

The City of Rochester, N.H.

DUNS # 073960874

Consolidated Action Plan (PY 2020-2025)

Approved May 5, 2020



Prepared for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

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Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

This Five Year Consolidated Action Plan provides the City of Rochester’s plan for community development and its use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for the PY 2020-2025 period. The City of Rochester’s CDBG program is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and managed by the Community Development Division. The program aims to assist low- and moderate-income residents of the City of Rochester through funding social services, economic development initiatives, low-income housing rehabilitation, and public facilities projects.

This Consolidated Plan begins July 1, 2020 and continues through June 30, 2025 and will be comprised of five Annual Action Plans (or program years). The Annual Action Plan for PY 2020-2021 will be submitted concurrently with this Consolidated Plan.

This Consolidated Plan is the result of an intensive eighteen-month-long collaborative process that included extensive public outreach; multiple public hearings and neighborhood meetings; consultations with dozens of public service agencies, government entities, and other related organizations; and the use of the internet and social media to publicize meetings and solicit public feedback. The needs assessments and comprehensive plans of over a dozen regional entities (including homeless services providers, regional planning commissions, health care providers, public service agencies, and others) were also consulted during the process of creating this Consolidated Plan. The goals and objectives of these assessments and plans were incorporated into the Consolidated Plan as applicable.

Programs and activities described in this Consolidated Plan are intended primarily to benefit low- and moderate-income residents of the City of Rochester as well as City neighborhoods with high concentration of low- and moderate-income residents, with “high concentration” defined as 51% or higher population of low- and moderate-income residents within the neighborhood. “Low- and moderate-income” is defined as household incomes below 80% of the area median income. According to 2019 data from HUD, the area median income for the Portsmouth-Rochester Metropolitan Area is \$94,300.¹

2. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment

These objectives are based on the extensive research and consultations that the Community Development Coordinator conducted with local public service agencies, relevant government agencies and departments, and the general citizenry. The City of Rochester commits to prioritizing activities and projects that meet a combination of the most important basic needs and longer-term important needs of the City's marginalized individuals and families, primarily homeless residents, low-moderate income residents, and residents with mental illness and/or substance use disorders.

¹U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development,
<http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/il/il2019/2019summary.odn>.

All programs and activities are aimed at meeting one or more of HUD’s outcomes for CDBG funding: to provide decent housing, to provide a suitable living environment, and to expand economic opportunities. The individual activities were established to meet HUD outcomes and are those seen to meet the needs of the City’s low- to moderate-income population as identified at present and projected over the next five years.

Program Goal: To Provide Decent Housing

HUD Outcome Performance Measure	Proposed Activities
Assisting Homeless Persons to Obtain Affordable Housing and Assisting Persons at Risk of Homelessness	Support of homeless shelters, including emergency shelters and permanent supportive housing, for homeless persons and other vulnerable groups, including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and low-income persons at risk for homelessness (including persons with substance use disorder and persons with mental illnesses), including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Support for permanent supportive housing projects
	Continued participation in local coalitions of service providers (<i>e.g.</i> , Balance of State Continuum of Care, Tri-City Homelessness Task Force, Home for All Coalition)
Retention and Creation of Affordable Housing Stock	Support of weatherization and other energy efficiency efforts to provide long-term and sustainable affordability to low-income homeowners, including flooding mitigation and extreme winter storm mitigation renovations, as applicable
	Support of housing rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing and remediation

	Support for workforce housing and affordable housing projects, including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Support for permanent supportive housing projects, including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and low-income persons at risk for homelessness (including persons with substance use disorder and persons with mental illnesses), including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Funding allocations for accessibility features (e.g., wheelchair ramps, lifts, etc.) in residential buildings

Program Goal: To Provide a Suitable Living Environment

HUD Outcome Performance Measure	Proposed Activities
Providing Services and Aid for LMI Residents and Other Vulnerable Residents in Response to Emergency and Disaster Events (Such as the COVID-19 Pandemic)	Support for emergency response-related services such as food pantries and food deliveries, rental assistance for LMI persons who have lost income sources, sanitation and other services for unsheltered homeless persons, etc.
	Support for non-profits engaged in CDBG-eligible activities that have lost funding due to emergency situations, natural disasters, etc.
Providing Services for Residents with Substance Use Disorder and Addressing Root Causation	Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and low-income persons at risk for homelessness (including persons with substance use disorder and persons with mental illnesses), including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Support for organizations and programs addressing mental illness (as there is high

	<p>coincidence of substance abuse and mental illness) and providing substance use disorder treatment and recovery services</p>
	<p>Identification of opportunities to support the creation of local residential treatment facilities for substance use disorder</p>
<p>Improving the Safety and Livability of Neighborhoods</p>	<p>Ongoing coordination with the Department of Public Works for infrastructure improvement projects in low-income neighborhoods, including natural hazard mitigation projects to protect property and lives</p>
	<p>Ongoing coordination with the Recreation Department for improvements and expansions to youth recreational facilities to provide pro-social recreational opportunities for low-income residents, especially low-income youth</p>
	<p>Support of building rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing and remediation</p>
<p>Increasing Access to Quality Public Facilities and Services</p>	<p>Support for public service agencies providing programs and support to low-income populations of greatest need (<i>e.g.</i>, educational and vocational services, legal services for abused and neglected children, medical and paramedical services for persons living with HIV/AIDS and persons with substance use disorder)</p>
	<p>Renovations to public buildings and public facilities to increase accessibility for all residents, with particular focus on people with disabilities</p>
	<p>Support for regional transportation groups to provide greater access to community resources for low-income residents, as well as elderly residents and people with disabilities</p>
	<p>Continued participation in local coalitions of service providers (<i>e.g.</i>, Balance of State</p>

	Continuum of Care, Tri-City Homelessness Task Force, Home for All Coalition)
Increasing Access to Affordable and Quality Housing for All Residents	Support of housing rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing and remediation
	Support for workforce housing and affordable housing projects, including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Funding allocations for accessibility features (e.g., wheelchair ramps, lifts, etc.) in residential buildings
	Support for fair housing education and outreach efforts, including partnerships with New Hampshire Legal Assistance’s Fair Housing Project

Program Goal: To Expand Economic Opportunities

HUD Outcome Performance Measure	Proposed Activities
Establishment, Stabilization, and Expansion of Small Businesses, Including Micro-Businesses	Continue to maintain revolving loan fund for small business financing in exchange for low-moderate income job creation/retention agreements
	Explore financial assistance opportunities for small businesses and LMI owners/LMI employees affected by emergency situations and natural disasters (such as COVID-19 pandemic)
	Coordinate with the Building, Zoning, and Licensing Services Department and private downtown organizations to explore the development and support of a revolving loan fund and/or grant program for code improvements to downtown business owners

Provision of Public Services Concerned with Employment	Support for educational services (including GED equivalency services) for low-income residents, including people with disabilities, other disadvantaged populations, and residents affected by emergency situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic
	Support for vocational and workforce training programs for low-income residents, including people with disabilities, other disadvantaged populations, and residents affected by emergency situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic

3. Evaluation of past performance

A significant portion of the previous PY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan and its five associated Annual Action Plans focused on the needs of the City’s homeless population, and funding was provided to the three primary homeless shelters in the region (providing seasonal, transitional, and year-round services). Other CDBG priorities included rental assistance and housing rehabilitation to preserve affordable housing stock and activities and projects located in low- to moderate-income city census tracts, as these are the areas of continued greatest need. Throughout the PY 2015-2020 period, the greatest amount of public service agency funding (which is capped by HUD at 15% of the City’s overall grant) went to regional homeless shelter services.

For maintaining affordable housing for low-moderate income residents, CDBG funding was awarded to the SHARE Fund to provide rental assistance to lower income residents and to Community Partners to provide rental assistance for residents with mental illnesses and/or developmental disabilities. Such rental support represents an important affordable housing strategy of the city’s CDBG program, as the rental market remains a large provider of affordable housing for Rochester residents. Also, throughout the PY 2015-2020 period, CDBG funding was awarded to the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County to provide weatherization for homes owned by low-moderate income residents. For most residents, this greatly reduces energy costs for the home, thereby keeping the home affordable for the owner.

For the most part, actual numbers of residents to be served for these activities have consistently met or exceeded the projected numbers for City residents to be served. Overall, significant and substantial progress was made across all funding categories to provide services meeting the identified needs in the PY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan. For public services activities other than low/moderate income housing benefit, which comprised most public service agency funding throughout the PY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan, goals for number of clients served were consistently met or exceeded. This was especially true of overnight bed stays and other emergency shelter services provided to homeless residents, who were a top priority of the PY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan.

For housing rehabilitation and public facilities projects, goals were also largely met throughout the PY 2015-2020 performance period. The Community Action Partnership of Strafford County (Strafford CAP) weatherization assistance program encountered problems early in the PY 2015-2020 performance period. The program was put on a corrective action plan at the beginning of PY 2015-2016, as the program was not meeting established goals for number of homes to receive weatherization renovations or the timely expenditure of CDBG grant funds. Discussions with Strafford CAP staff and monitoring of the weatherization assistance program indicated that underperformance was connected to issues related to Strafford CAP turnover and lack of available contractors to work on weatherization assistance programs projects.

Rochester Community Development staff met with Strafford CAP on a quarterly basis and assisted in the stabilization of this program. Strafford CAP exceeded its performance goals for PY 2015-2016. In comparison with PY 2014-2015, where only about half of the awarded grant funds were spent during the program year, grant funds in PY 2015-2016 were spent in a much more timely fashion. Strafford CAP has continued to perform consistently throughout the remainder of the PY 2015-2020 period and has met or exceeded performance goals. One of the valuable lessons learned from these performance issues and the corrective action process was the importance of Rochester Community Development staff to maintain regular communications with subgrantees to (1) identify potential performance concerns as early as possible and (2) to quickly provide technical assistance and other needed supports to help subgrantees succeed in their programs.

The main issues experienced related to public facilities projects were project delays, related to a variety of factors. Such factors included the need to put projects out to bid more than once, in cases where there were a low number of bids or no bids at all; delays involving the procurement of supplies or delays from subcontractors; and delays related to the need to obtain gap funding. While most of these issues only delayed projects by a relatively short time period, the need for gap funding resulted in the cancellation of the planned PY 2019 Rochester housing Authority project to renovate a building to create new permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless residents.

For economic development activities, the main activities during the PY 2015-2020 time period have consisted of small business technical assistance services and the city's Job Opportunity Benefit (JOB) Loan Program. The JOB Loan Program has been and continues to be highly successful. The program provides low-interest loans to companies that pledge to create or retain a specified number of jobs for lower-income residents. During PY 2015-2020, all companies that have received these loans have met or exceeded the job creation numbers, and all have made all required loan payments.

The City of Rochester's small business technical assistance activities have been less successful. During PY 2016, the Office of Economic Development's Small Business Development Center failed to meet CDBG program goals. While this activity exceeded the number of persons anticipated (23 residents served, versus the 13 projected to be served), well over 49% of these residents were non-low-moderate income. Also, of the \$12,000.00 budgeted for the program, only \$360.00 was actually spent during PY 2016.

Most of these issues can be attributed to the facts that this was a new program and implemented by a City department somewhat unfamiliar with the details and requirements of implementing of CDBG activities. (This program replaced the New Hampshire Small Business Development Center, which was, as reported in the City of Rochester's PY 2015 CAPER, defunded due to multiple years of uncorrected performance issues.) The Community Development Coordinator met with Office of Economic Development personnel at least monthly to discuss performance, provide technical assistance, and

otherwise help in implementing the new program, but the challenges persisted throughout the program year. Due to these issues, no CDBG funding for the Office of Economic Development’s Small Business Development Center was awarded for PY 2017.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

The purpose of the Citizen Participation Plan developed for the PY 2020-2025 Five Year Consolidated Plan is to make the process of investing the City of Rochester’s CDBG and other financial resources as inclusive of all citizens as possible. The Community Development Division aims to have the objectives and activities undertaken with received CDBG funds accurately reflect the needs and desires of the people of the City of Rochester.

This process is an ongoing activity and includes both formal and informal outreach to the area community. Staff works actively to communicate with its citizens, neighborhood coalitions, City departments and law enforcement, nonprofit agencies, local business interests, community and faith-based organizations, and the New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care.

Specific efforts will be made to reach residents living in revitalization areas, slum, or blighted area, as well as neighborhoods designated by HUD as 51% or greater low- to moderate-income. This will include staff attendance at neighborhood meetings in these areas, outreach to the Rochester Housing Authority’s residents and resident advisory board, and related activities.

