness
	Funding	CDBG: $33,250
	Description	Community-based Policing program consisting of additional foot and bicycle patrols designed to prevent blighted conditions and rising crime levels in target neighborhoods. The goal is to improve the quality of life in all low-moderate neighborhoods in Town.
	Target Date	3/31/2022

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 16,522 people will benefit in census blocks 101.03(3), 101.02 (1 & 2), 106(1), 100.03(3), 102.02(1), 103(1), 105(3), 101.02(3), 104(1 & 2), 107(3), 99(2), 109.01(1), 110(3), 109.02(1,2, & 4)
	Location Description	All HUD low-moderate income neighborhoods in Town
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code: 05i Additional foot and bicycle patrols are provided for designated neighborhoods.
12	**Project Name**	Economic Development
	Target Area	Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development-Rehab, Direct, Technical Asst
	Funding	:
	Description	The Town will provide a low-interest loan of variable duration and training to micro-enterprises that are in need of working capital to establish or sustain their business operation within the Town. The Town will also provide low-interest loans to assist businesses that promise to hire low-moderate income workers, training them if necessary to fulfill the requirements of the position.
	Target Date	3/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	It is estimated 1 business will be assisted with 5 Low-Mod Jobs Created/Retained.
	Location Description	Town Wide, Villages of Depew (west of Transit Road) and Sloan
	Planned Activities	Provide financial assistance to small and medium sized business locating, relocating, or expanding into the Town.
13	**Project Name**	Village of Sloan - Celina, Mann, & Wrazen Street Curbs
	Target Area	Sloan
	Goals Supported	Public Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Public Infrastructure & Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: $37,500

	Description	Replacement of street curbing on Celina Street, Mann Street, and Wrazen Street in the Village of Sloan in conjunction with the Village repaving project.
	Target Date	3/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 762 households will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	Village of Sloan
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code: 03k Replacement of street curbing in the Village of Sloan low-mod income neighborhoods in conjunction with the Village of Sloan repaving project.
14	**Project Name**	Village of Depew - Sidewalk Replacement
	Target Area	Depew
	Goals Supported	Public Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Public Infrastructure & Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: $56,300
	Description	There is a high demand for replacing aging infrastructure in the Village of Depew. Sidewalk replacement will be performed by private contractors.
	Target Date	3/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	Village of Depew west of Transit Road.
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code: 03L Replacement of existing sidewalks in low to moderate areas of the Village of Depew utilizing private contractors.
15	**Project Name**	Curb Replacement - Olcott Place & Andrews Avenue
	Target Area	Pine Hill/Genesee St.

	Goals Supported	Public Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Public Infrastructure & Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: $125,000
	Description	There is a high demand for replacing aging infrastructure in the Town of Cheektowaga. Replacement of curbs in low to moderate areas of the Town in conjunction with street reconstruction by Town employees and private contractors.
	Target Date	3/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 2627 Persons will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	Olcott Place & Andrews Avenue in the Pine Hill/Genesee Street Local Target Area
	Planned Activities	Replacement of curbs in low to moderate area of the Town in conjunction with street reconstruction by Town employees and private contractors.
16	**Project Name**	Domestic Violence Counseling
	Target Area	Sloan Town Wide
	Goals Supported	Public Services-Domestic Violence
	Needs Addressed	Public Services-Domestic Violence Counseling
	Funding	CDBG: $8,550
	Description	Funding will be provided to Child & Family Services/Haven House to supplement the cost of a full-time advocate to counsel victims of domestic violence and help them develop strategies to protect themselves from the offender. The advocate will assist the victim in obtaining safe shelter, long-term counseling, and civil legal assistance. The advocate will also accompany the victim to court and assist victims in speaking with the police and Assistant District Attorney.
	Target Date	3/31/2022

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 150 people will benefit from this service.
	Location Description	Town-Wide and the Village of Sloan.
	Planned Activities	HUD Matrix Code: 05g Advocate to provide counseling and assistance in obtaining safe shelter, long term counseling, and/or civil legal issues.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution - 91.420, 91.220(f)

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

The Town of Cheektowaga encompasses approximately 70 square miles with the City of Buffalo adjacent on its west side, West Seneca on the south, Depew/Lancaster Transit Road on the east, and the Town of Amherst on the north. The highest concentration of low-mod households and minority households can be found in the western portion of the Town, both north and south, consisting of the Genesee/Pine Ridge and Eggert Road/Delavan Street areas. This is the older portion of the Town that borders on the City of Buffalo and has the higher number of affordable housing units, both owner-occupied and rental, as well. Cedargrove Heights just south of Route 33 is another area of low income concentration. As the population ages in the Town other pockets of low-mod income in the elderly households become evident throughout the Town in many of the established "higher income" neighborhoods which is why some of the projects are directed town wide. Finally, certain census tracts in the Villages of Depew and Sloan are also designated low-income.

