



Amended PY45 to add Amendment #4 - recapture of CDBG-CV funds to FY2019 Annual Action Plan.

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

Based on the PR26 CDBG-CV Financial Summary Report, the City of Norwich has \$150,577.00 left in this account. After a review of proposals from homelessness providers by the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) in November of 2024, four of these providers were awarded funds in the total amount of \$135,000.00. This fourth amendment for CARES Act funding in the 2019 Annual Action Plan (AAP) intends to recapture \$135,000 in CDBG-CV funds and reallocate them to post-pandemic recovery activities. The City has recaptured \$135,000 in unexpended funding from the following projects: CV- NHS Senior Accessible Medical Care & Education - \$31,935.40; CV-SVDPP - Cold Food Storage - \$46,413.68 and CV Administration - \$56,650.92. The balance of funds available (\$15,577.00) will be used for ongoing CV-Administration and Closeout activities. The CDAC recommends that the recaptured funding be re-allocated to the following post-pandemic recovery projects: PY45 AAP Project#30 - CV-Thames River Community Services --Fostering Growth and Safety - \$23,778; PY45 AAP Project#31 - St. Vincent DePaul Place -- Cargo Van for Food Pantry- \$62,000; PY45 AAP Project#32 - Madonna Place - Family Support Center - \$25,000, and PY45 AAP Project#33 - TVCCA Homelessness Prevention Program --\$24,222.

Based on 24 CFR 91.200(c) and 91.220(b), the Executive Summary is provided to assist in the facilitation of the citizen review and comment. This concise executive summary includes the objectives and outcomes identified in the plan as well as an evaluation of past performance. The plan shall also include a concise summary of the citizen participation process, public comments, and efforts made to broaden public participation in the development of the consolidated plan.

The purpose of the City of Norwich's 2019 Annual Plan is to develop a viable community by 1) providing decent, affordable and safe housing; 2) creating a suitable living environment; and 3) expanding economic opportunities, principally for low and moderate-income persons. The plan sets forth how HUD

Community Development Block Grant funding will be used with investment priorities to achieve specific HUD objectives and outcomes performance measures mentioned in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. Norwich does not receive HOME Investment Partnership and Emergency Solution Grant funding.

CARES ACT Funding -- December 2024

In March 2020 the Nation experienced the devastating effects of the Corona Virus. As a result, the CARES ACT was passed and signed into law. The CARES ACT provided funds to the City of Norwich to Prepare for, Prevent, or Respond to the Coronavirus. The City received two allocations of funding from the Cares Act (CV-1 & CV-2) and has amended the 2019 AAP twice to account for these tranches. The City has six years to expend this funding. In an effort to get these funds out in the community, the City has reallocated these recaptured unexpended funding to qualified projects intended to prepare, prevent, and/or respond to the long-term effects of the Coronavirus Pandemic and the post-pandemic recovery. The City is submitting its fourth and final amendment to the 2019 AAP to detail how these funds will be reallocated to such projects.

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 City will focus on three main priorities that have multiple objectives and outcomes:

- 1.) Providing Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing: includes conserving & improving existing housing; provide homeownership assistance; assisting in the development of affordable housing; removing barriers related to accessibility; improving housing specific to shelters, homelessness prevention and/or rapid rehousing and/or permanent supportive housing.
- 2.) Create a Suitable Living Environment: includes programs that focus on self-sufficiency, health and safety. These objectives and outcomes include providing funding for financial education, outreach, access to benefits, removing barriers around transportation related to medical/health, reducing domestic violence; increasing public safety and creating safe neighborhoods, providing funding for projects that create neighborhood or infrastructure improvements, including community facilities/infrastructure in income qualified census tract/block groups.
- 3.) Expanding Opportunities for Low-to-Moderate Income Persons: includes services associated with job creation, job training and increasing employment opportunities for Norwich residents.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

The City has come worked diligently to meet spending thresholds and continues to monitor projects to meet all goals.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The City of Norwich's citizen participation process followed the City of Norwich's Citizen Participation Plan and included community forums and public outreach hearings for the public, surveys designed to encourage input from PHA residents, neighborhood associations, minorities, non-English speaking; predominantly low and moderate income neighborhoods, the disabled, and the continuum of care, and mailings to gain input from entities with specific expertise in the areas of housing, non-housing, community development, homelessness and the near homeless. This effort met and exceeded the requirements of the Citizen Participation Plan and provided meaningful input in establishing goals and strategies for the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and activities for the 2015 Annual Action Plan.

Meetings and public hearings were held to solicit input from residents of the City. Advertisements were placed twice in the Norwich Bulletin soliciting information on the proposed funding and action plan.

CARES ACT Funding -- December 2024

Allocation of CARES ACT funding was made available to the public through newspaper publications and website posts. No comments were received during the 30-day public comment period as required as part of this fourth amendment for recaptured funds.

The CDAC held a public meeting on January XX, 2025, concerning this fourth Substantial Amendment, in which no comments were received. This amendment was advertised in the local newspapers as well as on our website. Required Citizen Comment will run from December 13, 2024, through January 11, 2025. Written comments were due on Monday, January 13, 2025. All comments received by the Office of Community Development during this time will be taken into consideration.

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.

The City of Norwich's citizen participation process followed the City of Norwich's Citizen Participation Plan and included outreach hearings available to the public, attendance at neighborhood associations, presentations to organizations that focus on predominantly low and moderate income neighborhoods, the disabled, and the continuum of care. These organizations have specific expertise in the areas of housing, non-housing, community development, homelessness and the near homeless. The summary of comments from meetings are attached in the appendices. A summary of comments from the public hearing and City Council meeting are generalized here with a further summary in the appendices:

Support for Safe Futures, NHA, and Norwich Human Services (NHS) programs was demonstrated at the City Council public hearing.

CARES ACT Funding -- December 2024

No comments were received during the 30-day public comment period as part of the fourth amendment for these recaptured funds.

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

None

7. Summary

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

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

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

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

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The lead agency responsible for overseeing the development of the Consolidated Plan and administering programs covered by the Plan is the City of Norwich, a State of Connecticut municipality. The City of Norwich's Community Development Department is responsible for administering the Consolidated Plan.

The primary public and private agencies that may be utilized in implementing Consolidated Plan programs include, but are not limited to, the City of Norwich, Continuum of Care agencies, the Norwich Housing Authority, neighborhood associations, faith-based organizations, governmental entities, and non-profit service and housing providers.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

2024 - Craig J. Kleman, Community Development Office, 23 Union Street, Norwich, CT 06360, 860-885-2911.

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

1. Introduction

The City of Norwich realizes the importance of collaboration and coordination between public and private housing as well as health and social service agencies. The city has adopted a Citizen Participation Plan for its Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan that identifies when public hearings and other consultations are to take place. This Plan was used in preparing this 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and 2019 Annual Action Plan. The City of Norwich's Consolidated Plan and Action Plan were also prepared to comply with the consultation requirements of the CDBG, including consultation with the local Continuum of Care agencies.

Consultation on the development of the plan began in January 2019 and was accomplished through a variety of strategies, including public notices, public and community meetings, and direct correspondence. All efforts were made to contact appropriate parties and obtain their input for the content of this plan. These consultations, coupled with citizen participation, provided the direction for the plan development.

HOME, HOPWA and ESG programs consultations are not a component since the city does not receive said funding.

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))

Coordination will continue to be strengthened through regular interaction and meetings. Local networks address several priorities outlined in the CDBG plan. The CD staff and key municipal leaders participate on boards and commissions that represent these agencies. Connectivity to the subject matter provides for access to data and organizational trends. Example: the chair of the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) makes recommendations to the Council regarding applications for funding. The chairman of the CDAC is also the chairman for the Economic Development Committee for the regional Chamber of Commerce and is a board member of the Southeastern Connecticut Housing Association; the Director of Norwich Human Services, another city department, is chairperson of the CT Coalition to End Homelessness (CCEH). CCEH is a statewide advocacy group that focuses on the most at-risk population and provides the Point-in-Time count for homelessness. Several employees and team members are associated with Continuum of Care (CoC) organizations. The CoC is a group of public and private agencies who meet monthly to coordinate and discuss services to address and prevent homelessness in New London County. - includes representatives from mental health/social service agencies. The City participates in a Coordinated Access Network (CAN) plan to increase

preventative measures around homelessness, mental health and human service needs. This provides for a streamlined process to ensure fewer people “slip through the cracks” – higher level of attention ensures greater outcome. The City met with service providers, the Norwich Housing Authority and other assisted housing providers several times during the creation of this document. The City identified needs, conditions, programs, and activities. The discussion and data provided during the meeting is detailed in the Market Analysis section, MA-25, under Public and Assisted Housing in our 5-Year Consolidated Plan. The City continues to partner and support Norwich Public Housing in updating PHA facilities by providing CDBG funds for renovations and improvements. Other assisted housing providers include Thames Valley Council for Community Action (TVCCA). Among other things, these agencies received CDBG funds in order to provide rapid rehousing, shelter diversion and temporary housing subsidies.

Coordination between the City and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies is primarily accomplished through the Norwich Human Services (NHS) department.

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 coordination between the City and homeless service providers, agencies and shelters is primarily accomplished through the Norwich Human Services (NHS) department. The city does not receive or allocate ESG funds, but the City of Norwich 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and the PY 2019 Action Plan is available to all Continuum of Care (CoC) providers within the city’s jurisdiction. The CoC does meet regularly and provides an annual update to the city and the CDBG administrator. The NHS Director participates in the CoC meetings and is a lead partner in the Coordinated Access Network (CAN) which focuses on high level process to provide holistic services to CoC related participants. The CDBG office reviews meeting minutes and attends partner agency meetings as schedules allow in order to better determine if any additional collaborations need to be encouraged. This process is on-going and will continue. Lastly, in 2015, the City of Norwich Office of Community Development began providing Environmental Review Records for the Continuum of Care.