All official public hearing notices and other important documents will be posted in accordance with the City of Rochester’s Language Access Plan, which provides that such documents include a notice in French that oral interpretation of such documents is available for free upon request. The full Language Access Plan is available on the Community Development Division webpages at <http://www.rochesternh.net/community-development-division/pages/policies-and-procedures>.

The Community Development Division provides technical and other assistance to citizens, public agencies, and any interested parties in the development of projects or activities to address priority needs in Rochester. Copies and summaries of the Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan drafts are available in the Office of Economic & Community Department and on the Community Development Division web page, located at <http://www.rochesternh.net/community-development-division>. These documents are also available via electronic attachments upon request.

As part of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan processes, staff make efforts to bring the developing plan concepts to the community via available community gatherings and forums. This includes public service networking groups, neighborhood coalition meetings, presentations to community group and associations, and postings to the Office of Economic &

Community Development’s social media accounts (e.g., Facebook and Twitter). Creativity in receiving input from the public and the effective use of modern communicative technology are the goals of the Community Development Division.

The City of Rochester’s citizen involvement plan includes the following:

Public Hearing (First): Public is gathered at a formal public hearing, held prior to the City Council workshop in December. This meeting is intended to solicit the public’s feedback on current CDBG projects and performance, perceived needs for future projects, and general opinions and concerns regarding community development in the City of Rochester.

This meeting is held in a location that is accessible to people with physical disabilities. Accommodations for people with visual or hearing impairments, as well as accommodations for Limited English Proficiency speakers, are made upon request. This hearing is advertised in one or more local newspapers within a minimum of ten to fourteen days prior to the hearing. Public notice also is provided at strategic sites of public interest, including the public library, community center, and City Hall. Notice is provided via electronic means, as well, including but not limited to email announcements to community stakeholders (e.g., currently-funded non-profits and community business associations), postings to the Community Development Division’s website, and postings to the Office of Economic & Community Development’s social media accounts (e.g., Facebook and Twitter).

Following this hearing, minutes are made available on the City of Rochester’s website, and interested parties can view the hearing in its entirety on the local government channel as well as online.

Funding Notice: The Economic & Community Development Office annually announces the Community Development Block Grant funds anticipated from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as the procedures and deadlines for making application to the City of Rochester. Notices of application availability are sent via electronic means to current public service partners and groups with projects in development, as well as to other identified public service agencies that engage in work that is eligible for CDBG funding. Notice also is provided via electronic means, including but not limited to email announcements to community stakeholders (e.g., currently-funded non-profits and community business associations), postings to the Community Development Division webpage, and postings to the Economic & Community Development Office’s social media accounts (e.g., Facebook and Twitter). The application will include actual or estimated funds available for distribution, a timetable for application evaluation, public hearing, and public comment period.

Application Period: Applications for project funding are due annually in mid December.

Application Evaluation Process: All applications are reviewed by staff, and recommendations are relayed to the City’s Community Development Committee. The Community Development Committee is comprised of five current city councilors. The Community Development Committee scores each application according to the City’s identified priorities and needs, prioritizing those identified through public consultation processes. Once the applications have been scored, funding recommendations from the Community Development Committee are presented to the City Council at the City Council’s next regular meeting in the form of the recommended Annual Action Plan.

Public Hearing (Second): The draft Annual Action Plan is subject to a public hearing (preceding the April City Council workshop or May City Council meeting). This meeting is held in a location that is accessible to people with physical disabilities. Accommodations for people with visual or hearing impairments, as well as accommodations for Limited English Proficiency speakers, are made upon request.

Notification of this public hearing and draft plan availability are published in one or more local newspapers within a minimum of ten to fourteen days prior to the public hearing. Public notice is provided at strategic sites of public interest, including the public library, community center, and City Hall. Notice also is provided via electronic means, including but not limited to email announcements to community stakeholders (e.g., currently-funded non-profits and community business associations), postings to the Economic & Community Development Office’s website, and postings to the Economic & Community Development Office’s social media accounts (e.g., Facebook and Twitter). Following this hearing, minutes are made available on the City of Rochester’s website, and interested parties can view the hearing in its entirety on the local government channel as well as online.

Public Comments Period: Comments are accepted throughout the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan preparation processes via in-person meetings, postal mail, telephone, and electronic means of communication. In addition, a formal 30-day public comments period is announced via publishing in one or more general newspapers of local circulation. The notice will include a summary of the plan(s), details or estimate of available funding, details as to proposed activities, and information on where copies of the plan can be obtained by members of the general public. Free copies of the plan(s) will be made available upon request.

Comments received during the public comment period, as well as comments received during public hearings and at other public meetings, are summarized and included in the Annual Action Plan and Five Year Consolidated Plan. Comments may be oral or written. The Community Development Division responds to concerns and directives through appropriate programming allocations or refers concerns and directives to the proper City department for follow-up. Any

comments not accepted will include a response from the Community Development Division as to why the comments were not accepted. These comments are forwarded to HUD as part of the completed Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan.

Substantial Amendments: The City's Consolidated Plan may be amended if substantial changes in planned or actual activities must occur due to new information about the make-up, needs, or growth of the City of Rochester's communities. Creation of new goals, funding of entirely new activities, and/or changes in funding in excess of \$50,000 triggers review by the Community Development Committee. The Community Development Committee evaluates changes to the Consolidated Plan, and their recommendations are forwarded to the City Council for further input as needed. Substantial amendments to the Consolidated Plan herein are subject to the public participation process, outlined above, as well as to full City Council approval.

All other amendments are considered minor and are not subject to the public participation process. Instead, the minor amendment will be posted to the Community Development Division's webpages and made available to the general public upon request.

Emergency Circumstances: In the case of emergency circumstances (including but not limited to federal- or state-declared natural disasters, regional natural disasters, large-scale pandemics, severe economic recessions and depressions, etc.), the City of Rochester may waive or streamline citizen participation requirements in order to address the emergency circumstances in a timely fashion. Such streamlining may include forgoing public hearings or holding virtual public hearings, reducing the days in the public comments period, and other such measures.

Complaints: The Community Development Division will respond to all citizen complaints submitted in writing within fifteen (15) business days. This response may be a statement that more time is needed to provide a more substantive response, in which case the substantive response will be provided within thirty (30) business days.

5. Summary of public comments

City of Rochester Consolidated Plan PY 2020-2025 – Community Development Block Grant

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	Downtown residents and businesses	About 20 residents/business owners	Need for downtown beautification, green spaces, more housing, fewer vacancies, more consequences for negligent landlords	N/A. All comments were accepted.	
2	Public Meeting	Persons with disabilities Elderly residents	About 40 residents and service providers	Need for more transportation, walkable communities/access to community resources, palliative care, Alzheimer's/dementia, lack of home care providers workforce, need for better education on existing resources and better partnerships between resource providers	N/A. All comments were accepted.	

City of Rochester Consolidated Plan PY 2020-2025 – Community Development Block Grant

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 Meeting	Residents of Ward 4	About 5 residents, 2 police officers	Concerns regarding increase in drug events and overdoses, concerns regarding unsheltered homeless persons, support for funding for veterans' services, support for SOS Recovery Center, suggestion for more recreational options for youth such as music or teen center, especially in East Rochester.	N/A. All comments were accepted.	

City of Rochester Consolidated Plan PY 2020-2025 – Community Development Block Grant

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	Residents of Ward 5	About 2 residents, 1 city councilor, 2 police officers	Support for East Rochester Library projects, support for permanent supportive housing projects, support for a teen center.	N/A. All comments were accepted.	
5	Public Meeting	Residents of Ward 6	About 10 residents, 2 city councilors	Concerns regarding sidewalk conditions and safety, support for downtown percussion wall, support for Homeless Center for Strafford County, support for Rochester Public Library projects, lack of support for Strafford CAP funding, support for MY TURN funding, suggestion for a seasonal ice rink at the Rochester Commons.	N/A. All comments were accepted.	

City of Rochester Consolidated Plan PY 2020-2025 – Community Development Block Grant

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	Non-targeted/broad community	About 16 residents	This was a public meeting held to gather input in drafting an updated Transportation Master Plan. Comments were offered on needs for a more walkable downtown, improved sidewalks for pedestrian safety, traffic calming in the downtown, a desire for dog parks, and support for the Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST).	N/A. All comments were accepted.	

City of Rochester Consolidated Plan PY 2020-2025 – Community Development Block Grant

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	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community Ward 3 residents	About 24 residents, 1 police officer	Concerns were offered about residential and public facility accessibility, concerns about transportation, support for Statewide Independent Living, need for school bus stops, concerns regarding unsheltered homeless residents, concerns about substance use disorders.	N/A. All comments were accepted.	

City of Rochester Consolidated Plan PY 2020-2025 – Community Development Block Grant

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	Non-targeted/broad community Ward 2 residents	About 9 residents, 2 city councilors	Concerns were offered about thefts and burglaries; about homelessness, mental health, and substance use disorders; and regarding playground safety at McClelland School. Support was expressed for school accessibility projects.	N/A. All comments were accepted.	
9	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community Ward 1 residents	About 18 residents, 1 police officer	Concerns were expressed regarding about homelessness, conditions of streets, reuse of Gafney Home building, vandalism, emergency evacuation from Tara Estates manufactured home park due to only one entrance.	N/A. All comments were accepted.	

City of Rochester Consolidated Plan PY 2020-2025 – Community Development Block Grant

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)
10	Public Meeting	Residents of Ward 4	About 5 residents, 2 police officers	Concerns regarding increase in drug events and overdoses, concerns regarding unsheltered homeless persons, support for funding for veterans' services, support for SOS Recovery Center, suggestion for more recreational options for youth such as music or teen center, especially in East Rochester.	N/A. All comments were accepted.	
11	Public Hearing (First)	Non-targeted/broad community	There was no attendance.	No comments were received.	N/A.	
12	Public Comments Period	Non-targeted/broad community	There were no comments.	No comments were received.	N/A.	

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)
13	Public Hearing (Second)	Non-targeted/broad community	There was no attendance.	No comments were received.	N/A.	

Table 1 – Citizen Participation Outreach

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

Please see the “Summary of Public Comments” section above.

7. Summary

This PY 2020-2025 Five-Year Consolidated Plan focuses on the community needs identified during the Consolidated Plan community needs assessment process, the consultation process, and the citizen participation process. This includes needs that continue to exist from previous Consolidated Plans, such as permanent supportive housing for homeless populations and substance use disorder recovery supports; needs that have not been fully addressed in the implementation of previous Consolidated Plans, such as lead poisoning prevention and remediation activities; and needs that have been newly identified, such as hazard mitigation planning and lowering density limits to reduce housing development costs so that affordable housing development is financially feasible for housing developers.

This Consolidated Plan will be used to evaluate new funding and project opportunities to determine whether they meet the objectives of this Consolidated Plan and should be incorporated into PY 2020-2025 Annual Action Plans. Community needs analyses and public input sessions will continue through the implementation of the PY 2020-2025 Consolidated Action Plan, and this information will be incorporated into the Consolidated Plan implementation and PY 2020-2025 Annual Action Plans as applicable.

The Process

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies 24 CFR 91.200(b)

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	City of Rochester	Office of Economic & Community Development

Table 2 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The CDBG Administrator (Community Development Coordinator) for the City of Rochester is in charge of administering the city’s CDBG program. The CDBG Administrator prepares the Five Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, and annual progress reports for the CDBG program. The CDBG Administrator also conducts environmental reviews for all CDBG-funded activities and Davis-Bacon Act labor monitoring for construction-related projects.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

The City of Rochester continues has made extensive efforts to enhance coordination between the Rochester Housing Authority, non-profit organizations providing housing and related services, and relevant City departments such as the Welfare Office and Planning Department. The City's Community Development Division meets at minimum on a semiannual basis with the Rochester Housing Authority to discuss resident needs, building maintenance concerns, CDBG funding opportunities, and fair housing concerns. The City of Rochester's Community Development Coordinator also engages in significant outreach and involvement in relevant community organizations, such as active involvement with the Home for All Coalition (formerly the Greater Seacoast Coalition on Homelessness), the Tri-City Homelessness Task Force, and the New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care.

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

The City of Rochester continues to make extensive efforts to enhance coordination between the Rochester Housing Authority, non-profit organizations providing housing and related services, and relevant City departments such as the Welfare Office and Planning Department. The City's Community Development Division meets at minimum on a semiannual basis with the Rochester Housing Authority to discuss resident needs, building maintenance concerns, CDBG funding opportunities, and fair housing concerns. The City of Rochester's Community Development Coordinator also engages in significant outreach and involvement in relevant community organizations, such as active involvement with the Home for All Coalition (formerly the Greater Seacoast Coalition on Homelessness), the Tri-City Homelessness Task Force, and the New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care.