Certain funds have been allocated to the areas designated, resulting in the distribution of funds shown in the table below. However, the largest portion of funds are allocated to the rehabilitation loan programs which are available town wide and based on first-come, first-served residents; accordingly, some will actually occur in the targeted areas below, thus increasing the percentages for actual funds expended.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Cedargrove Heights	0
Walden Avenue	0
Pine Hill/Genesee St.	4
Depew	7
Sloan	2
Clinton	0
Town Wide	87

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Assistance will be directed to both specific areas of the Town and on a Town-wide basis. Housing rehabilitation funds are made available to income-eligible homeowners on a Town-wide basis, including the Village of Sloan and the Cheektowaga portion of the Village of Depew. Funds are allocated between

the Town and Villages based on relative census data for populations in those locales.

As noted in the Consolidated Plan, the highest concentration of severe cost burden for extremely low-income (ELI) households (those earning 0%-30% of the area's median family income) is in the western portions of the Town along Genesee Street and near the interchange of Interstate 90 and Interstate 190. The pattern of severe cost burden for the larger category of very low-income households (those earning 31%-50% of the area's median family income) is roughly the same with greater concentration along the western edge of the Town adjacent to the City of Buffalo.

Within the housing rehabilitation program, areas of focus will include low-income neighborhoods and those with high percentages of severe cost burdens such as the Pine Ridge, Genesee, Eggert/Delavan, and Cedargrove Heights areas. Public services, including community policing, will be carried out in these areas of Town as well as in low-income neighborhoods in the Villages of Depew and Sloan. Infrastructure improvement projects are also planned for the Villages of Depew and Sloan. Minority concentrations where assistance will be provided occur primarily in the Walden Avenue, Pine Ridge, Genesee, Eggert/Delavan and Cedargrove neighborhoods.

Housing activities such as rehabilitation will continue as the Town's major CDBG activity. Resources for housing rehabilitation are provided on a town-wide basis with an emphasis on low-to-moderate income neighborhoods, particularly those bordering the City of Buffalo.

Discussion

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

Introduction

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

Cheektowaga is in the process of updating the Town's Comprehensive Plan and is expected to complete this process within the next year. The Plan was last update in the late 1990's. The new plan will assist in identifying and correcting some needed issues to zoning districts hindering development and residential neighborhoods. Over the last several decades many housing units have been lost to commercial development along its major transportation streets. Although commercial development is good to assist residential neighborhoods, for some areas it was the elimination of considerable affordable housing units. As we lose residential units, it becomes much more difficult to replace them as the Town is an older built-out community with very little residential land to create affordable housing. With the new Comprehensive Plan, the Town will look to reimage itself to help ameliorate the negative effects of the antiquated regulations and policies. The Town will look to adopt the recommended changes to its zoning code in 2021. How those zoning amendments take shape will affect affordable housing stock in town and the reinvestment of many of our low-mod targeted neighborhoods in the near future.

The Town will continue to identify under-utilized and long-time vacant commercial structures and vacant schools and initiate zoning changes to these types of structures with the intent to possibly convert these underutilized buildings into affordable rental home opportunities. The Town also continues to look at identifying vacant lots in the neighborhoods bordering the City of Buffalo and provide necessary variances to its current code to allow for more in-fill single-family affordable home construction for not only projects utilizing its CDBG and HOME funds, but also collaborating with Habitat for Humanity on these types of projects in order to drastically increase the number of new units being created annually. These types of projects not only stem the tide of deterioration in the neighborhoods, but greatly increase neighborhood viability and value.