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

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p> <p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p> <p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p> <p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Norwich Housing Authority</p> <p>Housing PHA Services - Housing</p> <p>Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Market Analysis</p> <p>The 2019 Annual Plan utilizes the information obtained through public meetings held in 2019 and through public forums and consultation as part of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. The City hosted public forums/consultations in February. The City received considerable input on the public housing needs, plans, goals and programs of the PHA at these meetings. Each year since staff has revisited conversations to ensure the needs have not shifted and that outcomes were appropriate. The FY 2019 Annual Action Plan reflects consultation and on-going coordination between the City of Norwich and the PHA. Consultation included one-on-one meetings with the Executive Director and discussion with program/project management.</p>
2	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p> <p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>ALLIANCE FOR LIVING, INC.</p> <p>Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing Regional organization</p>

<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy</p>
<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The 2019 Annual Plan utilizes the information obtained through public meetings held in 2019 and through public forums and consultation as part of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. Site visits with and in-person interviews with staff took place in 2015 and a conference call took place in 2017 to confirm any concerns in plan changes. The City received considerable input on the housing and community development needs, plans, goals and programs associated with this organization in the original meeting. Improved coordination and need focused on the need for counselor training in order to better impact behavior and circumstances of those affected/effectuated by HIV/AIDS and the general population as a whole. Additional outreach and education opportunities would also work to decrease risk as treatments are available that will increase prevention. Additional dollars are required in order to improve outcomes. This information will be considered to improve programming and outcomes of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and 2019 Annual Action Plan and coordination between the City of Norwich and the needs of Norwich residents.</p>

3	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p> <p>Southeastern Mental Health Authority</p>	<p>Housing</p> <p>Services - Housing</p> <p>Services-Children</p> <p>Services-Elderly Persons</p> <p>Services-Persons with Disabilities</p> <p>Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS</p> <p>Services-Victims of Domestic Violence</p> <p>Services-homeless</p> <p>Services-Health</p> <p>Service-Fair Housing</p> <p>Services - Victims</p> <p>Regional organization</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment</p> <p>Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless</p> <p>Homeless Needs - Families with children</p> <p>Homelessness Needs - Veterans</p> <p>Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth</p> <p>Homelessness Strategy</p> <p>Non-Homeless Special Needs</p> <p>HOPWA Strategy</p> <p>Anti-poverty Strategy</p>

<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The 2019 Annual Plan utilizes the information obtained through public meetings held in 2019 and through public forums and consultation as part of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. As part of the creation of the 5-Year Consolidate Plan, in-person interviews with staff took place in order to review potential gaps in service and overall community needs. The City continues to receive considerable input on the public housing and community development needs, plans, goals and programs. SMHA staff participated in a conference call to discuss successes and short-falls related to the Housing First Model and use of CAN (single point of entry) in order to improve coordination and outcomes. Case management and the lack of staffing continues to be a stress point. Trained case managers are necessary in order to change behavior and circumstances - and funding is needed for case management. This information will be considered to improve programming and outcomes of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and 2019 Annual Action Plan and coordination between the City of Norwich, neighborhoods, residents and at-risk populations.</p>
<p>4 Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Norwich Community Development Corporation</p>
<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Housing Services-Employment Regional organization Planning organization Business Leaders</p>
<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Economic Development</p>

<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The 2019 Annual Plan utilizes the information obtained through public meetings held in 2019 and through public forums and consultation as part of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. The City was awarded Opportunity Zones and the Community Development office works closely with NDC on these initiatives and was critical in putting together the application for the designation. The City received considerable input on the non-homeless needs of community. This information will be considered to improve programming and outcomes of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and 2019 Annual Action Plan and coordination between the City of Norwich, the business community, residents and neighborhoods.</p>
<p>5 Agency/Group/Organization</p> <p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>United Community Family Services</p> <p>Services-Children</p> <p>Services-Elderly Persons</p> <p>Services-Persons with Disabilities</p> <p>Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS</p> <p>Services-Victims of Domestic Violence</p> <p>Services-Health</p> <p>Services - Victims</p> <p>Health Agency</p> <p>Regional organization</p>
<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Homeless Needs - Families with children</p> <p>Homelessness Needs - Veterans</p> <p>Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth</p> <p>Non-Homeless Special Needs</p> <p>Anti-poverty Strategy</p>

<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The 2019 Annual Plan utilizes the information obtained through public meetings held in 2019 and through public forums and consultation as part of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. An in-person interview with staff took place on April 13, 2015. As a result, the City received considerable input on basic as well as medical needs of Norwich residents. Improved coordination includes connectivity to regional council of governments to address transportation issues related to health/medical professions. This information will be considered to improve programming and outcomes of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and 2019 Annual Action Plan and coordination between the City of Norwich and its residents</p>
<p>6 Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>NORWICH HUMAN SERVICES</p>
<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Services - Victims Other government - Local</p>

<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy</p>
<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The staff of the Human Services and Community Development Department work together closely. There have been on-going dialogues with the Human Services Director regarding the needs of the community, children, seniors and homeless population. The City directs funding to assist in achieving goals to ensure that people remain housed and have opportunity for employment.</p>
<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Norwich Planning and Neighborhood Services</p>
<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Housing Other government - Local Planning organization</p>
<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Lead-based Paint Strategy</p>

<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The 2019 Annual Plan utilizes the information obtained through public meetings held in 2019 and through public forums and consultation as part of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. As a result, the City received considerable input on market needs and general zoning/planning regulations that impact development decisions as well as an anti-blight strategy. This information will be considered to improve programming and outcomes of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and 2019 Annual Action Plan and coordination between the City of Norwich, future developments and Norwich residents. The Office of Planning and Neighborhood Services and Community Development are closely knitted together in their efforts to improve housing stock within the City.</p>
<p>8 Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>NORWICH RECREATION DEPARTMENT</p>
<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Health Other government - Local</p>
<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis</p>
<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The 2019 Annual Plan utilizes the information obtained through public meetings held in 2019 and through public forums and consultation as part of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. An in-person interview with staff took place on April 14, 2015. As a result, the City received considerable input on quality of life issues related to suitable living environments and impacting youth, adults and seniors living in Norwich. This information will be considered to improve programming and outcomes of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and 2019 Annual Action Plan and coordination between the City of Norwich and future quality of life program for Norwich residents.</p>

9	Thames Valley Council for Community Action
Agency/Group/Organization	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Services - Victims Child Welfare Agency Regional organization
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy

<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The 2019 Annual Plan utilizes the information obtained through public meetings held in 2019 and through public forums and consultation as part of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. An in-person interview with staff took place on April 9, 2015. As a result, the City received considerable input on quality of life issues related to suitable living environments and impacting housing, homeless needs, workforce development programming, needs of seniors, adults and children living in Norwich. This information will be considered to improve programming and outcomes of the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and 2019 Annual Action Plan and coordination between the City of Norwich and future quality of life program for Norwich residents.</p>
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Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

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	Continuum of Care/CAN	The goals of the Strategic Plan have been coordinated with those of the Continuum of Care to make sure that areas of need such as homelessness, housing, case management and programming are addressed.
Plan of Conservation and Development	Norwich Planning and Neighborhood Services	The goals of the Strategic Plan have been coordinated with those of the POCD. The POCD and the Comprehensive plan are the housing/business development regulations for the City as they relate to land use as well as the protection/advancement of neighborhoods. Overlapping these plans allows for positive, fair and measured growth for our community in a way that benefits the population as a whole

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Norwich Economic Development Plan	Mayor, Norwich	The goals of the Strategic Plan have been developed in concert with those contained in the Mayor's Economic Development Strategic Plan in order to ensure priorities of both plans are addressed. Both plans have been created based on review of Economic Development Market Analysis and an understanding of growth capacity.
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy	Southeastern CT Enterprise Region	The goals of the Strategic Plan have been developed in concert with the regional CEDS in order to ensure priorities of job creation and economic stabilization are addressed.
Housing Needs Assessment	Southeastern CT Council of Governments	In 2018 the SCCOG in cooperation with the Southeastern Connecticut Housing Alliance conducted a Housing Needs Assessment. This assessment helps the City in looking at it's current housing inventory and the needs of the region in the near future.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

The citizen participation process follows HUD's guidelines and regulations to afford all citizens, particularly those living in low income neighborhoods and other special needs populations, with the opportunity to participate in CDBG planning.

In keeping with the aforementioned participation plan from pages 4 and 5, the City of Norwich held two public meetings for the presentation by applicants; citizen comments and CDAC deliberation:

- February 27 at 23 Union Street
- March 7 at 23 Union Street

The City of Norwich provided two opportunities for the public to comment at a Council meeting prior to the Council's final vote on the recommended allocation:

- June 17th, 7:30 Council Chambers, City Hall
- July 1st, 7:30 Council Chambers, City - followed by a vote of the Council

Public notice of the AAP is advertised for comment for 30 days July 1st - August 2nd, 2019. Notice was published in the Norwich Bulletin.

From application creation, to monitoring, to close-out of programs, the CD office continues to engage community-members at all levels of the CDBG process. Public service groups remain heavily engaged in discussions. The development of the application and the focus on outcomes is a result of these conversations

Public notices of the hearings and the vote was published in advance in the Norwich Bulletin (regional newspaper), the Norwich Town and City Clerk's Office and online at www.norwichct.org. Comments received from public hearings are in the attachments. A notice regarding the final

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Council decision will be posted online at www.norwichct.org. Information was sent to the Norwich Bulletin and the New London Day through a press release.

UPDATE: The allocation was changed to reflect the funding level of \$828,043 and was voted on at the City Council meeting held on September 20, 2019. The CDAC will also vote on this in conformance with the City of Norwich Citizen Participation Plan.