The Community Development Coordinator attends many meetings and trainings organized by agencies that provide services such as housing, homelessness prevention, rental assistance, etc. This includes health and mental health organizations such as Goodwin Community Health, The Homemakers/EasterSeals, Cornerstone Visiting Nurses' Association, Tri-City Consumers' Action Cooperative, and Community Partners. The Community Development Coordinator forwards relevant information from these agencies to all other public service agency contacts who might be interested and to the Rochester Housing Authority executive director.

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 Community Development Coordinator serves as the primary liaison between the City of Rochester and the New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care, regularly attends scheduled Continuum of Care meetings in Concord, and shares information received at Continuum meetings with relevant City staff and local public service agencies. This includes but is not limited to the Rochester Welfare Office, the Rochester Economic Development Office, the Rochester Families in Transition coordinator (school district homeless liaison), and CDBG grant subrecipients.

The Community Development Coordinator is also an actively engaged with the regional Home for All Coalition, which meets bimonthly to discuss homelessness issues in the region and functions as a local-level continuum of care, and the Tri-City Homelessness Task Force, which meets monthly to strategize on homeless prevention and reduction in the neighboring cities of Rochester, Somersworth, and Dover.

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

N/A. The City of Rochester does not receive ESG funds.

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

Agency/Group/Organization	Department of Public Works, City of Rochester
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Grantee Department
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – hazard mitigation
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the City Engineer. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of programs and activities aligned with the needs of hazard mitigation activities, especially for hazard mitigation in low-moderate income areas of the city.

Agency/Group/Organization	Building, Zoning, and Licensing Services Department, City of Rochester
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Grantee Department
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – hazard mitigation
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Director of Building, Zoning, and Licensing Services. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of programs and activities aligned with the needs of hazard mitigation activities, especially for hazard mitigation in low-moderate income areas of the city.
Agency/Group/Organization	Fire Department, City of Rochester
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Grantee Department
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – hazard mitigation
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Deputy Fire Chief. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of programs and activities aligned with the needs of hazard mitigation activities, especially for hazard mitigation in low-moderate income areas of the city.
Agency/Group/Organization	Information Systems Department, City of Rochester
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Grantee Department
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – hazard mitigation, broadband access

Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the City Chief Information Officer. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of programs and activities aligned with the needs of hazard mitigation activities, especially for hazard mitigation in low-moderate income areas of the city, and broadband internet access.
Agency/Group/Organization	Strafford Regional Planning Commission
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government – county, Regional organization, Planning organization
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – hazard mitigation, broadband access
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Regional Economic Development Planner for Strafford Regional Planning Commission. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of programs and activities aligned with the needs of hazard mitigation activities, especially for hazard mitigation in low-moderate income areas of the city, and broadband internet access.
Agency/Group/Organization	Planning Department, City of Rochester
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Grantee Department
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – hazard mitigation

Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Director of Planning. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of programs and activities aligned with the needs of hazard mitigation activities, especially for hazard mitigation in low-moderate income areas of the city.
Agency/Group/Organization	Police Department, City of Rochester
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Grantee Department
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – hazard mitigation
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the City Chief of Police. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of programs and activities aligned with the needs of hazard mitigation activities, especially for hazard mitigation in low-moderate income areas of the city.
Agency/Group/Organization	Office of Economic Development, City of Rochester
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Grantee Department
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – hazard mitigation
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the City Economic Development Manager. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of programs and activities aligned with the needs of hazard mitigation activities, especially for hazard mitigation in low-moderate income areas of the city.
Agency/Group/Organization	Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization, Other – Public transit agency

What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – Public Transportation
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Executive Director at the Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of programs and activities aligned with public transit needs, especially the needs of lower-income residents, elderly residents, and residents with disabilities.
Agency/Group/Organization	My Friends Place
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Housing, Services – Homeless, Regional organization
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs – Chronically homeless Homeless Needs – Families with children Homelessness Strategy Other – Public Transportation
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Executive Director at My Friends Place. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of programs and activities aligned with public transit needs, especially the needs of homeless residents or residents at risk of becoming homeless.
Agency/Group/Organization	Strafford Regional Planning Commission
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government – County Regional organization Planning organization
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – Public Transportation

Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Senior Transportation Planner at Strafford Regional Planning Commission. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of programs and activities aligned with public transportation needs, especially the needs of lower-income residents, elderly residents, and residents with disabilities.
Agency/Group/Organization	Strafford County Public Health Network
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Health, Health Agency, Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care, Other government – County, Regional organization
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – Public health access inequality, substance use disorders
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Continuum of Care Manager for the Strafford County Public Health Network. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of programs and activities aligned with public health needs, especially substance use disorder prevention and recovery services and quality health care access for lower-income residents.
Agency/Group/Organization	Southern New Hampshire Services
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Health, Services – Employment, Other government – County, Regional organization
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis, Economic Development, Other – Substance use disorders

Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the WIOA Program Manager at Southern New Hampshire Services. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of programs and activities aligned with substance use disorder recovery needs as related to obtaining and retaining employment.
Agency/Group/Organization	Community Action Partnership of Strafford County
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing, Services – Housing, Services – Homeless, Services – Employment, Regional organization
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment, Homeless Needs – Chronically homeless, Homeless Strategy, Non-Homeless Special Needs
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Executive Director of the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of programs and activities that provide supportive housing to homeless residents and/or residents with substance use disorders.
Agency/Group/Organization	Tri-City Homeless Task Force
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Housing, Services – Homeless, Other government – Local, Regional organization, Planning 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, Homeless Needs – Veterans, Homeless Needs – Unaccompanied youth, Homelessness Strategy, Anti-poverty Strategy

Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the appointed members of the Tri-City Homeless Task Force. The consultation was conducted in-person. An area for improved coordination identified was the need to better address homelessness on the regional level versus the municipal level. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of programs and activities aimed at housing chronically homeless residents and preventing homelessness.
Agency/Group/Organization	New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing, Services – Housing, Services – Fair Housing, Other government – State
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment, Market Analysis
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Housing Awareness Program Administrator at New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of affordable housing projects and programs.
Agency/Group/Organization	Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing, Services – Housing, Regional organization, Planning organization
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment, Market Analysis, Economic Development
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Executive Director of the Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the continued analysis and reassessment of land use regulations to encourage the construction of more affordable housing.
Agency/Group/Organization	City of Dover

Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government – Local
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment, Market Analysis
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Assistant City Manager for the City of Dover. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the continued analysis and reassessment of land use regulations to encourage the construction of more affordable housing.
Agency/Group/Organization	New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing, Services – Housing, Services – Fair Housing, Other government – State, Planning organization
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – Fair Housing
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Program Policy Analyst at New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of programs and activities to encourage fair housing within the City of Rochester and to address inequitable housing situations through policy, education, and outreach activities.
Agency/Group/Organization	New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Health, Other government – State
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – Green planning initiatives, climate change

Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Air Quality staff person at the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. The consultation was conducted via webinar. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the inclusion of green planning initiatives in CDBG-funded construction activities and housing planning.
Agency/Group/Organization	Environmental and Occupational Health Division of Boston Public Health Commission
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Health, Other government – Local
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – Green planning initiatives, climate change
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Associate Director of the Boston Public Health Commission. The consultation was conducted via webinar. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the inclusion of green planning initiatives in CDBG-funded construction activities and housing planning.
Agency/Group/Organization	New Hampshire Alliance for Immigrants and Refugees
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service – Fair Housing, Regional organization, Other – Immigrant and refugee needs
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – Immigrant needs, fair housing
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Executive Director for the New Hampshire Alliance for Immigrants and Refugees. The consultation was conducted in person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the inclusion of immigrant outreach and language access outreach in addressing fair housing issues.
Agency/Group/Organization	New Hampshire Legal Assistance
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Housing, Services – Fair Housing, Services – Victims

What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – Fair housing
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and Housing Justice Program staff from New Hampshire Legal Assistance. The consultation was conducted in person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the inclusion of immigrant outreach in addressing fair housing issues and access to local welfare benefits.
Agency/Group/Organization	American Civil Liberties Union of New Hampshire
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other – Non-profit
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – Immigrant rights, immigration law
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Immigration Legal Fellow at the American Civil Liberties Union of New Hampshire. The consultation was conducted in person. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the inclusion of immigrant outreach and language access outreach in soliciting public input on proposed CDBG-funded activities and programs.
Agency/Group/Organization	Justice in Aging
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Elderly Persons, Services – Victims
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs, Anti-poverty Strategy
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and a staff attorney at Justice in Aging. The consultation was conducted via webinar. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of services aimed at elderly residents and outreach and education regarding elder financial abuse.
Agency/Group/Organization	Maine Council for Elder Abuse Prevention
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Elderly Persons, Services – Victims

What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs, Anti-poverty Strategy
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and a co-chair of the Maine Council for Elder Abuse Prevention. The consultation was conducted via webinar. No areas for improved coordination were identified during the consultation. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of services aimed at elderly residents and outreach and education regarding elder financial abuse.
Agency/Group/Organization	HAVEN
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Housing, Services – Children, Services – Victims of Domestic Violence, Services – Homeless, Services – Victims, Regional organization
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment, Homeless Needs – Families with children, Homelessness Strategy, Non-Homeless Special Needs
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Executive Director at HAVEN. The consultation was conducted in person. Areas for improved coordination identified were coordination of services for domestic violence survivors and multipronged efforts to increase affordable housing for both survivors and agency staff. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of affordable housing and workforce housing initiatives.
Agency/Group/Organization	University of New Hampshire
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Education, Other government – State, Major Employer
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment, Other – Natural Hazard Mitigation

Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and University of New Hampshire staff. The consultation was conducted via webinar. No areas for improved coordination were identified. Anticipated outcomes include the inclusion of natural hazard mitigation measures, such as storm water management techniques, in public facilities and infrastructure projects.
Agency/Group/Organization	U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government – Federal
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment, Other – Natural Hazard Mitigation
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and a consultant with the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The consultation was conducted via webinar. No areas for improved coordination were identified. Anticipated outcomes include the inclusion of natural hazard mitigation measures, such as storm water management techniques, in public facilities and infrastructure projects.
Agency/Group/Organization	Welfare Office, City of Rochester
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Housing, Services – Homeless, Services – Employment, Other government – Local, Grantee Department
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment, Homeless Needs – Chronically homeless, Homeless Needs – Families with children, Homeless Needs – Veterans, Homeless Needs – Unaccompanied youth, Homelessness Strategy
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the City of Rochester Welfare Director. The consultation was conducted in-person. Areas for improved coordination identified were better plan coordination and resource sharing between the county and municipalities. Anticipated outcomes include initiatives and funding support aimed at low-barrier services for chronically homeless residents and unsheltered homeless residents.

Agency/Group/Organization	Welfare Office, City of Dover
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Housing, Services – Homeless, Services – Employment, Other government – Local
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment, Homeless Needs – Chronically homeless, Homeless Needs – Families with children, Homeless Needs – Veterans, Homeless Needs – Unaccompanied youth, Homelessness Strategy
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the City of Dover Welfare Director. The consultation was conducted in-person. Areas for improved coordination identified were better plan coordination and resource sharing between the county and municipalities. Anticipated outcomes include initiatives and funding support aimed at low-barrier services for chronically homeless residents and unsheltered homeless residents.
Agency/Group/Organization	Tri-City Consumers’ Action Cooperative
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Persons with Disabilities
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment, Homeless Needs – Chronically homeless, Homeless Needs – Families with children, Homeless Needs – Veterans, Homeless Needs – Unaccompanied youth, Homelessness Strategy
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the executive director of the Tri-City Consumers’ Action Cooperative. The consultation was conducted in-person. Areas for improved coordination identified were better plan coordination and resource sharing between the county and municipalities. Anticipated outcomes include initiatives and funding support aimed at low-barrier services for chronically homeless residents, unsheltered homeless residents, and homeless residents with mental illnesses, developmental disabilities, and/or substance use disorders.
Agency/Group/Organization	Cross Roads House
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Housing, Services – Homeless

What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment, Homeless Needs – Chronically homeless, Homeless Needs – Families with children, Homeless Needs – Veterans, Homelessness Strategy
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the executive director at Cross Roads House. The consultation was conducted in-person. Areas for improved coordination identified were better plan coordination and resource sharing between the county and municipalities. Anticipated outcomes include initiatives and funding support aimed at low-barrier services for chronically homeless residents and unsheltered homeless residents.
Agency/Group/Organization	Region 6 Integrated Delivery Network
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Housing, Services – Homeless, Services – Health, Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care, Other government – County
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment, Homeless Needs – Chronically homeless, Homeless Needs – Families with children, Homeless Needs – Veterans, Homelessness Strategy
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the director of population health for the Region 6 Integrated Delivery Network. The consultation was conducted in-person. Areas for improved coordination identified were better plan coordination and resource sharing between the county and municipalities. Anticipated outcomes include initiatives and funding support aimed at low-barrier services for chronically homeless residents and unsheltered homeless residents.
Agency/Group/Organization	Rochester Housing Authority Tenant Advisory Board
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing, PHA, Services – Housing, Other government – Local