Discussion

The Town continues its program to rehabilitate existing low-income, owner-occupied, single-family and two-family housing by providing a 0% or

1.5% interest payback or 100% deferred payment loan through CDBG and HOME Programs. Approximately 35 single-family units and 2 two-family units will be rehabilitated. (Town/Village-wide)

Through a second current designated Community Development Housing Organization (CHDO) for the Town of Cheektowaga, the University District Community Development Association, Inc., will complete two newly constructed homes. They will then sell these properties to eligible first time homebuyers (FTHB-an individual or family with an income below 80% of the median income) using HOME Investment Partnership Act Grant program subsidies to make homeownership affordable. In conjunction with any program income received from the sale of these projects, at least one additional home in the Town will be acquired through our partnership with the Buffalo Erie Niagara Land Bank Initiative (BENLIC) from the Erie County tax foreclosure auction. This property will then be rehabilitated or a new home will be constructed and resold to a qualified first-time homebuyer.

Weatherization of existing low-income owner-occupied housing and rental housing (excluding multi-unit complexes) through the Weatherization Assistance Program administered through Supportive Services Corporation. Approximately 25 Cheektowaga units will be weatherized. (Town-wide/Village-wide)

The ACT Consortium of Towns will continue to support the activities of the Erie County Fair Housing Partnership and will actively participate in activities scheduled for April Fair Housing Month.

The Town's CDBG housing program also offer rehabilitation loans to single-family homeowners and owner-occupied two-family units to provide accessibility improvements.

The Town of Amherst will continue to act as the lead PHA for the Erie County PHA Consortium, acting as a conduit for the Housing Choice Voucher Program for eligible, very low income households in Erie County.

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

Introduction

The Town of Cheektowaga recognizes that housing programs by themselves will not eliminate or reduce poverty. Subsidized programs such as targeted in the Consortium Consolidated Plan can free up cash resources for living necessities, but these programs alone cannot raise a household above the poverty level.

The Town of Cheektowaga understands the importance of coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies and has developed the Annual Plan through consultation and cooperation with such agencies. In doing so, the Town has established a working relationship with numerous social and housing service providers which will serve as a foundation for coordination and cooperation in the implementation of the Annual Action Plan. Acknowledging that each agency plays a specific role in providing different types of services, the Town will adhere to a policy of encouraging on-going communication, referrals, and exchange of information among these agencies. Such a policy will allow the Town to serve as a catalyst to help ensure that the full range of appropriate resources are made known and available to service agencies in order to provide a thorough and complete approach to meeting priority housing, social, and health needs of low-income persons.

Where appropriate and feasible, the Town will coordinate their housing programs with services designed to assist low-income households to break the cycle of poverty.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The Town of Cheektowaga knows that there is a large need for affordable rental housing in the Town that it cannot address with limited CDBG and HOME grant dollars. The Town of Amherst acts as lead PHA for the Erie County PHA Consortium. In this capacity, it contracts with Belmont Housing Resources for WNY to administer the Section 8 rent subsidy programs in Erie County. The Erie County PHA has established an Action Plan for the Family Self-Sufficiency Program. This program provides rent subsidies to eligible households in concert with other social services and programs on terms that encourage personal responsibility leading to financial independence.

Transportation is another unmet need for citizens. Over half the area of the Town is not serviced by public transportation. To offset this deficiency, the Town has worked with its Senior Department to provide vans and handicapped accessible vans for its elderly who often are without means to access services, groceries, and recreation. CDBG funds have been used to acquire vans for senior transportation and will do so again in the future.

The growth of businesses and jobs is vital to the success of a community. The Cheektowaga Economic Development Corp. (CEDC) has assisted businesses to grow, expand, and provide new jobs to lower income area residents by providing working capital loans from a revolving loan fund established with

prior years' CDBG funds. In recent years, the CEDC has had little request for the funding and the HUD regulations proved to be too cumbersome for small business to accommodate. For future years, the CEDC hopes to develop a Micro-Enterprise Loan Program which, with accompanying technical assistance, could better help new businesses develop in the Town. In addition, Erie County's work force development offices and BOCES I provide training and employment opportunities to economically disadvantaged adults who need training and job skills to secure employment or to dislocated workers who are economically disadvantaged.