CARES ACT Funding—April 2023:

CV-1 & CV-2: The Citizen Participation plan was amended for CARES ACT funding to hold a 5 day public comment period. The period for comments was advertised in the Norwich Bulletin and on the City's website.

3rd Substantial Amendment: The waiver of a 5-day comment period was intended to encourage timely pandemic response during a global crisis. This waiver has since expired. The city will observe a 30-day public comment period that will be advertised in the Norwich Bulletin and on the City's website.

CARES Act Funding -- December 2024:

4th Substantial Amendment: The public comment period reverted to the 30-day and this was published in the newspaper on December 12, 2024.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
1	Public Meeting	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Haitian Creole, Spanish, Chinese</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	<p>Meeting was held on February 27th. A cross section of residents, non-profits, businesses and elected officials were invited to participate. The Community Development Advisory Commission members and CD department staff were in attendance</p>	<p>Comments focused on advocacy of programs and benefit to LMI residents. Most focused on the needs for services related funding programs that helped create financial self-sufficiency.</p>	<p>See Minutes</p>	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
2	Public Meeting	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Haitian Creole, Spanish, Chinese Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	The second meeting was held on March 7th. The meeting was posted at the City Clerks office as well as at 23 Union Street and the City's website.	Comments focused on advocacy of programs and benefit to LMI residents. Most focused on the needs for services related funding programs that helped create financial self-sufficiency.	See Mintues	

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)
3	Public Hearing	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Haitian Creole, Spanish, Chinese Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	See appendices for minutes of public hearing and Council meeting.		See minutes	

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	Public Meeting	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Haitian Creole, Spanish, Chinese Persons with disabilities Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	See minutes of City Council meeting July 1, 2019.			

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)
5	Newspaper Ad	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Haitian Creole, Spanish, Chinese</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>				

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)
6	Public Meeting	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Haitian, Creole, Spanish, Chinese Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	CDBG - CV: City Council Meeting on May 6th, 2020 held. Meeting was conducted electronically.	No comments received		

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)
7	Newspaper Ad	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Haitian, Creole, Spanish, Chinese</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	CDBG-CV: None	None	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)
8	Public Meeting	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Haitian, Creole, Chinese, Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	CDBG-CV MEETING VIA ZOOM. June 2, 2020.	Please see attached minutes	No public comments received.	
9	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	CDBG-CV MEETING VIA ZOOM.	PLEASE SEE ATTACHED MINUTES	No public comments received	
10	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Norwich Bulletin legal ad. See attached	No comments received	No comments received.	

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)
11	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	CDBG-CV Substantial Amendment. Hybrid 4/3/23	Please see attached meeting minutes.	There were no comments made by the general public.	
12	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Norwich Bulletin legal ad starting 4/7/23. See attached	No comments received	No comments received	
13	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Norwich Bulletin Legal Ad starting December 12, 2024. See attached.			

Table 4 -- Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City of Norwich is a CDBG (only) entitlement jurisdiction and anticipates receiving approximately \$836,068 in CDBG funds and no HOME funds for FY 2018. Norwich does not receive funding under the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) or Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) programs.

In recent years, the levels of CDBG funds for Norwich have fluctuated but have been primarily trending downward. In estimating the amounts of funding available over this Consolidated Plan period, the City took a conservative approach and anticipated level funding.

The City does not run programs that generate program income, however, the Property Rehabilitation Program does generate return of loan funds. During the past five years, the level of return of loan received was approximately \$70,000 annually. Return of loan and any program income that might be received from the repayment of any future (CDBG) grants/loans will automatically be re-programmed for grant activities in those same or similar programs from which the funds were originally provided to the extent possible. If additional program income funds are received that are not automatically reprogrammed, specific projects will be identified during the Action Plan process.

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: \$		
			\$	\$	\$		

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	828,043.00	70,000.00	8,722.35	906,765.35	0.00	
Other	public - federal	Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Services	506,569.00	0.00	0.00	506,569.00	0.00	CARES ACT funding was made available to prepare for, prevent and respond to the Corona Virus
Other	public - federal	Admin and Planning Economic Development Public Services	544,143.00	0.00	0.00	544,143.00	0.00	The third tranche of CDBG-CV dollars

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

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

The City may acquire property through tax foreclosure during the 5-year period. If financially feasible, the City will make efforts to address needs identified in the plan, including creating open space, reducing blight, preserving affordable housing, and taking steps to improve income of residents. Any actions will work to meet national objectives and/or eligible activities associated with CDBG requirements.

Discussion

We also anticipate minimal resources being received through Owner Share.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
3	Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing 3	2015	2019	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs			CDBG: \$35,000.00	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 5 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 48 Persons Assisted
4	Creating a Suitable Living Environment	2015	2019	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	City-wide	Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety	CDBG: \$15,000.00	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 460 Persons Assisted
5	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 2	2015	2019	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development		Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$277,576.00	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 28780 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 3	2015	2019	Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	City-wide	Affordable Housing Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety	CDBG: \$293,580.00	Rental units rehabilitated: 18 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 5 Household Housing Unit
7	Economic Opportunity	2015	2019	Public Housing Homeless Non-Housing Community Development		Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety	CDBG: \$50,000.00	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 22 Persons Assisted
8	Administration	2015	2019	Administration	City-wide		CDBG: \$176,965.00	Other: 178750 Other

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

3	Goal Name	Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing 3
	Goal Description	Tenant based rental assistance/Rapid Rehousing: City of Norwich - Community Care Team; TVCCA Homeless Prevention - Diversion Assistance Homelessness Prevention:

4	Goal Name	Creating a Suitable Living Environment
	Goal Description	Funding provided to Safe Futures for domestic violence intervention
5	Goal Name	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 2
	Goal Description	Taftville: Basketball court resurfacing; installation of gazebo at park Census Tract 6961 Greeneville: Playground equipment Census Tract 6964 City-Wide: ADA Ramps - presumed benefit
	Goal Name	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 3
6	Goal Description	The City will be investing heavily in its housing stock by providing funding to the Norwich Housing Authority, Property Rehabilitation Program - and matching this with Lead Hazard Control program funds, as well as continuing to operate and invest its Return of Loan funds into property rehabilitation.
	Goal Name	Economic Opportunity
7	Goal Description	Norwich Human Services - Job training employability program
	Goal Name	Administration
8	Goal Description	The Community Development Office will provide administration for this grant.
	Goal Name	

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The Annual Action Plan process produced a number of projects to address priorities stated in the Consolidated Plan. Those priorities included provided: 1) decent housing; 2) a suitable living environment; and 3) economic opportunities, principally for low and moderate-income persons. The following 9 CDAC approved programs/projects cover at least one of the three priorities.

For the 2019 program year, the City of Norwich has awarded \$100,000.00 in public service funding. This amounts to less than 10% in compliance with Title 24 §570.201(e) (1).

Administration has been funded at the permitted 20% of the allocation and funds from Return of loan in the amount of \$176,964.40 in compliance with Title 24 §570.200(g).

Total Funds Received during this program year: \$828,043 CDBG; \$70,000 ROL (anticipated); \$8,722.35 recapture/reallocated.

Projects

#	Project Name
0	CD Administration
2	NHS Norwich Works
3	CCT Rapid Rehousing & Shelter Diversion
4	Safe Futures
5	TVCCA Home Again
6	NHA Rosewood Manor Phase III Ductless Splits
7	Taftville Basketball Courts
8	CANCELLED SEE NOTES
9	Taftville Park Gazebo
10	Greeneville Playground
11	ADA Sidewalk Ramps
12	CV - Administration
13	CV - ARC of Eastern CT
14	CV - Norwich CARES
15	CV - Madonna Place
16	CV - St. Vincent de Paul Place
17	CV - Small Business Assistance

#	Project Name
18	CV3-NORWICH CARES
19	CV 3 United Way of SECT
20	CV3 NCDC EMPLOYEE RETENTION PROGRAM
21	CV3 Administration
22	CV COLUMBUS SQUARE (recapture)
23	CV TAFTVILLE PARK WALKING TRACK (recapture)-CANCELED
24	CV Lake Street Basketball Court (recapture)
25	CV TVCCA Homeless Prevention Program (SA3)
26	CV NHS Senior Accessible Medical Care
27	CV TRCS Housing Stability for Young Adults
28	CV SVDPP Cold Food Storage --Cancelled
29	CV BBBS Community-Based Mentoring
30	CV -Fostering Growth and Safety: Enhancing Children's Programs in a Post-Pandemic World
31	CV - Cargo Van for Food pantry
32	CV -Family Support Center
33	CV -TVCCA Homeless Prevention Prog

Table 7 - Project Information

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

Priorities and Obstacles are defined within the Market and Need Analyses as well as Strategic Plan components of 5-Year Consolidated Plan. All projects work to achieve priorities while addressing obstacles outlined in the plan.

Job Training- Employment training to encourage self-sufficiency for individuals in fields that have shortages in pursuit of a living wage.

Residential Rehab- Rehabilitation program provides energy efficiency, accessibility, and lead remediation for 10 eligible properties. Maintains housing stock, improves property values, lowers housing cost burden; NHA will install 16 mini-split ductless systems in housing that was built in 1981. New systems will provide energy efficient savings and improve air quality.

Homeless Services- Norwich CCT will utilize rapid re-housing to keep individuals housed instead of entering the shelter. Individuals receive counseling and self-sufficiency coaching to increase personal stability. Assistance will not exceed more than 3 months per CDBG regulations. This program is a cost-effective permanent-housing approach to reduce the number of individuals needing shelter.

Domestic Violence Prevention- Assistance for victims of Domestic Violence during crisis. Provides follow-up support services and legal assistance.