What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment, Public Housing Needs, Homeless Needs – Chronically homeless, Homelessness Strategy, Non-Homeless Special Needs, Anti-poverty Strategy, Other – Transportation, food insecurity, sidewalk and road infrastructure
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator, the director of Rochester Housing Authority, and the Rochester Housing Authority Tenant Advisory Board. The consultation was conducted in-person. No areas for improved coordination were identified. Anticipated outcomes include initiatives and funding support for affordable housing, substance use disorder recovery and mental health services, and public infrastructure improvements in low to moderate income neighborhoods.
Agency/Group/Organization	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing, Services – Housing, Services – Children, Services – Homeless, Other government – Federal
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs – Unaccompanied youth, Homelessness Strategy
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development staff. The consultation was conducted via webinar. An area for improved coordination identified was to include youth as active collaborators and partners in youth homelessness initiatives. Anticipated outcomes include initiatives and funding support for homeless services and homeless prevention initiatives, as well as coordination with the Rochester School Department’s homeless student liaison to better serve homeless youth.
Agency/Group/Organization	National Youth Forum on Homelessness
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Housing, Services – Children, Services – Homeless
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs – Unaccompanied youth, Homelessness Strategy

Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and staff from the National Youth Forum on Homelessness. The consultation was conducted via webinar. An area for improved coordination identified was to include youth as active collaborators and partners in youth homelessness initiatives. Anticipated outcomes include initiatives and funding support for homeless services and homeless prevention initiatives, as well as coordination with the Rochester School Department’s homeless student liaison to better serve homeless youth.
Agency/Group/Organization	Atlantic Broadband
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders, Major Employer, Other – Broadband Provider
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – Broadband access
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Senior Commercial Account Executive from Atlantic Broadband. The consultation was conducted via email. No areas of improved coordination were identified. Anticipated outcomes include initiatives and funding support for greater broadband access for lower-income residents.
Agency/Group/Organization	Stafford County Addiction Taskforce
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Persons with Disabilities, Services – Health, Health Agency, Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care, Other government - County
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs, Other – Substance use disorders
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the members of the Stafford County Addition Taskforce. The consultation was conducted in person. An area of improved coordination identified was the need to avoid unnecessary duplication of services. Anticipated outcomes include affordable recovery housing initiatives, respite housing initiatives, and continued support for peer to peer recovery services.

Agency/Group/Organization	New Hampshire Municipal Association
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - State
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Other – Broadband access
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and consultants and staff for the New Hampshire Municipal Association. The consultation was conducted in person. No areas of improved consultation were identified. Anticipated outcomes include collaboration with other City of Rochester departments on ensuring broadband access providers are able to construct and maintain broadband infrastructure within the City of Rochester.
Agency/Group/Organization	New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Division
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Health, Health Agency, Other government – State
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Lead-based Paint Strategy
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Health Officer Liaison at the Public Health Division of the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. The consultation was conducted in person. An area of improved coordination identified was to pool financial and other resources with the county to initiate lead safety programs in the Strafford County region. Anticipated outcomes include increased blood lead level testing of children ages 0 to 6 and increased residential lead abatement within the City of Rochester.
Agency/Group/Organization	University of New Hampshire, Carsey School of Public Policy
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Education, Other government – State, Civic Leaders
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Lead-based Paint Strategy

Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and NH Listens program staff at the Carsey School of Public Policy at the University of New Hampshire. The consultation was conducted in person. An area of improved coordination identified was to pool financial and other resources with the county to initiate lead safety programs in the Strafford County region. Anticipated outcomes include increased blood lead level testing of children ages 0 to 6 and increased residential lead abatement within the City of Rochester.
Agency/Group/Organization	New England AIDS Education and Training Center
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Persons with HIV/AIDS, Services – Health, Services – Education, Regional organization
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	HOPWA Strategy
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and staff at the New England AIDS Education and Training Center. The consultation was conducted via webinar. No areas of improved coordination were identified. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of mental health services and substance use disorder prevention and recovery services, due to the correlation between HIV/AIDS, mental health, and substance use disorders.
Agency/Group/Organization	Court-Appointed Special Advocates of New Hampshire
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Children, Services – Victims of Domestic Violence, Child Welfare Agency, Regional Organization
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs – Families with children, Homeless Needs – Unaccompanied youth, Non-Homeless Special Needs, Other – needs of abused/neglected children

Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the Development Director and GAL Program Director at Court-Appointed Special Advocates of New Hampshire (CASA of NH). The consultation was conducted in person. No areas of improved coordination were identified. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of child abuse and neglect prevention and legal services, the funding of substance use disorder recovery and treatment services, and the funding of homeless shelters and other homeless services, as CASA of NH has seen significant increases in the number of cases related to substance use disorders and homelessness.
Agency/Group/Organization	AIDS Response Seacoast
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services – Persons with HIV/AIDS, Services – Health, Regional Organization
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	HOPWA Strategy
Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the executive director for AIDS Response Seacoast. The consultation was conducted in person. No areas of improved coordination were identified. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of mental health services and substance use disorder prevention and recovery services, due to the correlation between HIV/AIDS, mental health, and substance use disorders.
Agency/Group/Organization	Rochester Main Street
Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders, Civic Leaders, Business and Civic Leaders
What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis, Economic Development, Other – Downtown revitalization

<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>This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the executive director for Rochester Main Street. The consultation was conducted in person. An area of improved coordination identified was to hold quarterly meetings between Rochester Main Street and the Rochester Community Development Division to provide shared updates and brainstorm areas for collaboration. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of downtown revitalization projects such as parks and downtown code and fire safety improvements.</p>
<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Rochester Economic Development Commission</p>
<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Business Leaders, Civic Leaders, Business and Civic Leaders</p>
<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Market Analysis, Economic Development, Other – Downtown revitalization</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>This consultation was between the Community Development Coordinator and the members of the Rochester Economic Development Commission. The consultation was conducted in person. An area of improved coordination identified was to include the REDC on the list of annual CDBG grant application recipients. Anticipated outcomes include the funding of downtown revitalization projects and facade improvement for commercial buildings.</p>

Table 3 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

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

N/A. All agency types were consulted.

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care	<p>The Rochester Community Development Coordinator serves as the primary liaison between the City of Rochester and the New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care, regularly attends scheduled Continuum of Care meetings in Concord, and shares information received at Continuum meetings with relevant City staff and local public service agencies. Recent Balance of State Continuum of Care planning efforts have focused on chronic homelessness and veterans' homelessness. This Consolidated Plan addresses homelessness through funding of regional homeless shelters, prioritization of permanent supportive housing projects, and preventing homelessness through funding of rental assistance programs and home weatherization programs.</p>
2018 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan	Strafford Regional Planning Commission	<p>This report discusses natural hazard planning, focusing on flooding and storms. This Consolidated Plan addresses hazard mitigation planning in several sections, focused mainly on public infrastructure projects.</p>

<p>Downtown Density Draft Recommendations</p>	<p>BendonAdams and City of Rochester Planning Department</p>	<p>This report discusses how increasing density limits in the Rochester downtown can encourage increased housing development and more affordable housing development in the downtown. This Consolidated Plan addresses affordable housing creation and retention through continual review of land use ordinances, housing rehabilitation programs, and rental assistance programs.</p>
<p>The Opioid Crisis in Rural and Small Town America</p>	<p>University of New Hampshire Carsey Institute of Public Policy</p>	<p>This report discusses substance use disorders in rural communities, where opioid mortality rates have grown faster. This Consolidated Plan addresses substance use disorders through mental health services, as substance use is often a co-occurring condition, and through substance use disorder recovery services.</p>
<p>Parental Substance Use in New Hampshire</p>	<p>University of New Hampshire Carsey Institute</p>	<p>This report discusses substance use disorders in New Hampshire, focusing on the effects on families with children. This Consolidated Plan addresses substance use disorders through mental health services, as substance use is often a co-occurring condition, and through substance use disorder recovery services.</p>

<p>2017 Community Benefits Report</p>	<p>Wentworth-Douglass Hospital</p>	<p>This report lists top health concerns as affordability of care, mental health access, aging population needs, and substance abuse disorder recovery treatment. This Consolidated Plan prioritizes funding for mental health and substance use disorder recovery services, as well as supports for chronically homeless residents, who disproportionately experience mental illnesses and/or substance use disorders.</p>
<p>Strengthening Systems for Ending Rural Homelessness</p>	<p>U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness</p>	<p>This report discusses how one-third of rural rental units are occupied by elderly persons and high utility costs associated with poor insulation. This Consolidated Plan focuses on housing rehabilitation that includes weatherization to ensure homes remain affordable for low-moderate income homeowners.</p>
<p>Worst Case Housing Needs: 2017 Report to Congress</p>	<p>U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development</p>	<p>This report discusses that housing needs are primarily comprised of a lack of affordable housing versus substandard housing. This Consolidated Plan prioritizes affordable housing through a multi-pronged approach including land use regulation reassessments, housing rehabilitation, and rental assistance programs.</p>
<p>Child Care Expenses Make Middle-Class Incomes Hard to Reach</p>	<p>University of New Hampshire Carsey Institute of Public Policy</p>	<p>This report discusses how increasing child care expenses disproportionately impact working-class families with children. This Consolidated Plan includes child care center services under potential public service agency and public facility projects.</p>

<p>Measuring New Hampshire’s Municipalities: Economic Disparities and Fiscal Capacities</p>	<p>New Hampshire Fiscal Policy Institute</p>	<p>This report notes that the City of Rochester has a lower median household income compared to the statewide average and that Rochester has a high percentage of SNAP participants as residents. This Consolidated Plan addresses these issues through its antipoverty strategy, which includes affordable housing assistance and projects, educational and vocational services, and housing rehabilitation services.</p>
<p>2018 New Hampshire Residential Rental Costs Survey</p>	<p>New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority</p>	<p>This report notes a five-year increase of 19.7% in rental costs in Strafford County and a 2.6% vacancy rate. This Consolidated Plan addresses the lack of affordable housing land use regulation reassessments, housing rehabilitation, and rental assistance programs.</p>
<p>10-Year Mental Health Plan (2018-2028)</p>	<p>New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services</p>	<p>This report recommends the development of comprehensive approaches that link mental health care, substance use disorder treatment, and physical health care. This Consolidated Plan addresses both mental health and substance use disorders through prioritizing these populations for housing assistance and health care services.</p>

<p>Home, Together: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness</p>	<p>U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness</p>	<p>This report emphasizes the utility of approaches such as Housing First, rapid rehousing, and coordinated approaches. This Consolidated Plan prioritizes Housing First homeless reduction approaches and discusses City of Rochester participation in both the New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care and more regional coalitions such as the Tri-City Homeless Task Force.</p>
<p>Sea-Level Rise, Storm Surges, and Extreme Precipitation in Coastal New Hampshire: Analysis of Past and Projected Future Trends</p>	<p>Science and Technical Advisory Panel, New Hampshire Coastal Risks and Hazards Commission</p>	<p>This report anticipates a 2 to 6.6 foot sea level rise and 15% increase in extreme precipitation events by 2050. This Consolidated Plan addresses hazard mitigation planning in several sections, focused mainly on public infrastructure projects.</p>
<p>2018 Climate Adaptation Plan</p>	<p>City of Dover, NH</p>	<p>This report outlines a variety of mitigation strategies, aimed mainly at addressing flooding and extreme heat events. This Consolidated Plan addresses hazard mitigation planning in several sections, focused mainly on public infrastructure projects.</p>
<p>2018 Update to Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan</p>	<p>City of Rochester, NH</p>	<p>This report addresses a variety of natural hazards, especially the rise in extreme winter weather events due to climate change. This Consolidated Plan addresses hazard mitigation planning in several sections, focused mainly on public infrastructure projects. Such projects will be planned and implemented in concordance with the 2018 Update to the City of Rochester’s Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.</p>

2017-2018 Impact Report	HAVEN	This report discusses domestic violence trends in the Seacoast, NH region, including the adoption of Housing First model and increases in clients served. This Consolidated Plan addresses the needs of domestic violence survivors through funding of supportive services and Housing First programs.
Community Services Block Grant State Plan – 2018-2019	State of New Hampshire	This report discusses 2018-2019 planning for state CSBG funding, which focuses on anti-poverty activities and programs run by the regional Community Action Agencies. This Consolidated Plan addresses anti-poverty needs through a variety of different program and activity prioritizations, such as affordable housing activities, homeless services, and educational and vocational services.
Current Estimates and Trends in New Hampshire’s Housing Supply – 2010-2017 Update	New Hampshire Office of Strategic Initiatives	This report discusses an increase in housing supply, with the highest growth in southeastern New Hampshire. This Consolidated Plan addresses increasing affordable housing through a variety of approaches, including land use policy analysis, rental assistance, and city incentivizing of affordable housing construction.