Employment opportunities may be available for Community Development projects under the Section 3 requirement. Section 3 provides for preference to be given to a contractor who meets requirements for Section 3 certification by agreeing to hire low-income Town residents for that project. The Town advises contractors working on projects in excess of $100,000, funded with CDBG and HOME funds, to post any job opening in the area of work and with agencies serving low-income families.

The bank financing for home repair loans for low-moderate income persons reduces the amount of their disposable income with the potential of placing the low-moderate income person into poverty. Therefore, the Town of Cheektowaga offers low or no interest loans to low-moderate income persons to make house improvements, with affordable monthly payments, or the potential for repayment upon sale of the house.

The Town of Cheektowaga Youth & Recreation and Senior Departments provides community services to both young and old in the Town. From sports and skating at the Town's recreation facilities, community activities at Town parks, volunteer opportunities, and social development for youth, these Departments seek to enrich the lives of Town residents. Counseling programs and linkages to other agencies are available to connect families and seniors to other agencies that can assist in all areas of life.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The Town will continue to undertake housing rehabilitation and acquisition-rehab-resale projects. Additionally, Cheektowaga funds and coordinates with agencies that provide housing counseling, foreclosure prevention, landlord-tenant education, and housing and services for victims of domestic violence. By focusing on geographic target areas with low-mod populations, and assisting low-mod income households, the Town assists residents with various aspects of obtaining and maintaining affordable housing.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The Town of Cheektowaga will continue to undertake the following action to control lead-based paint hazards during Fiscal Year 2021.

Houses built prior to 1978 showing deteriorated paint surfaces, exterior and interior, will be tested and if lead based paint is found, it will be addressed. In addition, we monitor Lead-Based Paint Certified

Contractors to ensure their certification is up-to-date and notify them if action needs to be taken.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The Town of Cheektowaga recognizes that housing programs by themselves will not eliminate or reduce poverty. Subsidized programs such as targeted in the Consortium Consolidated Plan can free up cash resources for living necessities, but these programs alone cannot raise a household above the poverty level. The Town of Cheektowaga Community Development Department continues to work with the Cheektowaga Community Collaborative to provide links with other community service agencies in the area to provide awareness of, and access to, services from food pantries, to job training, and all other public service programs available to those in need.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The Town continues to obtain training for staff in the Community & Economic Development Department to better enhance the skills of its staff. Because of the limited number of staff, additional cross training of staff will continue.

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

The Town of Cheektowaga understands the importance of coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies and have developed this Plan through consultation and cooperation with such agencies. In doing so, the Town has established a working relationship with numerous social and housing service providers which will serve as a foundation for coordination and cooperation in the implementation of its Annual Plan. Acknowledging that each agency plays a specific role in providing different types of services, the Town will adhere to a policy of encouraging ongoing communication, referrals, and exchange of information among these agencies. Such a policy will allow the Town to serve as a catalyst to help ensure that the full range of appropriate resources are made known and available to service agencies in order to provide a thorough and complete approach to meeting priority housing, social, and health needs of low-income persons.

To strengthen the safety net in communities such as Cheektowaga, where residents are struggling, the John R. Oishei Foundation created the Mobile Safety–Net Team Initiative to go into communities in the local area to assess how the effects of the downturn in the economy was impacting residents, help connect residents with the services they need, build relationships with service providers, and gather information about human service needs. As a result, the Cheektowaga Community Collaborative was created to connect the Town's Offices of Community & Economic Development, Youth & Recreation, and Senior Services with individuals, non-profit organizations, local schools, and colleges to help understand and address the needs of the citizens in the Town. Monthly meetings continue to foster conversation regarding how to address the needs of the low-income residents of the Town of

Cheektowaga. From food banks to job training, the group steadily looks to connect and not duplicate services available for Town residents. Where appropriate and feasible, the Town will coordinate its housing programs with services designed to assist low-income households to break the cycle of poverty.

Discussion

Emphasis continues to be placed on the Cheektowaga Community Collaborative, which is a partnership of community, governmental departments, and service provider agencies for the underserved. This collaborative provides a strong foundation for Town residents by working together and sharing information from all involved to deliver and connect persons of need to all available services.

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements - 91.420, 91.220(l)(1,2,4)

Introduction

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

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

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year 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%

Discussion

All activities in this plan are devised for the benefit of persons of low-moderate income.