Recreation Facilities- Resurfacing of basketball court, new playground equipment, and gazebo in Taftville. New playground equipment in Greeneville.

ADA Compliance- installation of ADA ramps City-Wide.

CARES Act Funding --December 2024:

4th Substantial Amendment: The City has recaptured the remaining CDBG-CV funds (\$135,000) which are due to expire six years after being awarded. The Office of Community Development is reallocating recaptured funds towards the following post-pandemic response activities:

Youth Services -- Thames River Community Services will receive funding to reach out to younger children who are residents of their transitional housing facility which houses 24 apartments for young adults and their children. The program will use developmental resources and learning activities to stimulate exploration and learning in the young children that reside there.

Homeless Services - TVCCA will provide housing stability through prevention/ diversion efforts to prevent housing crisis, eviction and entry into a shelter. Providing financial aid to stabilize housing conditions to ameliorate the inflation of rentals in the area as well as deal with any arrearages that may

have developed due to job loss or other circumstances.

Family Services - Madonna Place operates a Family Support Center which provides educational programs, counseling, referrals and resources, support services and basic needs such as diapers, formula, food, school supplies, toiletries, feminine hygiene products and educational toys. The center can increase parenting skills, stabilize the family, and they receive emotional support and increase their access to information and resources. Services are provided in English, Spanish, Portuguese and Haitian Creole.

Food Insecurity - St. Vincent DePaul Place is the City's main food pantry and service hub for the community's impoverished and homeless populations. They are requesting a cargo van to increase their capacity to secure food donations from larger food banks and not having to rely on volunteers to use their vehicles when larger food donations become available.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

Annual Action Plan
2019

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1	Project Name	CD Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$176,965.00
	Description	
	Target Date	8/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	23 Union Street, Norwich CT
	Planned Activities	
2	Project Name	NHS Norwich Works
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Economic Opportunity
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000.00
	Description	Job Training Employability
	Target Date	8/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximatley 22 families/individuals will benefit from employment training and placement.
	Location Description	City Hall 100 Broadway, Norwich, CT
	Planned Activities	Manufacturing Pipeline; CNA; Pharmacy Tech; Real Estate; Phlebotomy Tech; EMT; EKG
3	Project Name	CCT Rapid Rehousing & Shelter Diversion
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 3
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000.00

	Description	Prevention of homelessness.
	Target Date	8/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	25
	Location Description	City Wide
	Planned Activities	Screening and diversion
4	Project Name	Safe Futures
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment
	Needs Addressed	Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000.00
	Description	Domestic violence counselors and advocate position.
	Target Date	8/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	460
	Location Description	City-Wide
	Planned Activities	Provide assistance to victims of domestic violence,
5	Project Name	TVCCA Home Again
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 3
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000.00
	Description	Homelessness prevention and diversion.
	Target Date	8/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	25

	Location Description	City Wide TVCCA
	Planned Activities	Provide one-time financial assistance to prevent homelessness.
6	Project Name	NHA Rosewood Manor Phase III Ductless Splits
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 3
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$100,000.00
	Description	Funding of the next phase installation of mini ductless splits in elderly low-income housing units.
	Target Date	8/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	16
	Location Description	Rosewood Manor 335 Hamilton Avenue, Norwich, CT
	Planned Activities	
7	Project Name	Taftville Basketball Courts
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 2
	Needs Addressed	Non-Housing Community Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$45,000.00
	Description	Resurfacing of basketball courts off of Providence Street in Taftville section of Norwich.
	Target Date	8/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Area wide benefit - Census tract 6961
	Location Description	Providence Street, Taftville section of Norwich.
	Planned Activities	Resurfacing baseketball court.
8	Project Name	CANCELLED SEE NOTES
	Target Area	

	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 3
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$252,224.00
	Description	4/2/20 CANCELLED Duplicate of IDIS project 2019/12.
	Target Date	8/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	10
	Location Description	City Wide - 23 Union Street, Norwich CT Office of Community Development
	Planned Activities	Property Rehabilitation/Code Compliance; Lead-based paint hazard control work.
9	Project Name	Taftville Park Gazebo
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment
	Needs Addressed	Non-Housing Community Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$40,000.00
	Description	Addition of a gazebo in the Taftville recreation park.
	Target Date	8/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	2011
	Location Description	Taftville Park
Planned Activities	Installation of a gazebo	
10	Project Name	Greeneville Playground
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment
	Needs Addressed	Non-Housing Community Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$121,400.00
	Description	Installation of playground equipment at Greeneville park.

	Target Date	8/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	3225
	Location Description	156 Golden Street Extension, Norwich CT
	Planned Activities	Installation of playground equipment
11	Project Name	ADA Sidewalk Ramps
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$71,176.00
	Description	
	Target Date	8/1/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Presumed benefit of handicapped
	Location Description	City-Wide
	Planned Activities	
12	Project Name	CV - Administration
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Administration
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG- CV: \$45,000.00
	Description	Administration expenses to run the CV program.
	Target Date	8/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	

	Planned Activities	
13	Project Name	CV - ARC of Eastern CT
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 2
	Needs Addressed	Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
	Funding	CDBG- CV: \$10,000.00
	Description	Purchase of PPE to support Norwich clients at the site and at home sites.
	Target Date	8/31/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	124 individuals in the Norwich program as well as 27 family members in the in-home supports program
	Location Description	City-Wide and at 125 Sachem Street, Norwich, CT
	Planned Activities	Purchase of PPE to assist in the prevention of COVID-19 virus.
14	Project Name	CV - Norwich CARES
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing 3
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$200,000.00
	Description	Provide rental, mortgage, utility and other assistance to keep people housed who have suffered negative financial impact from COVID-19
	Target Date	8/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	300 families will receive benefits
	Location Description	City-Wide program administered by Norwich Human Services at 100 Broadway, Norwich, CT
	Planned Activities	Provide rental, mortgage, utility and other assistance for low/moderate income residents, negatively impacted by the pandemic, to remain housed.
15	Project Name	CV - Madonna Place
	Target Area	City-wide

	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 3
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG- CV: \$7,000.00
	Description	Provide funds to continue programming impacted by the pandemic. Madonna Place has not been able to fundraise and services are at risk.
	Target Date	8/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	33
	Location Description	Madonna Place is located at 240 Main Street, Norwich, CT
	Planned Activities	Provide family support services ranging from crisis intervention, counseling and mentoring, classes, ESL etc.
	16	Project Name
Target Area		City-wide
Goals Supported		Creating a Suitable Living Environment 3
Needs Addressed		Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
Funding		CDBG- CV: \$25,000.00
Description		Provide additional food services to those impacted by the pandemic.
Target Date		8/31/2022
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities		200
Location Description		St. Vincent DePaul Place, 120 Cliff Street, Norwich, CT
Planned Activities	Purchase and distribution of meals and food to families directly impacted by the Pandemic.	
17	Project Name	CV - Small Business Assistance
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Economic Opportunity
	Needs Addressed	Non-Housing Community Development
	Funding	:

	Description	Provide capital funding to Norwich businesses negatively impacted by the Pandemic.
	Target Date	8/31/2022
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	10-20 Low income jobs will be retained or l/m will be hired to fill positions.
	Location Description	Community Development Office, 23 Union Street, Norwich, CT
	Planned Activities	10-20 businesses negatively impacted by the pandemic will be eligible to apply for funds as long as they have not applied for and recieved funding for the issue from other sources
18	Project Name	CV3-NORWICH CARES
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
	Funding	CDBG- CV: \$275,000.00
	Description	Provides funds to families to assist with rent, mortgage, utilities for those impacted by the effects of COVID-19
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	350
	Location Description	City of Norwich
	Planned Activities	Provide those impacted by COVID funds to remain housed, pay utilities, mortgages, rent, food.
19	Project Name	CV 3 United Way of SECT
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment
	Needs Addressed	Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
	Funding	CDBG- CV: \$75,000.00

	Description	Work with emergency food providers in Norwich to ensure that low/mod income people are receiving food.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	8179 anticipated
	Location Description	City of Norwich
	Planned Activities	United Way will work with 12 agencies to arrange delivery/pick up times for food.
20	Project Name	CV3 NDC EMPLOYEE RETENTION PROGRAM
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	Non-Housing Community Development
	Funding	CDBG- CV: \$150,000.00
	Description	Provides grants to local small businesses who have been negatively impacted by the Coronavirus.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	Businesses city wide
	Planned Activities	Provide funding for job retention
21	Project Name	CV3 Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Administration
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG- CV: \$44,143.00
	Description	Provides for administration funds for the CDBG CV program
	Target Date	4/30/2023

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	NA
	Location Description	23 Union Street, Norwich, CT
	Planned Activities	Ovrsee management of the programs, legal ads, advertising, monitoring.
22	Project Name	CV COLUMBUS SQUARE (recapture)
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 2
	Needs Addressed	Non-Housing Community Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$35,832.00 CDBG- CV: \$33,795.00
	Description	Replace fencing for safe use of this park located in highly traveled low/mod income area. The current fencing is deteriorated and does not provide safety from vehicular traffic for safe usage of the park.
	Target Date	8/24/0023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	QCT 6968
	Location Description	Columbus Park located at the corner of Boswell Avenue and Franklin Streets.
	Planned Activities	Installation of iron fencing along Boswell Avenue/Franklin Street in QCT 6968 for safe usage of the park.
23	Project Name	CV TAFTVILLE PARK WALKING TRACK (recapture)-CANCELED
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 2
	Needs Addressed	Non-Housing Community Development
	Funding	CDBG- CV: \$37,794.00
	Description	Provided needed repair and repaving of a walking track in QCT 6961. This will provide a safe area for people in this low/mod neighborhood to walk. The current track is severely deteriorated.
	Target Date	8/24/2023