<p>Employment Trends Among People Living in Publicly Supported Homes – December 2018</p>	<p>Public and Affordable Housing Research Corporation</p>	<p>This report discusses that most public housing residents who are able to work are working but that increasingly jobs require post-secondary education and training. This Consolidated Plan addresses the needs of public housing residents through the City of Rochester’s Section 3 policies and through educational and vocational services for lower-income residents.</p>
<p>2018 Community Needs Assessment</p>	<p>Community Action Partnership of Strafford County</p>	<p>This report discusses the community needs of lower-income Strafford County residents, focusing on housing and homelessness, substance use disorder treatment and recovery, and transportation. This Consolidated Plan focuses on homeless services and affordable housing needs, as well as plans to support substance use disorder recovery services.</p>
<p>2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Plan</p>	<p>Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization</p>	<p>This plan discusses the need for continued public transit support and expansion, ensuring pedestrian safety and sidewalk accessibility, and ensuring infrastructure sustainability. This Consolidated Plan focuses on public transit needs as they relate to lower-income residents, residents with disabilities, and elderly residents.</p>
<p>2018 State of Homelessness in New Hampshire</p>	<p>New Hampshire Coalition to End Homelessness</p>	<p>This report discusses homelessness trends statewide as well as economic and housing market factors that impact homelessness. This Consolidated Plan focuses on homeless services and affordable housing needs.</p>

2018 Annual Report	Cross Roads House	This report discusses homelessness trends and services provided in the Seacoast New Hampshire region. This Consolidated Plan focuses on homeless services, permanent supportive housing, and affordable housing needs.
Climate Adaptation Policy	Town of Exeter, New Hampshire	This report discusses climate adaptation strategies the Town of Exeter plans to use to address climate change issues such as severe weather, sea-level rise, and storm surges/flooding. This Consolidated Plan addresses hazard mitigation planning in several sections, focused mainly on public infrastructure projects.
New Hampshire STD/HIV Summary Report: 2013-2017	New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services, Infectious Disease Surveillance Section	This report discusses STD and HIV/AIDS infection rates both statewide and on the county level. This Consolidated Plan addresses the specific needs of residents with HIV/AIDS in its needs assessment section.
Downtown Rochester Housing Workshop Final Report	City of Rochester, NH; Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast	This report discusses downtown housing and revitalization needs. This Consolidated Plan prioritizes the downtown area for public infrastructure and facilities projects, as well as affordable housing projects.
Affordable Single-Family Housing Study – August 2018	New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority	This study discusses the importance of land subsidies and financing incentives to encourage affordable housing development. This Consolidated Plan addresses affordable housing challenges and solutions in supporting rental assistance programs and the exploration of municipal-level affordable housing development incentives.

<p>Affordable Rental Housing Developments: Characteristics of Residents of New Hampshire Low Income Housing Tax Credit Apartments</p>	<p>New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority</p>	<p>This report discusses the demographics of residents of Low Income Housing Tax Credit housing and homeownership barriers for these residents. This Consolidated Plan addresses homeownership barriers in the housing market analysis section.</p>
<p>Moving the Needle on Youth Homelessness in New Hampshire</p>	<p>True Colors Fund and National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty</p>	<p>This report discusses youth homelessness needs in New Hampshire. This Consolidated Plan addresses youth homelessness through various homeless services and homeless prevention initiatives, as well as consultations and collaborations with Rochester School District homeless liaison personnel.</p>
<p>Economic Development Strategic Plan Update – 2018</p>	<p>The City of Rochester – Economic Development Office</p>	<p>This plan outlines a need for more affordable housing for Rochester’s workforce; a need for higher-paying jobs, as much of the Rochester economy is based on lower-paying retail work; a need for downtown revitalization; and a need for continued education to support economic growth and the reduction and elimination of poverty in the long term. This Consolidated Plan addresses these identified needs through a prioritization of affordable housing and downtown revitalization initiatives, support for educational and vocational programs such as the Dover Adult Learning Center and MY TURN, and the Job Opportunity Benefit (JOB) revolving loan fund.</p>

<p>Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy – 2018 Update</p>	<p>Strafford Regional Planning Commission</p>	<p>The updated CEDS discusses a growth in the regional economy’s retail sector, which is lower-paying than manufacturing; infrastructure and public transit needs; hazard mitigation planning, and the continuing need for workforce training programs. This Consolidated Plan addresses these identified needs through support for educational and vocational programs such as the Dover Adult Learning Center and MY TURN, inclusion of hazard mitigation measures in public infrastructure and facility projects, and the Job Opportunity Benefit (JOB) revolving loan fund.</p>
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<p>Tri-City Mayors' Joint Task Force on Homelessness Master Plan</p>	<p>Tri-City Homelessness Coalition (City of Rochester, City of Dover, City of Somersworth)</p>	<p>This master plan outlines several key strategies for addressing homelessness at the regional levels, including the creation of more affordable housing, supporting access to mental health and education services, and services for the treatment and prevention of substance use disorders. This Consolidated Plan addresses these identified needs through support for educational and vocational programs such as the Dover Adult Learning Center and MY TURN, support for mental health services such as those provided by Tri-City Consumers' Cooperative and Community Partners, and support for substance use disorder services such as those provided by SOS Recovery Center. This Consolidated Plan also prioritizes the creation and retention of affordable housing through rental assistance programs, weatherization programs, and permanent supportive housing programs.</p>
<p>Green Infrastructure Options to Reduce Flooding</p>	<p>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration</p>	<p>This guidebook provides suggestions and analyses for various infrastructure solutions to reduce flooding and damages from extreme storm water events. This Consolidated Plan addresses hazard mitigation planning in several sections, focused mainly on public infrastructure projects. The NOAA guidelines will be used to analyze green infrastructure inclusion opportunities for these projects.</p>

<p>New Hampshire State Plan on Aging – 2019-2023</p>	<p>Bureau of Elderly and Adult Services, NH Department of Health and Human Services</p>	<p>This report discusses current and future needs of the State of New Hampshire’s elderly residents, including accessible transportation, meal delivery services, affordable housing, and in-home health care. This Consolidated Plan focuses on public transit needs as they relate to lower-income residents, residents with disabilities, and elderly residents; various affordable housing initiatives, including weatherization assistance for low-income, primarily elderly residents; and funding for various social service agencies such as Strafford Nutrition Meals on Wheels.</p>
<p>2018 Annual Report</p>	<p>Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast</p>	<p>This report discusses current workforce housing needs for the Seacoast region and regional housing initiatives, including accessory dwelling units. This Consolidated Plan focuses on affordable housing (including workforce housing at the upper end of “affordable”) through supporting rental assistance programs and the exploration of municipal-level affordable housing development incentives.</p>

Community Health Needs Assessment – January 2019	Frisbie Memorial Hospital	This report discusses prioritized health needs for the Frisbie Memorial Hospital service area, which is centered in the City of Rochester. Prioritized health needs include mental health services, substance use disorder treatment and prevention services, senior services, and dental health care. This Consolidated Plan addresses these identified needs through support for mental health services such as those provided by Tri-City Consumers’ Cooperative and Community Partners and support for substance use disorder services such as those provided by SOS Recovery Center.
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Table 4 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Describe cooperation and coordination with other public entities, including the State and any adjacent units of general local government, in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan (91.215(I))

During the consultation process, the Community Development Coordinator met with state officials, such as Bureau of Housing and Homeless Services staff from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, and officials of other regional municipalities, such as community development staff from the cities of Dover and Portsmouth. The Community Development Coordinator discussed potential areas of coordination and cooperation during these consultations. Consolidated Plan implementation will involve exploring state coordination possibilities on lead-based paint testing and abatement efforts and coordination of regional homeless services and affordable housing programs with the cities of Dover and Portsmouth. In addition, the City of Rochester plans to coordinate with the quasi-governmental Rochester Housing Authority on fair housing activities and economic opportunities for public housing residents.

Narrative (optional):

N/A.

PR-15 Citizen Participation

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

The PY 2020-2025 Citizen Participation Plan developed for the PY 2020-2025 allows the allocation of City of Rochester's CDBG and other financial resources to be as inclusive of all citizens as possible. All official public hearing notices and other important documents will be posted in accordance with the City of Rochester's Language Access Plan, is available on the Community Development Division webpages at <http://www.rochesternh.net/community-development-division/pages/policies-and-procedures>.

Public Hearing (First): Public is gathered at a formal public hearing, held prior to the City Council workshop in December. This meeting is intended to solicit the public's feedback on current CDBG projects and performance, perceived needs for future projects, and general opinions and concerns regarding community development in the City of Rochester. This meeting is held in a location that is accessible to people with physical disabilities. Accommodations for people with visual or hearing impairments, as well as accommodations for Limited English Proficiency speakers, are made upon request.

Application Evaluation Process: All CDBG applications are reviewed by staff, and recommendations are relayed to the City's Community Development Committee. The Community Development Committee is comprised of five current city councilors. The Community Development Committee scores each application according to the City's identified priorities and needs, prioritizing those identified through public consultation processes.

Public Hearing (Second): The draft Consolidated Plan is subject to a public hearing (preceding the April City Council workshop or May City Council meeting). The same processes and requirements for the first public hearing are maintained for the second hearing. (Note: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic in spring 2020, the City of Rochester changed its usual public hearing procedures to allow for public input during the public hearing while still ensuring participant safety and social distancing. Per Executive Order by Governor Sununu, scheduled gatherings of 10 or more people were be prohibited. Therefore, those wishing to share comment with the Council were encouraged to do so by email (PublicInput@rochesternh.net) or by leaving a voicemail (603-330-7107). Voicemail had to be received no later than 12:00 p.m. on said meeting date in order to be transcribed and email correspondence had to be received no later than 5:00 p.m. of said meeting date. All email and voicemail communications were included with the Council packet as an addendum.

Public Comments Period: Comments are accepted throughout the Consolidated Plan preparation processes via in-person meetings, postal mail, telephone, and electronic means of communication. In addition, a formal 30-day public comments period is announced via publishing in one or more general newspapers of local circulation. Free copies of the plan will be made available for public review. (Note: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic in spring 2020, electronic copies of the plan were made available via the city’s website and via email request.)

Substantial Amendments: Creation of new goals, funding of entirely new activities, and/or changes in funding in excess of \$50,000 triggers review by the Community Development Committee. The Community Development Committee evaluates changes to the Consolidated Plan, and their recommendations are forwarded to the City Council for further input as needed. Substantial amendments to the Consolidated Plan herein are subject to the public participation process, outlined above, as well as to full City Council approval.

All other amendments are considered minor and are not subject to the public participation process. Instead, the minor amendment will be posted to the Community Development Division’s webpages and made available to the general public upon request.

Emergency Circumstances: In the case of emergency circumstances (including but not limited to federal- or state-declared natural disasters, regional natural disasters, large-scale pandemics, severe economic recessions and depressions, etc.), the City of Rochester may waive or streamline citizen participation requirements in order to address the emergency circumstances in a timely fashion. Such streamlining may include forgoing public hearings or holding virtual public hearings, reducing the days in the public comments period, and other such measures.

Complaints: The Community Development Division will respond to all citizen complaints submitted in writing within fifteen (15) business days. This response may be a statement that more time is needed to provide a more substantive response, in which case the substantive response will be provided within thirty (30) business days.

Impacts on Goal-Setting: Citizen participation affected goal-setting in a number of key areas. Citizens’ comments on various public service agencies that had been funded previously and/or were applying for PY 2021 funding were included in the Community Development Coordinator’s analysis of public service agency grant applications and funding recommendations. Citizens’ comments

on the primary areas of need for the City included the City's homeless population, economic and workforce development, and rise in substance abuse were incorporated into the Consolidated Plan's objectives and goals.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
In-person	Downtown residents and businesses	About 20 residents/business owners	Need for downtown beautification, green spaces, more housing, fewer vacancies, more consequences for negligent landlords	N/A. All comments were accepted.	N/A
In-person	Elderly residents and social services providers	About 40 residents and service providers	Need for more transportation, walkable communities/access to community resources, palliative care, Alzheimer's/dementia, lack of home care providers workforce, need for better education on existing resources and better partnerships between resource providers	N/A. All comments were accepted.	N/A

Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
In-person	Residents of Ward 4/General Public	About 5 residents, 2 police officers	Concerns regarding increase in drug events and overdoses, concerns regarding unsheltered homeless persons, support for funding for veterans' services, support for SOS Recovery Center, suggestion for more recreational options for youth such as music or teen center, especially in East Rochester.	N/A. All comments were accepted.	
In-person	Residents of Ward 5/General Public	About 2 residents, 1 city councilor, 2 police officers	Support for East Rochester Library projects, support for permanent supportive housing projects, support for a teen center.	N/A. All comments were accepted.	

Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
In-person	Residents of Ward 6/General Public	About 10 residents, 2 city councilors	Concerns regarding sidewalk conditions and safety, support for downtown percussion wall, support for Homeless Center for Strafford County, support for Rochester Public Library projects, lack of support for Strafford CAP funding, support for MY TURN funding, suggestion for a seasonal ice rink at the Rochester Commons.	N/A. All comments were accepted.	

Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
In-person	General Public	About 16 residents	This was a public meeting held to gather input in drafting an updated Transportation Master Plan. Comments were offered on needs for a more walkable downtown, improved sidewalks for pedestrian safety, traffic calming in the downtown, a desire for dog parks, and support for the Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST).	N/A. All comments were accepted.	

Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
In-person	Residents of Ward 3/General Public	About 24 residents, 1 police officer	Concerns were offered about residential and public facility accessibility, concerns about transportation, support for Statewide Independent Living, need for school bus stops, concerns regarding unsheltered homeless residents, concerns about substance use disorders.	N/A. All comments were accepted.	
In-person	Residents of Ward 2/General Public	About 9 residents, 2 city councilors	Concerns were offered about thefts and burglaries; about homelessness, mental health, and substance use disorders; and regarding playground safety at McClelland School. Support was expressed for school accessibility projects.	N/A. All comments were accepted.	

Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
In-person	Residents of Ward 1/General Public	About 18 residents, 1 police officer	Concerns were expressed regarding about homelessness, conditions of streets, reuse of Gafney Home building, vandalism, emergency evacuation from Tara Estates manufactured home park due to only one entrance.	N/A. All comments were accepted.	
Public Hearing	General residents	No residents	No comments were received.	N/A. No comments were received.	
Public Comments	General residents	No residents	No comments were received.	N/A. No comments were received.	
Public Hearing	General residents	No residents	No comments were received.	N/A. No comments were received.	

Table 5 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Needs Assessment

NA-05 Overview

Needs Assessment Overview

The PY 2020-2025 Consolidated Plan objectives are based on the extensive research and consultations that the Community Development Coordinator conducted with local public service agencies, relevant government agencies and departments, and the general citizenry. The City of Rochester commits to prioritizing activities and projects that meet a combination of the most important basic needs and longer-term important needs of the City's marginalized individuals and families, primarily homeless residents, low-moderate income residents, and residents with mental illness and/or substance use disorders.

All programs and activities are aimed at meeting one or more of HUD's outcomes for CDBG funding: to provide decent housing, to provide a suitable living environment, and to expand economic opportunities. The individual activities were established to meet HUD outcomes and are those seen to meet the needs of the City's low- to moderate-income population as identified at present and projected over the next five years.

Program Goal: To Provide Decent Housing

HUD Outcome Performance Measure	Proposed Activities
Assisting Homeless Persons to Obtain Affordable Housing and Assisting Persons at Risk of Homelessness	Support of homeless shelters, including emergency shelters and permanent supportive housing, for homeless persons and other vulnerable groups, including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and low-income persons at risk for homelessness (including persons with substance use disorder and persons with mental illnesses), including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Support for permanent supportive housing projects
	Continued participation in local coalitions of service providers (e.g., Balance of State

	Continuum of Care, Tri-City Homelessness Task Force, Home for All Coalition)
Retention and Creation of Affordable Housing Stock	Support of weatherization and other energy efficiency efforts to provide long-term and sustainable affordability to low-income homeowners, including flooding mitigation and extreme winter storm mitigation renovations, as applicable
	Support of housing rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing and remediation
	Support for workforce housing and affordable housing projects, including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Support for permanent supportive housing projects, including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and low-income persons at risk for homelessness (including persons with substance use disorder and persons with mental illnesses), including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Funding allocations for accessibility features (e.g., wheelchair ramps, lifts, etc.) in residential buildings

Program Goal: To Provide a Suitable Living Environment

HUD Outcome Performance Measure	Proposed Activities
Providing Services and Aid for LMI Residents and Other Vulnerable Residents in Response to Emergency and Disaster Events (Such as the COVID-19 Pandemic)	Support for emergency response-related services such as food pantries and food deliveries, rental assistance for LMI persons who have lost income sources, sanitation and other services for unsheltered homeless persons, etc.

	Support for non-profits engaged in CDBG-eligible activities that have lost funding due to emergency situations, natural disasters, etc.
Providing Services for Residents with Substance Use Disorder and Addressing Root Causation	Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and low-income persons at risk for homelessness (including persons with substance use disorder and persons with mental illnesses), including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Support for organizations and programs addressing mental illness (as there is high coincidence of substance abuse and mental illness) and providing substance use disorder treatment and recovery services
	Identification of opportunities to support the creation of local residential treatment facilities for substance use disorder
Improving the Safety and Livability of Neighborhoods	Ongoing coordination with the Department of Public Works for infrastructure improvement projects in low-income neighborhoods, including natural hazard mitigation projects to protect property and lives
	Ongoing coordination with the Recreation Department for improvements and expansions to youth recreational facilities to provide pro-social recreational opportunities for low-income residents, especially low-income youth
	Support of building rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing and remediation
Increasing Access to Quality Public Facilities and Services	Support for public service agencies providing programs and support to low-income populations of greatest need (<i>e.g.</i> , educational and vocational services, legal services for abused and neglected children, medical and paramedical

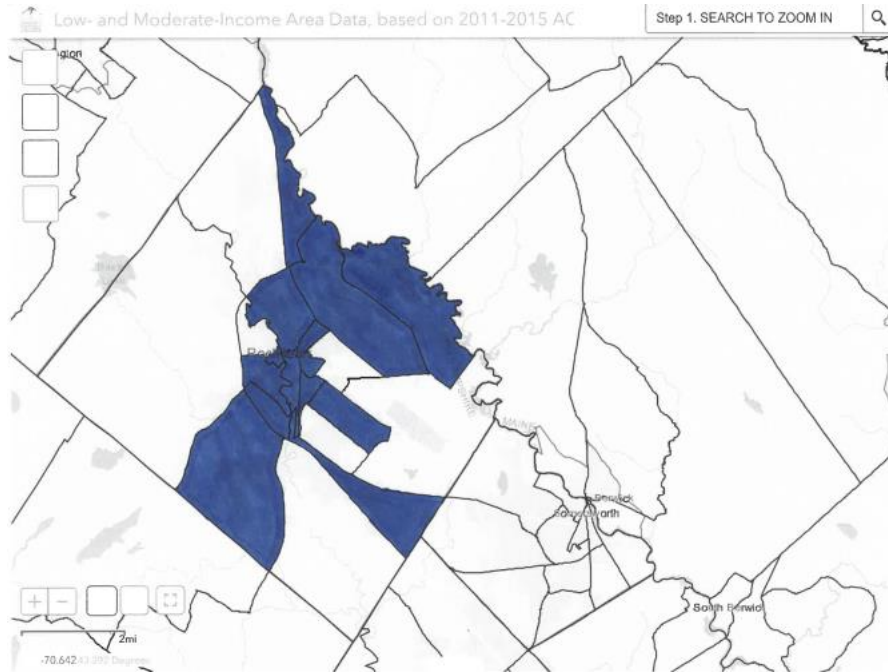
	services for persons living with HIV/AIDS and persons with substance use disorder)
	Renovations to public buildings and public facilities to increase accessibility for all residents, with particular focus on people with disabilities
	Support for regional transportation groups to provide greater access to community resources for low-income residents, as well as elderly residents and people with disabilities
	Continued participation in local coalitions of service providers (e.g., Balance of State Continuum of Care, Tri-City Homelessness Task Force, Home for All Coalition)
Increasing Access to Affordable and Quality Housing for All Residents	Support of housing rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing and remediation
	Support for workforce housing and affordable housing projects, including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Funding allocations for accessibility features (e.g., wheelchair ramps, lifts, etc.) in residential buildings
	Support for fair housing education and outreach efforts, including partnerships with New Hampshire Legal Assistance's Fair Housing Project

Program Goal: To Expand Economic Opportunities

HUD Outcome Performance Measure	Proposed Activities
Establishment, Stabilization, and Expansion of Small Businesses, Including Micro-Businesses	Continue to maintain revolving loan fund for small business financing in exchange for low-moderate income job creation/retention agreements

	Explore financial assistance opportunities for small businesses and LMI owners/LMI employees affected by emergency situations and natural disasters (such as COVID-19 pandemic)
	Coordinate with the Building, Zoning, and Licensing Services Department and private downtown organizations to explore the development and support of a revolving loan fund and/or grant program for code improvements to downtown business owners
Provision of Public Services Concerned with Employment	Support for educational services (including GED equivalency services) for low-income residents, including people with disabilities, other disadvantaged populations, and residents affected by emergency situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic
	Support for vocational and workforce training programs for low-income residents, including people with disabilities, other disadvantaged populations, and residents affected by emergency situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic

In addition, although the entire City of Rochester is 51%+ low to moderate income, Rochester intends to focus its public infrastructure efforts on the census tracts identified as 51%+ low to moderate income by the most recently-available HUD data.



The blue regions, which are 51% or more low to moderate income residents as determined by most recent HUD data, comprise the City of Rochester’s general geographic allocation priority areas for public infrastructure projects. These areas are also priority areas for natural hazard mitigation projects, such as projects to prevent or reduce damages from flooding. The Rochester Public Library and Rochester Community Center are both located within these areas, as well, and both are used by the City of Rochester as cooling/warming centers in cases of extreme heat and extreme cold for homeless, elderly, and other vulnerable residents. Facilities projects at the Rochester Public Library and Rochester Community Center that will improve these buildings’ abilities to continue to serve as cooling and warming centers will be considered for CDBG funding during the PY 2020-2025 period.

NA-10 Housing Needs Assessment - 24 CFR 91.205 (a,b,c)

Summary of Housing Needs

Identified housing needs include increases in affordable housing, workforce housing, and permanent supportive housing; an increase in lead-based paint screening and abatement; and weatherization and accessibility renovations for lower-income homeowners, especially lower-income elderly homeowners. Broadband access does not seem to be a need for our community, however. Consultations with Atlantic Broadband, one of the two broadband service providers in the region, indicate that most if not all areas of the city have broadband access. In addition, the 2019 Community Profile from the Tufts Health Plan Foundation found that 97% of Strafford County residents have access to broadband.

As the below tables indicate, many low to moderate income households are paying significantly over 30% of total income on housing, and the struggles for such households to obtain and keep affordable housing have been confirmed during consultations with many social service agencies who serve this demographic. In particular, the agencies serving the region's homeless populations have reported that there is significant "doubling up" of individuals and families that results in severe overcrowding and that individuals with mental health and/or substance abuse issues experience especially acute troubles in maintaining stable housing.

The need for increased lead-based paint screening and abatement has been determined through consultations with the Healthy Homes & Environment Section of the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services' Division of Public Health Services and referencing the lead-based paint reports published the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. The City of Rochester is identified as one of eight "high risk" communities throughout the state.

The City of Rochester has a relatively high percentage of its housing represented by manufactured homes. This includes a total of eight manufactured home parks, a much higher number than those in neighboring cities. These homes often lack appropriate weatherization, which results in high utilities bills for homeowners who often cannot afford to heat their homes during northern New England's bitterly cold winter season and increasing number of extreme winter weather events. For this reason, weatherization of these homes and/or utilities assistance is needed.