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4900 people reside in Taftville.
	Location Description	Taftville Park, 140 Providence Street, Taftville (Norwich) CT
	Planned Activities	Provided needed repair and repaving of a walking track in QCT 6961. This will provide a safe area for people in this low/mod neighborhood to walk. The current track is severely deteriorated.
24	Project Name	CV Lake Street Basketball Court (recapture)
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 2
	Needs Addressed	Non-Housing Community Development
	Funding	CDBG- CV: \$97,322.00
	Description	Improvements to the basketball court and public park in QCT6968
	Target Date	8/24/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	qct 6961 is a low/mod census tract with approximately 3900 residents
	Location Description	Lake Street Park - located on Lake Street Norwich, CT
	Planned Activities	Improvements to the basketball court and public park in QCT6968
25	Project Name	CV TVCCA Homeless Prevention Program (SA3)
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing 3
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
	Funding	CDBG- CV: \$20,000.00
	Description	Housing stability through financial prevention/diversion efforts to prevent housing crises, eviction, and entry into a shelter.
	Target Date	8/11/2023

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Estimated to screen 75 families for assistance and administer financial supports to 45 families.
	Location Description	Cide Wide - TVCCA
	Planned Activities	Responding to economic effects of covid to divert at-risk families from the shelter. Prevent the spread of Covid-19 by preventing overcrowding.
26	Project Name	CV NHS Senior Accessible Medical Care
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment
	Needs Addressed	Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$101,898.00
	Description	Public Service providing health screenings, transportation to medical appointments, health education, and Covid-19 vaccines for elderly residents in response to negative health effects resulting from the pandemic.
	Target Date	8/11/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1100
	Location Description	City- Wide RCSC
	Planned Activities	Public Service that offers accessible health screenings, services, educational programs, and referrals for elderly residents.
27	Project Name	CV TRCS Housing Stability for Young Adults
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment
	Needs Addressed	Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$22,275.00
	Description	Public service to provide housing stability for young parents experiencing job loss, housing insecurity, and mental health adversities as long-term effects of the pandemic.
	Target Date	

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	40 Norwich Residents
	Location Description	City Wide-Thames River Community Service (TRCS)
	Planned Activities	Public Service administering life skills development, case management, career coaching, and parental supports to young adult parents.
28	Project Name	CV SVDPP Cold Food Storage --Cancelled
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment
	Needs Addressed	Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$46,414.00
	Description	Purchase of equipment to increase the capacity of the SVDPP food pantry to meet the increased need for pandemic-related food insecurity.
	Target Date	8/11/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Estimated that 1,065 new patrons to be screened, enrolled, and served
	Location Description	City-Wide at St. Vincent de Paul Place (SVDPP)
	Planned Activities	Purchase of industrial refrigerator/freezer, pallet jack, and shelving to increase service and storage capacity at the food pantry.
29	Project Name	CV BBBS Community-Based Mentoring
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment
	Needs Addressed	Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
	Funding	CDBG-CV: \$10,000.00
	Description	Expansion of existing public service to assist more Norwich youth cope with adverse mental health, academic performance, and social insufficiencies resulting from the pandemic
	Target Date	8/11/2023

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	10 additional Norwich children
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Increasing BBBS's staff capacity to provide 10 additional Norwich children with qualified mentors to build social-emotional skills, coping mechanisms, and participate in community enrichment events to ameliorate adverse effects due to Covid-19.
30	Project Name	CV -Fostering Growth and Safety: Enhancing Children's Programs in a Post-Pandemic World
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment
	Needs Addressed	Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
	Funding	CDBG- CV: \$23,778.00
	Description	The program prioritizes developmental resources and learning activities. Essential furnishings such as sensory boards, activity centers and individual play mats are required to stimulate exploration and learning in young children.
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This transitional housing facility has 24 apartments for young adults who are parents. All residents and their children would be eligible to participate in this program.
	Location Description	One Thames River Place, Norwich, CT 06360
	Planned Activities	The program prioritizes developmental resources and learning activities using sensory boards, activity centers and individual play mats to stimulate exploration and learning in young children.
31	Project Name	CV - Cargo Van for Food pantry
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 3
	Needs Addressed	Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
	Funding	CDBG- CV: \$62,000.00

	Description	The food pantry is requesting a reliable van or truck with the capacity to load pallets and large boxes. The food pantry has to rely on volunteers and their vehicles to assist in the transportation of food donations.
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Between 2022 and 2024 the pantry has experience almost a 25% increase in pantry meals served with over 1.17 million meals provided over the last year.
	Location Description	120 Cliff Street, Norwich, CT 06360
	Planned Activities	
32	Project Name	CV -Family Support Center
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 3
	Needs Addressed	Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
	Funding	CDBG- CV: \$25,000.00
	Description	The Family Support Center provides educational programs, counseling, referrals and resources support services, and basic needs such as diapers, formula, food, school supplies, toiletries, feminine hygiene products and educational toys. Using the center families can increase their parenting skills receive emotional support, stabilize their families and increase their access to information and resources. Services are offered in many different languages.
	Target Date	12/31/2025
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	At least 500 Norwich families who speak English, Spanish, Portuguese and Creole Haitian will receive assistance.
	Location Description	240 Main Street, Norwich, CT 06360
	Planned Activities	All of the various support services that the Family Service Center can offer these varied groups.
33	Project Name	CV -TVCCA Homeless Prevention Prog
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 3

Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
Funding	CDBG- CV: \$24,222.00
Description	Program will alleviate housing instability in Norwich by keeping people housed or diversion from entry into a shelter. Financial aid will be provided to low-income individuals and families in housing crises which if not resolved could lead to evictions. By covering rent/ utility arrearages, security deposits and rent payments, the program will restore housing stability for these households who were severely affected by the pandemic and continue to deal with rental inflation and other economic fallout.
Target Date	12/31/2025
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	30 low-income individuals and families will receive assistance.
Location Description	1 Sylvandale Road, Jewett City, CT 06351
Planned Activities	Thirty Norwich low-income individuals and families will receive financial assistance to deal with rent/ utility arrearages, security deposits and rent payments.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

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

Although most projects in the Action Plan are city-wide, some projects fall geographically within CDBG-eligible areas where very-low to moderate-income individuals are directly benefited. Therefore, those projects will meet the Low-Mod Area (LMA) national objective. It is important to note, however, that the majority of projects will be directed to meet the Low-Mod Clientele national objective (LMC).

Census Tract 6964 and 6961. Please note, information below is listed respectively. 6964 and 6961 have populations of approximately 5,000 and 2,000 residents. 36% and 30% of those residents are at or below 30% AMI; and 55% and 28% are at or below 50% AMI. An estimated 30% of the total residents in these Tracts are considered "minority". This Census tract contains residential and commercial properties. 79% of the residential housing stock was built prior to 1978 (48% was built prior to 1940). The age and condition of the housing stock leads to a concern for overall community safety – which includes suppressing the high potential for fire.

The City of Norwich may choose not to allocate investments based on geographic location as much as on the priority needs identified in the Consolidated Plan. In any circumstance where we may need to allocate geographically, we base the decision on 3 key factors:

- a. Project supports the general protection and/or safety of residents as well as housing stock
- b. Project allows for an opportunity to improve quality of life, including improved accessibility to transportation, employers and businesses
- c. Project allows for stabilization of physical housing structures and works to reduce the overall housing cost burden

The rationale is based on an analysis of the Norwich community during the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan process.

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
City-wide	100

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Programs are City-wide. There are areas with minority and/or low income concentrations:

Census Tract 6964:

55% of units are single family residences (SFR). 49.8% of units are rentals -25% of SFRs being used as rentals. The remaining are multi-family: 50% are 2-4 family and 50% are 5+ units. Fewer than 80% of units are built prior to 1979. The tract has the highest number of 2 or 3 bedroom units and may have the fewest occupants per room (crowding versus overcrowding). This tract has residents with the longest length of time in their existing housing unit. It has the 2nd highest values above the 2013 median home value, the 2nd to lowest median rent costs and the lowest number of residents that pay greater than 30% of their income on housing costs. (Housing Cost Burden).

Census Tract 6967:

54% of units are single family residences (SFR). 51.9% of all units are rentals - 22% of SFRs being used as rentals. The remaining are multi-family: one-third are 2-4 family and three-quarters are 5+ units. Approximately 80% of properties were built prior to 1979. This tract contains the 3rd highest number of 2 or 3 bedroom units and the 2nd fewest occupants per room (crowding versus overcrowding). The homeownership rental rate is 7.1% and rental vacancy rate is 4.1%. The tract has the 2nd most residents with the longest length of time in their existing housing unit. It contains the highest values above the 2013 median home value, the 2nd highest median rent costs and number of residents that pay greater than 30% of their income on housing costs (Housing Cost Burden).

Census Tract 6968

21% of units are single family residences (SFR). 78.3% of all units are rentals -18% of SFRs being used as rentals. The remaining are multi-family: 50% are 2-4 family and 50% are 5+ units. This tract contains the oldest housing stock with 92% being built prior to 1979 and 76% being built prior to 1940. The area contains the lowest number of 2 or 3 bedroom units but the highest number of 1 bedroom units and the 2nd highest occupants per room (overcrowding). The ownership vacancy rate is unknown, but the rental vacancy rate is estimated at 17% - the highest in the city. It also contains the greatest number of units with incomplete plumbing and/or kitchen facilities. The tract has the fewest number of properties valued above the 2013 median average home value, the highest median rent costs, and the greatest number of residents paying more than 30% of their income on housing costs (Housing Cost Burden).

Census Tract 6970:

46% of units are single family residences (SFR). 60.25% of all units are rentals - 19.4% of SFRs being used as rentals. The remaining are multi-family: 50% are 2-4 family and 50% are 5+ units. Fewer than

70% of properties were built prior to 1979. This tract contains the highest number of 2 or 3 bedroom units and the lowest vacancy rate of rental units. It has the most occupants per room (overcrowding). This tract has the lowest median rent and has the second lowest housing cost burden for targeted census tracts

Discussion

Most projects are City-wide. The description of the geographic areas of entitlement listed above provides a detailed analysis of why many projects are focused City-wide, but mainly within 5 Census Tracts. During the 5-Year Consolidated Plan Needs Assessment and Market analysis, the city confirmed these areas as having the highest: unemployment rates, cases of overcrowding, cost burden, incomplete facilities; vacancy rates, poverty rates, and special needs populations.

Areas like Census tract 6961 experience similar housing cost burden issues, blight, poverty, unemployment, and crime rates and also lack adequate parks or recreational facilities. This tract has a number of mixed income developments in progress over the next few years. Currently, there is a development in walking distance of this park that will have 324 total units, with 116 units anticipated to be completed by end of 2017. 60% of these units will be made available for those at 50% AMI. Not only will this park benefit the existing LMI neighborhood, it will provide for a gathering place for new families to participate in recreational activities with neighbors.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines "affordable" as housing that costs no more than 30 percent of a household's monthly income. That means rent and utilities in an apartment or the monthly mortgage payment and housing expenses for a homeowner should be less than 30 percent of a household's monthly income to be considered affordable.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	15
Non-Homeless	35
Special-Needs	0
Total	50

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	25
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	26
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	51

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

Discussion

Norwich will continue the funding of property rehabilitation projects that work to reduce the housing cost burden of low-to-moderate income individuals. Through the Rehabilitation/Lead Program, the City will aid homeowners in bringing properties "up-to-code" while making the home "lead safe" when lead funding is available. Units receive energy efficiency upgrades helping to reduce utility costs which increases available income. Reduced cost burden, increase in property values and reduction in crime are a few consequential outcomes. The program will benefit 10 units of housing.

The Norwich community works hard to reach out to homeless and those at risk of being homeless on a year-round, non-stop basis. During warmer months, residents find "homes" in unexpected and sometimes unpleasant places. During the winter months, however, housing for this at risk population becomes difficult. It has sadly become lethal over the last several years. During the next program year,

the City will address the issue of homelessness by continuing to implement a non-shelter strategy. Instead of providing temporary shelter for this most at-risk population, the Norwich Community Care Team will stabilize residents through permanent housing. CDBG funds will be used to provide temporary rental subsidies to prevent homelessness. These subsidies will not exceed 3 months. This program will benefit approximately 35 people with subsidies and 15 individuals will receive shelter assistance as well as counseling. The City will also work with programs to provide domestic violence intervention; youth education and mentoring; English language education; and job training.

All housing development partners are encouraged to work closely with the TVCCA family shelter, transitional living facilities and Norwich Human Services to identify eligible tenants to work to benefitting low-to-moderate income individuals. Please also see information in the next section under public housing.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Norwich Housing Authority (NHA) owns/manages 686 units of public housing of which 177 are federal and 509 are state. NHA also administers 514 Section 8 Vouchers that are tenant based. The mission of the NHA is to develop and operate each development solely for the purpose of providing decent, safe and sanitary housing for eligible individuals and families in a manner that promotes the serviceability, economy, efficiency and stability of the developments, and the economic and social well-being of the residents.

To effectuate the above, the Authority places a high priority on maintaining and rehabbing existing developments. The Authority strives to balance the needs of residents versus the economic realities facing all public housing authorities. The goal is to retain the existing affordable housing stock.

The Authority focuses on reducing the cost burden for extremely low income and very low income renter households and improving energy efficiency of its housing stock. Through the efforts of the property managers and resident services coordinators, the Authority tries to be more than just a landlord by meeting the overall requirements of its residents.

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

Over the last few years, CDBG has funded more than \$500,000 in renovations to Norwich Housing Authority (NHA) state financed units. This benefitted approximately 140 units. In 2019, The City will help NHA improve living conditions within 16 units by updating heating systems. These properties have units dating back to the original construction of 1981. The new systems will be energy efficient, with environment control. This will lower utility bills and decrease health issues, such as asthma.

According to the NHA 5-year plan, completed December 2015, the authority will look to increase Section 8 lease-up rates by establishing payment standards that will enable families to rent throughout the jurisdiction. At the same time, the plan states that their active participation with municipal entities and nonprofits has worked to improve affordable housing alternatives within the jurisdiction. There are approximately 2,912 assisted housing units, which includes 686 public housing units and 514 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers under the housing authority with an additional 268 from other agencies.

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

In order to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in homeownership opportunities, it is necessary to increase individuals earning potential. In order to purchase a home, residents must improve credit, decrease debt and save. This can only be accomplished through increasing income. This requires greater employability. To promote employment opportunities for very-low to moderate income residents, when appropriate, all subrecipients will be required to sign the Section 3 Certification which states the purpose of Section 3 and that work performed under this contract is subject to the requirements of Section 3. The documentation lists requirements for recruiting Section 3 residents, which includes: where job notices/advertisements should be listed to ensure Section 3 residents have an opportunity to apply; maintaining a list of Section 3 residents who have previously applied for job opportunities; and that the contractor must certify that vacant employment and training positions were not filled to circumvent the contractor's obligation under 24 CFR Part 135. Contractors must sign that they will make every effort to "...comply to the greatest extent feasible with the objectives and percentage goals established in the Section 3 Plan for Housing and Community Development Assistance of the City of Norwich."

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

The PHA is not designated as trouble.

Discussion

Maintaining decent housing for low-income and disabled individuals is much less expensive than having to maintain the same individuals in shelters, hospitals or at assisted living facilities at the government's expense. The maintenance of this housing at affordable levels keeps the cost of this service within reasonable limits for the government.

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

Introduction

The Director of Norwich Human Services is on the Executive Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Partnership to End Homelessness. This group is responsible for the drafting and implementing of the region's Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness. The group is also responsible for submitting the region's Continuum of Care Application to HUD for funds to address homeless prevention and supportive Housing.

The service providers funded by the Continuum of Care grant include a wide variety of service providers. The vast array of services offered through these programs include two-year transitional housing for homeless women and women with children, a family homeless shelter, supportive housing for single adults, security deposit, rental assistance, utility assistance and food assistance programs for populations at risk for homelessness, landlord-tenant mediation programs, mobile and stationary medical care for homeless individuals and individuals with HIV, case management services, mental health services, life skills counseling and transportation for residents of supportive housing. Currently, the combined services provide 36 beds of supportive housing in the City of Norwich and 123 beds for Transitional housing.

CDBG funds administered through Norwich Department of Human Services will do several things to support homeless individuals in their quest to become housed and to prevent homelessness for individuals on the edge. Support of a homelessness prevention and rapid rehousing program as well as case management services for homeless will be provided. The partners of the Continuum of Care also receive funding from the State of Connecticut Mental Health and Addiction Services, Federal PATH Funds, grants from private entities such as Pfizer, Dime Bank, People's Bank, local churches and private fundraisers.

The Norwich Public Schools uses the McKinney-Vento assistance to provide transportation to the school of origin of clients and to provide partial payment of a salary for the coordinator of homeless services at the Norwich Public Schools. The City of Norwich Housing Authority, Department of Human Services and Office of Community Development work closely together on retaining vouchers for residents living in subsidized complexes that have been privatizing. The local shelter, TVCCA, also administers additional vouchers to place families in permanent affordable housing. The Norwich Housing Authority managed 514 housing choice vouchers for Norwich residents in the past year.

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

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

individual needs

Norwich Community Care Team, a group made up of 19 agencies that provide services across an array of disciplines, will provide temporary rapid re-housing vouchers to allow individuals to remain housed instead of being accepted into a shelter. These individuals will receive counseling and financial self-sufficiency information that will work to increase personal stability. This assistance will not exceed more than 3-months per CDBG regulations. Sheltering is a temporary solution and has proven to be less cost effective than permanent housing. This program will work to reduce the single/individual population needing shelter and increase permanent housing opportunities. Individuals and families will receive rapid rehousing vouchers during this program year and other individuals may be referred to a shelter, housed with family or friends and/or receive a housing management plan to decrease homelessness in the future.

A number of activities and services are funded to help the needs of the homeless and other special needs populations. Overall, these services address the high priority of reducing homelessness and the threat of becoming homeless. The allocations to alleviate homelessness include working with the Continuum of Care to ensure that Emergency Shelter Grant funds provide stability to those that are transitioning from a shelter to their own apartment; energy assistance; meals; food staples; and counseling.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Norwich participates in the Coordinated Access Network (CAN). A CAN provides people facing housing crises a single access point to community resources. All continuums of care (CoC) must establish a comprehensive and standardized coordinated access system for shelter, prevention, rapid rehousing, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing. (A CoC is a geographical administrative unit through which HUD funds are distributed. Each CoC serves as an area's lead agency for community-wide initiatives related to homelessness.)

In a CAN, the 2-1-1 Infoline serves as the gateway to a streamlined process for helping clients facing homelessness. The 2-1-1 Infoline is a single telephone source for information about community services, referrals to human services programs, and crisis intervention. The 2-1-1 website (www.211ct.org) also provides information for individuals and families facing homelessness, including information about mortgage and rental payment assistance programs.

CAN PROCESS includes an initial screening over-the-phone to assess issues and other immediate resources available. If these options do not meet the client's needs, the screener refers the client to meet with a CAN intake team.

CAN Intake: the team first attempts shelter diversion, which may include (1) mediation between the

client/landlord or (2) financial assistance. If shelter diversion efforts are not successful, the team completes a full assessment and refers the client (1) to a shelter or, (2) if a shelter is not available, to the homeless outreach team (HOT).