Demographics	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2016	% Change
Population	29,752	29,955	1%
Households	12,268	12,760	4%
Median Income	\$50,382	\$46,979.00	-7%

Table 6 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2015 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households	2,560	2,095	2,795	1,180	4,125
Small Family Households	880	475	1,065	555	2,310
Large Family Households	35	85	130	95	230
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	455	455	720	265	825
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	505	455	300	75	120
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger	365	290	350	114	315

Table 7 - Total Households Table

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Housing Needs Summary Tables

1. Housing Problems (Households with one of the listed needs)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	60	0	75	0	135	20	50	15	0	85
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	0	20	0	0	20	0	0	20	0	20
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	25	40	10	4	79	0	0	0	0	0
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	1,080	120	15	0	1,215	520	250	140	50	960

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	220	520	130	0	870	210	390	650	205	1,455
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	65	0	0	0	65	15	0	0	0	15

Table 8 – Housing Problems Table

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

2. Housing Problems 2 (Households with one or more Severe Housing Problems: Lacks kitchen or complete plumbing, severe overcrowding, severe cost burden)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	1,165	180	95	4	1,444	540	300	180	50	1,070
Having none of four housing problems	510	755	1,010	195	2,470	265	865	1,510	930	3,570
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	65	0	0	0	65	15	0	0	0	15

Table 9 – Housing Problems 2

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

3. Cost Burden > 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	650	195	85	930	160	130	310	600
Large Related	30	10	0	40	0	60	75	135
Elderly	229	130	35	394	435	355	210	1,000
Other	470	340	65	875	150	145	215	510
Total need by income	1,379	675	185	2,239	745	690	810	2,245

Table 10 – Cost Burden > 30%

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

4. Cost Burden > 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	520	25	15	560	145	35	50	230
Large Related	30	0	0	30	0	25	15	40
Elderly	175	25	0	200	260	165	55	480
Other	430	90	0	520	135	75	40	250
Total need by income	1,155	140	15	1,310	540	300	160	1,000

Table 11 – Cost Burden > 50%

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	10	60	45	0	115	0	0	20	0	20

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Multiple, unrelated family households	15	0	0	4	19	0	0	0	0	0
Other, non-family households	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	25	60	45	4	134	0	0	20	0	20

Table 12 – Crowding Information – 1/2

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Households with Children Present	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Table 13 – Crowding Information – 2/2

Describe the number and type of single person households in need of housing assistance.

Consultations with local homeless services providers indicate that single homeless persons are, compared to other homeless subpopulations, disproportionately likely to be chronically homeless or to have a mental illness and/or substance use disorder. Single persons are also more likely to be unsheltered, whereas couples and families who are experiencing homelessness are more likely to be living doubled-up with friends or families or in a motel. Data from the 2018 Annual Homeless Assessment Report found that in New Hampshire 835 individuals experienced homelessness, including 141 chronically homeless individuals, compared to 615 people in families with children who experienced homelessness.

For Rochester specifically, two regional homeless shelters reported serving a total of 110 homeless Rochester residents in PY 2018. Approximately 60% of these were homeless individuals. Of all homeless residents served, about 93% were white, which is a little less than the city’s overall demographic of about 95% white, according to the 2017 ACS estimates. Also, as seen in the tables above, renter households face greater housing burdens than owner households.

In addition, data and consultations with home care providers, assisted living facilities, and other elderly services providers have indicated that many elderly residents live alone on fixed incomes. These residents often need rental assistance or, for homeowners, weatherization assistance in order to continue to maintain their housing.

Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance who are disabled or victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

Data from the 2018 Annual Homeless Assessment Report found that in New Hampshire 835 individuals experienced homelessness, including 141 chronically homeless individuals. The federal definition for chronic homelessness includes the requirement that the person experiencing homelessness be a person with a disability.

In addition to statewide data, local data and consultations indicate significant housing assistance needs among people with disabilities and for victims of domestic and sexual violence. Tri-City Co-op, a peer to peer mental health supportive services agency, served 159 Rochester residents in 2018-2019 and reported that the vast majority of its clients are homeless or have recently experienced homelessness. Community Partners, the state-designated mental health services agency for New Hampshire's Region 9, has reported serving 1073 Rochester residents in 2018 and that 72% of these clients were low to moderate income. Housing issues have become so important for these clients that Community Partners has implemented a rental assistance program for its clients.

Local domestic violence and sexual assault services agencies also report housing issues as being a primary concern for their clients. HAVEN, the largest such provider in the Seacoast New Hampshire region, is planning to increase the size of its current safety shelter, as the shelter is often full because residents cannot locate other housing. As part of addressing these needs, HAVEN currently is piloting Housing First and rapid rehousing program models for clients who need new housing. HAVEN reported serving 545 Rochester residents in 2018, all of whom were low to moderate income.

What are the most common housing problems?

One of the most common housing problems, identified across multiple consultations and in the CHAS data in the tables above, is a continued lack of affordable housing and households spending more than 30% of household income on housing. Average income has not kept pace with average rental costs, and there was a significant slowdown in the production of new housing that only started recovering around 2017. However, according to data from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority and New Hampshire Office of Strategic Initiatives, most of the new housing development post-Great Recession has been higher-priced homes (\$300,000+) aimed at moderate to higher income residents.

Rental vacancy data from December 2018, compiled by the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, shows a 2.8% vacancy rate for Strafford County and a 1% vacancy rate in the neighboring Rockingham County. These vacancy rates represent mostly turnover and mean there are not available units for new renters. Rochester-specific data also shows that the median monthly rent for a two-bedroom apartment has risen from \$1,085/month in 2008 to \$1,566/month in 2018, a 30% increase over the last ten years. As a result, many Rochester residents spend well over 30% of their income on housing, and this is especially true for lower income residents.

The City of Rochester has a relatively high percentage of its housing represented by manufactured homes. This includes a total of eight manufactured home parks, a much higher number than those in neighboring cities. According to New Hampshire Office of Strategic Initiatives data, Rochester had 2,491 manufactured homes in 2017, compared to only 394 manufactured homes in the similarly-sized neighboring City of Dover. This represents about 18% of Rochester's total housing stock. These homes often lack appropriate weatherization, which results in high utilities bills for homeowners (a large number of whom are lower-income and/or elderly residents) who often cannot afford to heat their homes during northern New England's bitterly cold winter season and increasing number of extreme winter weather events.

Are any populations/household types more affected than others by these problems?

According to the most recent Fair Housing Analysis drafted by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission, as well as HUD-derived data, more ethnic and racial minorities rent than own their homes as compared to white residents. Hispanic residents also have the highest level of poverty of all races and ethnicities in the City. In addition, the City of Rochester has a relatively high percentage of residents with disabilities.

While racial and ethnic minorities do not appear to be overrepresented among the City's homeless population, based on recent AHAR reports and consultations with local homeless services providers, people with disabilities (and especially those with mental health-related disabilities) are vastly overrepresented among those reported to be experiencing homelessness. In addition, the City of Rochester has a relatively high percentage of residents with disabilities, especially children with disabilities. According to New Hampshire Department of Education data, nearly all Rochester's elementary schools have higher percentages of students with disabilities (in the range of 17-30% for most) than the state average of 18%.

Describe the characteristics and needs of low-income individuals and families with children (especially extremely low-income) who are currently housed but are at imminent risk of either residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered 91.205(c)/91.305(c)). Also discuss the

needs of formerly homeless families and individuals who are receiving rapid re-housing assistance and are nearing the termination of that assistance

According to the 2018 Community Needs Assessment from the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, 56% of families with children enrolled in Head Start or Early Head Start report living in a single-family household with 85% of those children living with their mother. The report goes on to state that the “significance of this statistic is that a single-parent family reduces the overall household earning capacity by half” and that “[s]ingle-parent families (and female-headed households in particular) are more susceptible to downward economic conditions.” In addition, consultations with the region’s homeless shelter providers indicate that living in a “doubled up” housing situation is often the immediate precursor for entering a homeless shelter or living in unsheltered conditions.

Consultations with homeless shelter service providers and other social services agencies have indicated a primary concern for those receiving rapid re-housing assistance is the need for supportive services for the transition to permanent housing. The Strafford County region currently lacks adequate numbers of transitional and permanent supportive housing units. In particular, support for addressing substance abuse issues and mental illness is needed, given the overrepresentation of persons with substance abuse issues and mental illnesses in the homeless population.

If a jurisdiction provides estimates of the at-risk population(s), it should also include a description of the operational definition of the at-risk group and the methodology used to generate the estimates:

According to data from the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County’s 2018 Community Needs Assessment, an estimated 34 percent of homeowners with mortgages, 21 percent of owners without mortgages, and 49 percent of renters in Strafford County spent 30 percent or more of household income on housing. American Community Survey estimates from 2012-2016 indicate 4,529 occupied rental units in the City of Rochester, about 2,219 of which are spending 30% or more of their household income on housing. These same ACS estimates indicate 8,308 occupied housing units owned by the occupant but do not specify whether the homes are mortgaged.

HUD defines housing cost-burdened families as those “who pay more than 30 percent of their income for housing” and “may have difficulty affording necessities such as food, clothing, transportation, and medical care.” Severe rent burden is defined as paying more than 50 percent of one's income on rent. This is a useful if imperfect proxy for being at-risk, therefore the City of Rochester estimates that 2,219 Rochester families at-risk, which is a low estimate given that it includes renter families only.

Specify particular housing characteristics that have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness

Head Start / Early Head Start 2017 enrollment from the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County shows that 56% of families with children enrolled in Head Start or Early Head Start reported living in a single-family household with 85% of those children living with their mother. The significance of this statistic is that a single-parent family reduces the overall household earning capacity by half. Single-parent families (and female-headed households in particular) are more susceptible to downward economic conditions and with over half of Head Start / Early Head Start children living in a single-family home, the potential need for services is double that of the typical Strafford County family.

In addition, consultations with homeless services providers and other social services agencies indicate that residents who live in “doubled up” housing situations—that is, living with another person or family in an overcrowded housing situation—is often the immediate precursor to entering a homeless shelter or living in unsheltered conditions.

Discussion

N/A.

NA-15 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

Introduction

Housing cost burdens above 30% of household income are a problem for all City residents, with a City-wide percentage of about 38% facing this problem. The percentage of white residents with a housing cost burden above 30% of the household income is only slightly above this at 38.6%. Asian residents have a far greater percentage, however, of 50%, while Hispanic residents have a percentage of 48%.

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	2,130	350	80
White	2,020	350	80
Black / African American	15	0	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	30	0	0

Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,390	710	0
White	1,290	615	0
Black / African American	0	60	0
Asian	55	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	40	25	0

Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,055	1,740	0
White	1,055	1,680	0
Black / African American	0	20	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	0	0

Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	259	920	0
White	244	855	0
Black / African American	0	0	0
Asian	0	10	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	0	0

Table 17 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

Discussion

In addition to the CHAS data, data compiled by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission in its Fair Housing and Equity Assessment report indicates there is a slight concentration of racial and ethnic minorities who rent in the center of the City (Wards 2 and 6), and there is a heavier concentration of racial and ethnic minorities who own their homes in the northwestern portion of the City (Wards 3 and 5). Both these areas overlap, to large extent, the census tracts classified by HUD as 51% or greater low to moderate income.

Overall, the greater needs of specific racial or ethnic minorities in the City of Rochester seem to correlate strongly with economic/income status. Addressing the housing needs of low-income residents will address the needs of low-income racial and ethnic minorities. In addition, addressing the greater rates of poverty among specific racial and ethnic groups in the City indirectly will impact and reduce housing needs. Analysis of the potential barriers to home ownership for racial and ethnic minorities and approaches to reducing these barriers are also needed, especially as home ownership is a traditional anchor of wealth building for American families.

NA-20 Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems – 91.205

(b)(2)

Introduction

Severe housing problems are a problem for all City residents, but there is a strong concentration of severe housing problems for residents making 0-30% of area median income. Specifically, all Black/African-American households and all Hispanic households within this income bracket have one or more of the four housing problems (lacks complete kitchen facilities, lacks complete plumbing facilities, more than 1.5 persons per room, cost burden over 50%). In contrast, no Black/African-American households within the 30-50% AMI or 50-80% AMI brackets have any of the four housing problems, and no Asian households in the 80-100% AMI bracket have any of the four housing problems.

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,705	775	80
White	1,600	770	80
Black / African American	15	0	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	30	0	0

Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than 1.5 persons per room,
4. Cost Burden over 50%

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	480	1,620	0
White	470	1,435	0
Black / African American	0	60	0

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Asian	10	45	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	65	0

Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	275	2,520	0
White	275	2,460	0
Black / African American	0	20	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	0	0

Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	54	1,125	0
White	54	1,045	0
Black / African American	0	0	0
Asian	0	10	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	0	0

Table 21 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

Discussion

Severe housing problems are a problem for all City residents, but there is a strong concentration of severe housing problems for residents making 0-30% of area median income. Specifically, all Black/African-American households and all Hispanic households within this income bracket have one or more of the four housing problems (lacks complete kitchen facilities, lacks complete plumbing facilities, more than 1.5 persons per room, cost burden over 50%). In contrast, no Black/African-American households within the 30-50% AMI or 50-80% AMI brackets have any of the four housing problems, and no Asian households in the 80-100% AMI bracket have any of the four housing problems.