Housing Placement: focus is to move clients into a permanent living situation as quickly as possible through "rapid rehousing." Rapid rehousing means moving clients "from shelter or emergency situations into housing quickly and creating stability once they are housed." If a client needs more intensive assistance, a referral to CAN Housing Team occurs. The team, in collaboration with a community care team, assigns the client to housing. The care team provides community-level accountability for all housing placements, including:

1. permanent supportive housing (i.e., affordable housing linked to community based services such as case management and employment support);
2. critical-time intervention (i.e., assistance is provided to individuals with mental illness transitioning from hospitals, shelters, prisons, or other facilities);
3. treatment and recovery housing (i.e., housing associated with intensive substance abuse recovery programs); and
4. transitional housing (i.e., short term supportive housing, generally from two to 24 months).

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

There are multiple levels of homelessness and multiple activities used to reduce and potentially end homelessness. The City is adjusting its current strategy to end homelessness by increasing permanent housing solutions through temporary rental subsidies and other means. The City closed its winter overflow shelter in 2013 to expend resources on the strategies of rapid re-housing and shelter diversion. (Shelter services were provided by the regional, state funded shelter, the New London Homeless Hospitality Center under the HUD mandated process of coordinated access to shelter.) At the same time, individuals are paired with resources that include: job training and job creation (incentives for businesses to hire LMI residents); shelters; mental health and addiction related services, financial counseling; utility assistance; and resources to reduce food scarcity concerns.

As previously mentioned, the City participates in the Continuum of Care and shares services along a broad array of providers. Homelessness Prevention Services are provided by several members including Norwich Human Services, the United Way, Catholic Charities, Bethsaida Community Inc., DCF, Child and Family Agency, Reliance House, Salvation Army, Sound Community Services, SMHA, Stonington Institute, TVCCA, Thames River Family Program, and Safe Futures. In addition, Norwich Human Services will provide emergency rental assistance to a greater number of individuals in order to increase permanent housing opportunities. Extremely low income individuals receive free or reduced legal assistance, counseling and advocacy assistance, job training opportunities, and emergency funds for food as well as shelter support.

The City works with the Southeastern Partnership to End Homelessness and the other providers to meet the need and connect the most vulnerable of populations with supportive services that allow individual to achieve as much independency and self-sufficiency as possible. The Partnership is now a sub-continuum of care as it has merged with the Balance of State Continuum for better efficiencies.

Case management teams will look to create a community profile to uncover city-wide needs that are not being addressed adequately or efficiently. Conversations with residents include a focus on barriers to stability as well as income, emotional, physical, and educational needs of the clients. Norwich was the first to implement the Community Care Team model which is a recognized state best practice and is incorporated into many towns Ten Year Plans for coordinating care within this population

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

The State of Connecticut mandates that discharges from foster care, health care, mental health facilities and the Department of Corrections be done in such a way as to minimize risk of homelessness. The Continuum of Care partners ensure that the proper steps are taken with regard to discharge planning. The following narrative is from the Continuum of Care Application:

Foster Care

Connecticut has built in an Independent Living Program that offers young people a continuum of independent living services along with specialized case management to ensure a successful transition to productive community life. The Community Housing Assistance Program provides youth aging out of Foster Care with a subsidy to cover living expenses.

Health Care

The two local hospitals, Lawrence and Memorial (New London) and Backus Hospital (Norwich) verbally confirmed that current discharge practice includes providing case management services. With the exception of extreme situations, local hospitals do not discharge into emergency shelters, the street or HUD McKinney–Vento funded beds. The New London Hospitality Center had 7 respite shelter beds funded by L&M Hospital for homeless people discharged from the hospital. These beds are monitored by Community Health Center medical staff.

Mental Health

The State of Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services have policies in place that dictate that every attempt shall be made to verify discharge housing arrangements. Clients are not discharged into emergency shelters, the street or HUD McKinney–Vento funded beds.

Corrections

The State of Connecticut Department of Corrections continues to complete an Offender Accountability Plan for each inmate, program outline and expectations during the entire time of incarceration. A standardized discharge plan is completed with inmates at the end of sentence, addressing issues including housing, identification and community resource needs. The Department has significantly increased staffing and the number of halfway house beds for parole and community services and contracts for a wide range of residential services in the community.

Discussion

One of the key strategies for homeless prevention is employment development. The goal is to enhance a person's ability to obtain and keep a job, and to make an adequate income to be self-sufficient. These resources are described under job training initiatives in Section MA-45 Non- Housing Community Development Assets of this Consolidated Plan. The City also works diligently to expand and conserve its affordable housing inventory, especially affordable rental housing that benefits the extremely low and low income households who are most at risk of becoming homeless. The Continuum of Care agencies work closely with hospital in the region to address their discharge policies to avoid discharging patients into homelessness and the school system families that are not falling through the cracks.

The City will continue to address needs of the non-homeless special needs to ensure the most vulnerable of populations are protected. This includes working with the Continuum of Care, Southeastern Mental Health Affiliates and the partner agencies affiliated with these programs and the activities mentioned previously.

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

Introduction:

The State of Connecticut still remains the location as one of the highest state-wide housing prices. In New London County, the high prices combined with fewer jobs and lower wages creates a situation where housing choice is impaired. The City of Norwich continues to try to increase the supply of affordable housing. There are approximately 233 units of mixed income housing being financed from CT Department of Housing and HUD. Phase I is completed and rented up and construction continues on the remaining units. 60% of these units will be deed restricted to those at or below 50% AMI.

In 2018-19, the Norwich Property Rehab Program will make 15 housing units lead safe (as funding is available) and provide rehabilitation. As part of the rehabilitation program, the majority of units will receive energy efficiency upgrades that include heating, electrical, roofing, and well/septic. Units will also receive pre-construction energy audits as well as information regarding rebates on energy efficient appliances. As a result, the rehabilitation program not only improves housing stock while providing adequate housing for very-low to moderate income individuals, it also works to reduce housing cost burden.

Low wages in the region work to impair housing choice. Therefore, it requires more than just a housing rehabilitation strategy to make housing affordable. The City of Norwich has committed a significant portion of its grant to attacking the sources of poverty at the root. The job training assistance program will be augmented to train eligible applicants for higher paying jobs. Enabling people to earn living wages and retain more of their earnings by assisting them with basic needs such as education, childcare and food will improve their ability to have a choice of housing.

From a policy perspective, the City will focus on helping to support an increase in the housing and community development function in the Congressional budget resolution(s), specifically HUD related funding. Congress has already made significant funding cuts in low-income housing and related programs. Deep cuts decrease the availability of affordable housing. The lack of affordable housing impacts all facets of the American economy. It is a primary driver of homelessness, prevents stability in those slightly above poverty and works to create additional health and safety barriers for low-to-moderate income people. It, in turn, increases other line-items in the National budget.

As part of pursuing these opportunities to advocate, the City will work to advocate for Housing Choice Vouchers program and to restore cuts proposed to the HOME, 202 and 811 programs. Community Development will work to educate elected officials and residents on the real impact of supportive housing and affordable housing programs. We will work with organizations such as Corporation for Supportive Housing, Connecticut Housing Coalition, Connecticut Fair Housing, Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness to help advocate for policies that not only remove barriers directly but also provide

adequate resources to meet the HUD housing objectives.

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

City of Norwich plans to work to remove barriers to affordable housing and the financial impact of efforts to protect public health and safety by taking actions to reduce costs or provide off-setting financial incentives to assist in the production of safe, high quality, affordable housing. To mitigate the impacts of these barriers, the City will:

- Apply for State and federal funding to gap finance affordable housing production and rehabilitation of existing affordable housing stock.
- Continue to streamline the environmental review process for housing developments, using available state categorical exemptions and federal categorical exclusions, when applicable.
- Continue to improve the permit processing and planning approval processes to minimize the delay in housing development in general and affordable housing development in particular.
- Continue to provide rehabilitation assistance and homeownership assistance, and to assist in the construction and preservation of affordable housing.

The City recently completed its housing needs assessment, Plan of Conservation and Development and Comprehensive Plan which identifies an inventory of sites with residential development, including sites that would be rezoned/upzoned to higher density development or redevelopment. This expanded inventory of mixed use and multi-family sites could facilitate the development of affordable housing.

A number of recommendations have also been discussed, including:

1. Work with CT Fair Housing to conduct testing of sale and rental properties to identify violations of the Fair Housing Act at an early stage.
1. Work with Eastern Connecticut Association of Realtors (ECAR) to provide training of real estate professionals to discourage steering based on race, ethnicity, familial status, or disability, the four primary bases of fair housing complaints.
1. Require “affirmative marketing” of all new residential developments and buildings in order to receive a building permit, zoning, or subdivision approval. The underlying concept is to make home seekers aware of the full array of housing choices available to them. For the developer,

affirmative marketing means taking special steps to promote traffic from particular racial or ethnic groups that are otherwise unlikely to compete for their housing.

1. Train key staff (including everybody who might answer the phone at the police department) to refer callers about fair housing to the designated staff person in City Hall. The designated individual should be well-versed in fair housing law and practices. At least one backup individual should be assigned to field calls for when the designated individual is not available.

Information about fair housing violations and remedies should be easy to find on the city's website. The proper number to call for assistance with fair housing should be listed on the "Who Do I Call?" web page under a clear heading like "Fair Housing Complaints." However, the city should not rely heavily on the Internet because many of those who face housing discrimination may not have ready access to the Internet, be very skilled on the Internet, or read English well enough to use the city's website effectively.

Discussion:

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

In order to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs, foster affordable housing and reduce the number of poverty-level families, the City will focus on 3 overarching priorities and objectives during the next year. We will work to (1) Provide Decent Affordable Housing by managing programs that increase homeownership opportunities as well as promote code improvement and energy efficient housing; (2) Create a Suitable Living Environment by focusing on activities working to address quality of life issues that encourage collaboration and foster a sense of community on a city-wide scale; and (3) Expand Economic Opportunities for Low-to-Moderate Income Residents by supporting programs that increase self-sufficiency and stability of residents.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

Obstacles to meeting the underserved needs comes in many forms. The City of Norwich will address a number of these obstacles through monitoring and performance evaluations of grantees. Specifically, we will focus on ensuring outcomes are being met within each program and that the recipients of funds adhere to CDBG related criteria. "Decent Affordable Housing" funded projects focus on decreasing housing cost burden as well as addressing code, health and safety. Therefore, increasing the amount of units participating in the rehabilitation and Lead program is important

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City will continue to provide a Property Rehabilitation Program, which is available to both owner-occupants and investor-owners. The program anticipates performing property rehabilitation for 15 housing units and associated project delivery costs (partial salary and fringe benefits for Rehab/Lead Officer and Program Assistant.) The program requires rents to remain accessible to low and moderate-income renters after completion of rehabilitation.

In addition, disabled residents make up approximately 12.3% of the population is categorized as disabled, many being deemed elderly. The City will work to address issues associated with the disabled and elderly through CDBG funds. This year's allocation will provide ADA improvements to the Recreation Department building as well as to the ARC of NL County building which provides services to this population.

The DIME savings bank continues to operate the CHAMP program. The CHAMP program offers below market rate loans to developers of affordable housing. There is a requirement that the rents remain affordable. The DIME savings bank also has a down payment assistance program where low and moderate-income client funds are matched by the bank up to \$5,000 for a required down payment.

The City of Norwich is working with at least one large scale developer to bring 324 new housing units online - 116 completed in PY 2017. 60% of these will be made available to individuals at or below 60% AMI. Two new developments are anticipated for downtown, including the re-use of a 19th Century building that has been vacant for 20 years. It is important to note that more than 18% of Norwich's housing stock is deed restricted as affordable according to documents and the State of Connecticut. Statistically, it is believed that the true number is approximately 22% of the total housing stock is affordably priced.

Norwich is unique in that it has its own utilities company. Norwich Public Utilities (NPU) provides electricity, gas, water and sewer to residents. We will partner using local dollars and the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund to help residents lower utility costs and their housing cost burden. NPU will provide energy audits and energy solutions, while working to incentivize residents to upgrade antiquated systems.

Lastly, the City of Norwich continues to support efforts in the State legislature that increase opportunities to make housing affordable in Connecticut, including tax credit programs through the CT Housing Trust Fund.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The 2016 Lead Hazard Reduction Program will make units lead-safe. The City is working to complete 100 units over 3 years, or approximately 33 per year. Norwich is committed to addressing lead through outreach and education. Community Development staff run workshops and trainings directed to homeowners and landlords. Topics include lead safe renovation and cleaning practices. The City works with the local health district, building officials and real estate agents to identify lead issues within the community and address issues as funding allows.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

In PY 2019, programs that help increase job training skills, provide transportation to and from work, and provide permanent housing instead of sheltered housing will be funded.

The anti-poverty strategy utilizes existing job training and social service programs to increase employment marketability, household income, and housing options. The City's anti-poverty strategy also includes direct activities that focus on job creation. In Norwich, there are a number of barriers to employment, including transportation, affordable child care, health/medical care, and even language

skills.

As a means of reducing the number of persons with incomes below the poverty line and reducing employment barriers, the City will continue to coordinate its efforts with those of other public and private organizations providing economic development and job training programs. Over the last few years, the number of public, quasi-public, and nonprofit organizations providing economic development and job training services in Norwich has increased. This includes youth programming that teaches basic jobs skills and exposes youth to paid opportunities where they are counseled in the position by case managers as well as employee supervisors. This works to reduce future barriers to employment while building real life job experience.

As part of job training, participants have previously been eligible to receive safety-net assistance, such as temporary transportation and child-care assistance. However, these funds are limited based on application and allocation from CDBG or other resources. There is no on-going source of funding. To stimulate business growth, Norwich has been using CDBG funds to encourage Norwich businesses to hire Norwich residents that are LMI. The strategy not only focuses on individual businesses, but works to tie in the job training programs. This way, Norwich residents graduating from the training programs have a greater chance of becoming employed.

Our partners in this endeavor include, but are not limited to:

- Norwich Human Services
- Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce
- Norwich Adult Education
- Eastern Connecticut Workforce Investment Board
- Norwich Community Development Corporation
- Community Economic Development Fund United Way

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City always looks to diversify funding in order to maintain adequate staffing. The City hired a Community Development Supervisor in 2017. Since then we have been working on modifying programmatic guidelines and will continue to work on program improvements over the next year. Existing staff has a combined experience of 20 years in similar programming. Staff has attended trainings on CDBG, Environmental Review and completing the Annual Action Plan and CAPER.

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

service agencies

The City of Norwich participates in a collaborative system called the Coordinated Access Network (CAN) allowing for an holistic approach to reducing homelessness of at-risk populations. Identified needs for this population are: Subsidies and vouchers to improve access to stable, permanent and affordable housing; Affordable and accessible child care; Improved public transportation; Job training and temporary opportunities for building employment experience. The City will continue to do the following to enhance coordination of housing and community development: Consult with housing and social service providers; Encourage collaboration of service providers as opposed to competing as separate entities; Participate in regional discussions to address housing; Participate with SCCOG; Re-establish neighborhood investment groups such as NRZs/blockwatches.

NHS will continue the collaborative efforts to bring together social service providers, non-profit housing providers, health and mental health professionals, youth development program providers and others. This will provide a more effective delivery of resources

Discussion:

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

The City of Norwich does not have any projects generating program income. The City estimates the percentage of funding going to LMI residents to be at least 70%.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed | 0 |
| 2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan. | 0 |
| 3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements | 0 |
| 4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan | 0 |
| 5. The amount of income from float-funded activities | 0 |
| Total Program Income: | 0 |

Other CDBG Requirements

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. The amount of urgent need activities | 0 |
| 2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan. | 70.00% |

Attachments

Craig Kleman

From: legal <legal@theday.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 1:06 PM
To: Sandra Gaitanbrown
Cc: Craig Kleman
Subject: [External]Re: Legal Notice
Attachments: Credit Card Receipt - CDBG-CV (CARES ACT FUNDING).pdf

Here is notice d01087689 that will run in the 10/23 edition. Paid receipt is attached.

d01087689

**LEGAL NOTICE
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CITY OF NORWICH
Community Development Block Grant-CV
(CARES ACT FUNDING)**

The City of Norwich Office of Community Development is accepting Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) applications for Program Year 45 funds as a substantial amendment to the 2019-2020 annual plan. Funding is available in the amount of \$135,000. This will be the final reallocation of these funds.

FUNDING FOR CDBG-CV FUNDS MUST BE USED TO PREVENT, PREPARE FOR OR RESPOND TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS AND ITS AFTEREFFECTS.

Applications will be accepted until 4:00 PM on Monday, November 4, 2024 at the Community Development Office, 23 Union Street, Norwich, CT. Applicants must submit one original, 10 copies (only one copy of audit) and one electronic version of their application and only need to contain Parts I, II & III (Microsoft Word document). Copies must be double sided and be on pre-punched, 3-hole paper. Please note that this solicitation will only be for Public Services programs that benefit low to moderate-income clientele and are directly related to COVID-19 impacts that prevent, prepare for and/or respond to the disparities created.

Applications are available at: www.norwichct.org/216/community-development
Or by email request to sgaitanbrown@cityofnorwich.org

We reserve the right to refuse applications that are incomplete and/or do not include necessary documentation.

Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action

Thank you,
Kelly

Kelly Johnson
Legal notices
The Day and Shore Publishing
Legal Line: 860-701-4410

CITY OF NORWICH
Notice of Availability for Public Comment
Proposed Substantial Amendment to the
Action Plan for Program Year 2019
(2019-2020)
CDBG-CV FUNDS

The City of Norwich is an Entitlement community receiving U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) funds and is required to provide public notice regarding a substantial amendment to an approved Action Plan. In addition, the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC), a citizen advisory group that makes recommendations to the Office of Community Development and to the City Council has voted to fund the additional projects with CDBG-CV funding originally allocated under Program Year 2019 (PY45). These recommendations address the priorities of the City’s Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, as mentioned in the 5-Year Consolidated Plan which is funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

PY45 Substantial Amendment CDBG-CV

The City has recaptured unexpended funding from the following projects:

CV – NHS Senior Accessible Medical Care & Education	\$31,935.40
CV– SVDPP – Cold Food Storage	\$46,413.68
CV – Administration	\$56,650.92

The CDAC recommends recaptured funding be re-allocated to the following post-pandemic recovery projects:

CDBG-CV Recapture:	<u>\$135,000.00</u>
CV- Thames River Comm. Service – Fostering Growth & Safety	\$23,778.00
CV – St. Vincent DePaul Place – Cargo Van	\$62,000.00
CV – Madonna Place – Family Support Center	\$25,000.00
CV – TVCCA Homelessness Prevention Program	\$24,222.00

Proposed Substantial Amendment to the Annual Action Plan requires a 30-day Public Comment Period and will be available for public comment beginning on December 13, 2024 and runs through January 11, 2025. The Substantial Amendment will be available to review on the City of Norwich’s website: www.norwichct.org or in person at the Community Development Office, 23 Union Street, Norwich, CT.

All written comments should be submitted by January 13, 2025 by 4 pm to the Community Development Office 23 Union Street, Norwich, CT 06360, tel. (860) 823-3770 or emailed to Ckleman@cityofnorwich.org. All comments received by that time will be taken into consideration.