Overall, the greater needs of specific racial or ethnic minorities in the City of Rochester seem to correlate strongly with economic/income status. Addressing the housing needs of low-income residents will address the needs of low-income racial and ethnic minorities. In addition, addressing the greater rates of poverty among specific racial and ethnic groups in the City indirectly will impact and reduce housing needs. Analysis of the potential barriers to home ownership for racial and ethnic minorities and approaches to reducing these barriers are also needed, especially as home ownership is a traditional anchor of wealth building for American families.

NA-25 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens – 91.205 (b)(2)

Introduction

Housing cost burdens above 30% of household income are a problem for all City residents, with a City-wide percentage of about 38% facing this problem. The percentage of white residents with a housing cost burden above 30% of the household income is only slightly above this at 38.6%. Asian residents have a far greater percentage, however, of 50%, while Hispanic residents have a percentage of 48%.

Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	7,775	2,560	2,355	80
White	7,400	2,445	2,250	80
Black / African American	85	0	15	0
Asian	45	45	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Hispanic	75	40	30	0

Table 22 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Discussion:

In addition to the CHAS data, data compiled by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission in its Fair Housing and Equity Assessment report indicates there is a slight concentration of racial and ethnic minorities who rent in the center of the City (Wards 2 and 6), and there is a heavier concentration of racial and ethnic minorities who own their homes in the northwestern portion of the City (Wards 3 and 5). Both these areas overlap, to large extent, the census tracts classified by HUD as 51% or greater low to moderate income.

Overall, the greater needs of specific racial or ethnic minorities in the City of Rochester seem to correlate strongly with economic/income status. Addressing the housing needs of low-income residents will address the needs of low-income racial and ethnic minorities. In addition, addressing the greater rates of poverty among specific racial and ethnic groups in the City indirectly will impact and reduce housing needs. Analysis of the potential barriers to home ownership for racial and ethnic minorities and approaches to reducing these barriers are also needed, especially as home ownership is a traditional anchor of wealth building for American families.

NA-30 Disproportionately Greater Need: Discussion – 91.205(b)(2)

Are there any Income categories in which a racial or ethnic group has disproportionately greater need than the needs of that income category as a whole?

Housing cost burdens above 30% of household income are a problem for all City residents, with a City-wide percentage of about 38% facing this problem. The percentage of white residents with a housing cost burden above 30% of the household income is only slightly above this at 38.6%. Asian residents have a far greater percentage, however, of 50%, while Hispanic residents have a percentage of 48%.

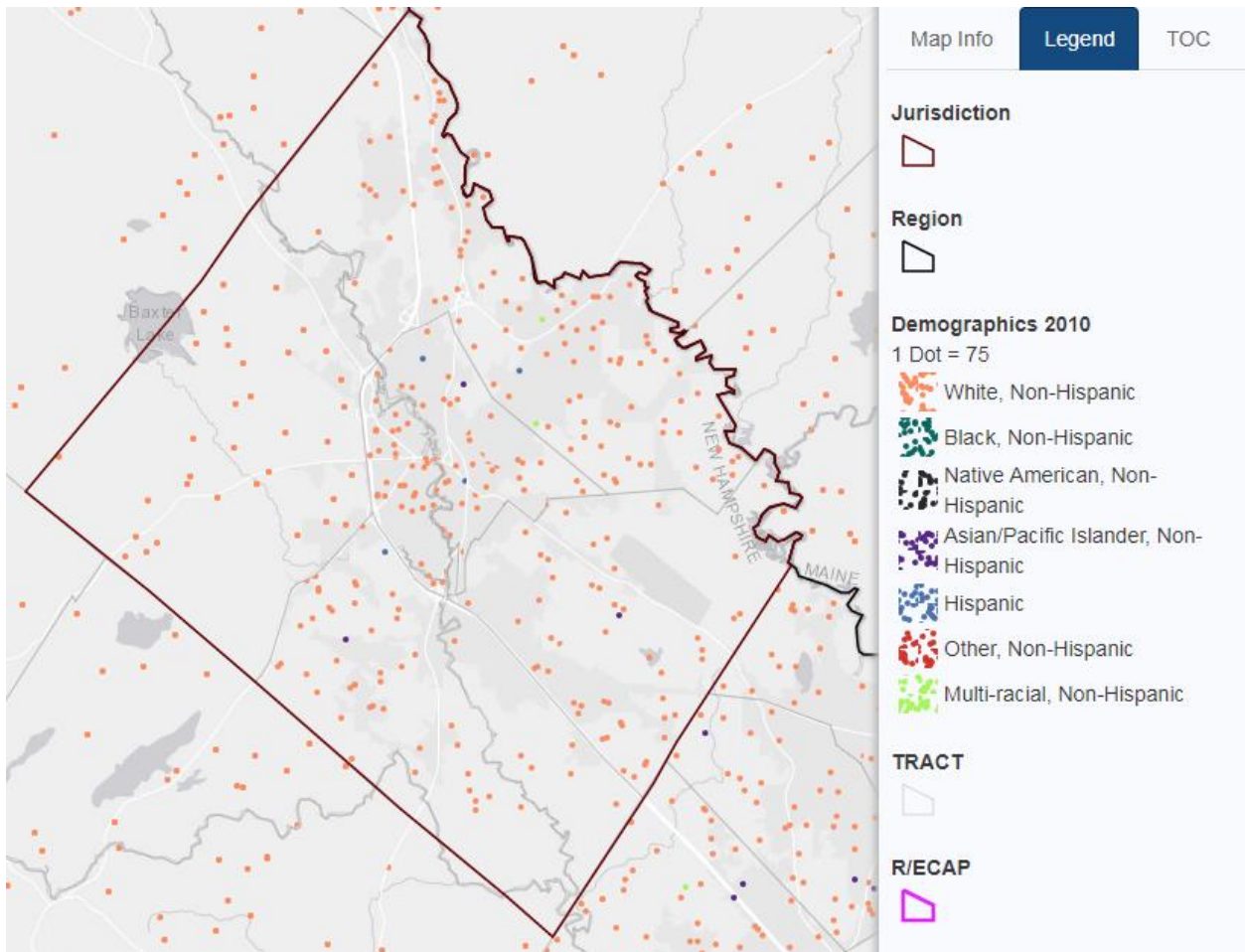
If they have needs not identified above, what are those needs?

Overall, the greater needs of specific racial or ethnic minorities in the City of Rochester seem to correlate strongly with economic/income status. Addressing the housing needs of low-income residents will address the needs of low-income racial and ethnic minorities. In addition, addressing the greater rates of poverty among specific racial and ethnic groups in the City indirectly will impact and reduce housing needs. Analysis of the potential barriers to home ownership for racial and ethnic minorities and approaches to reducing these barriers are also needed, especially as home ownership is a traditional anchor of wealth building for American families.

Are any of those racial or ethnic groups located in specific areas or neighborhoods in your community?

Data compiled by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission in its Fair Housing and Equity Assessment report indicates there is a slight concentration of racial and ethnic minorities who rent in the center of the City (Wards 2 and 6), and there is a heavier concentration of racial and ethnic minorities who own their homes in the northwestern portion of the City (Wards 3 and 5). Both these areas overlap, to large extent, the census tracts classified by HUD as 51% or greater low to moderate income.

Race/ethnicity demographic data and maps supplied by HUD through the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Tool (AFFHT) indicate that there are measurable populations of non-white residents in certain sections of the city. (The full set of maps is available at <https://egis.hud.gov/affht/>.) As seen in the map included below, there are a measurable population of Hispanic residents in the northwest, north-central, and south-central sections of the city; of Asian/Pacific Islander residents in central, south-central, and east-central sections of the city; and of multi-racial residents in the north-central section of the city.



Ethnicity/Racial Demographics Map of the City of Rochester

NA-35 Public Housing – 91.205(b)

Introduction

The City of Rochester’s Community Development Coordinator works with the Rochester Housing Authority (RHA) to identify and address public housing needs, such as the need for accessibility renovations in older housing units and increased transportation options. During the creation of the PY 2020-2025 Consolidated Plan, the Community Development Coordinator consulted with both Rochester Housing Authority staff and the Rochester Housing Authority advisory board on public housing needs and how best the City’s CDBG program can assist in addressing these needs. Such assistance during the PY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan period included installation of handicap-accessible bathrooms in RHA housing units for elderly and/or disabled residents and funding for a postponed RHA renovation project to create permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless residents.

The City of Rochester also plans to continue to support regional rental assistance programs, including rental assistance specifically for people with mental illness and/or developmental disabilities. As the current wait list for RHA housing units and Section 8 vouchers extends to several years, non-governmental rental assistance programs help to bridge the deficient in housing assistance supply. The City of Rochester also plans to explore opportunities to partner with private-sector developers to develop more affordable housing in the city to expand the stock of housing that is affordable both with and without vouchers or other rental assistance.

In addition, Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act (“Section 3”) encourages that economic opportunities generated by assistance from HUD shall to the greatest extent possible be directed to low- and very low-income persons, particularly such persons who are residents of public housing. The City of Rochester, as a recipient of HUD funds, seeks to establish and enforce Section 3 compliance through a number of different approaches. This includes but is not limited to coordination with the Rochester Housing Authority to ensure its residents have knowledge of and access to employment opportunities related to HUD-assisted projects.

Totals in Use

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers in use	0	0	229	195	33	162	0	0	0

Table 23 - Public Housing by Program Type

*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center), Rochester Housing Authority

Characteristics of Residents

	Program Type							
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher	
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
Average Annual Income	0	0	16,846	18,384	17,383	15,491	0	0
Average length of stay	0	0	4	5	0	6	0	0
Average Household size	0	0	1	2	2	2	0	0
# Homeless at admission	0	0	12	2	1	1	0	0
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	0	0	131	81	12	69	0	0
# of Disabled Families	0	0	89	105	6	99	0	0
# of Families requesting accessibility features	0	0	169	105	33	72	0	0
# of HIV/AIDS program participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of DV victims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 24 – Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center), Rochester Housing Authority

Race of Residents

Race	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
White	0	0	225	187	33	162	0	0	0
Black/African American	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Asian	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition

Table 25 – Race of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center), Rochester Housing Authority

Ethnicity of Residents

Ethnicity	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	0	0	2	6	0	6	0	0	0
Not Hispanic	0	0	227	189	33	156	0	0	0

*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition

Table 26 – Ethnicity of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center), Rochester Housing Authority

Section 504 Needs Assessment

Describe the needs of public housing tenants and applicants on the waiting list for accessible units

During the creation of the PY 2020-2025 Consolidated Plan, the Community Development Coordinator consulted with both Rochester Housing Authority staff and the Rochester Housing Authority advisory board on public housing needs and how best the City's CDBG program can assist in addressing accessibility needs. Such assistance during the PY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan period included installation of handicap-accessible bathrooms in RHA housing units for elderly and/or disabled residents and funding for a postponed RHA renovation project to create permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless residents.

During the PY 2020-2025 performance period, the City of Rochester plans to partner with the Rochester Housing Authority to analyze the two-story, four-unit buildings that comprise Wellsweep Acres for possible accessibility improvements. Currently these buildings have only stairs to access the second story, which prohibits wheelchair users and residents with other mobility disabilities from accessing these units. In addition, during PY 2020-2025, RHA plans to use its capital funds for unit-level accessibility improvements (e.g., shower grab bars) for its Wyandotte Falls housing units.

As the City of Rochester's population demographics continue to get older, the demand for accessible PHA units is expected to increase. In 2016, RHA opened a new facility for elderly residents, the Arthur H. Nickless Jr. Housing for the Elderly, which provides 24 one-bedroom units for residents aged 62 and older. For of these units are accessible, and the City of Rochester plans to coordinate with RHA in the PY 2020-2025 performance period to conduct accessibility upgrades for the remaining units in the building.

The City of Rochester also plans to continue to support regional rental assistance programs, including rental assistance specifically for people with mental illness and/or developmental disabilities. As the current wait list for RHA housing units and Section 8 vouchers extends to several years, non-governmental rental assistance programs help to bridge the deficit in housing assistance supply. The City of Rochester also plans to explore opportunities to partner with public and private-sector developers to develop more affordable accessible housing in the city to expand the stock of housing that is affordable both with and without vouchers or other rental assistance.

What are the number and type of families on the waiting lists for public housing and section 8 tenant-based rental assistance? Based on the information above, and any other information available to the jurisdiction, what are the most immediate needs of residents of public housing and Housing Choice voucher holders?

The Rochester Housing Authority currently has a waitlist of several years, as do many of the other housing authorities in this region. Many of the residents on the wait list are elderly, single-person households. Given the aging demographics of New Hampshire, it is likely that the demand for elderly public housing will continue to increase.

The most immediate needs of Rochester public housing residents include expanded transportation options and accessibility renovations in their units, as the population of Rochester generally and the lower-income population specifically is disproportionately

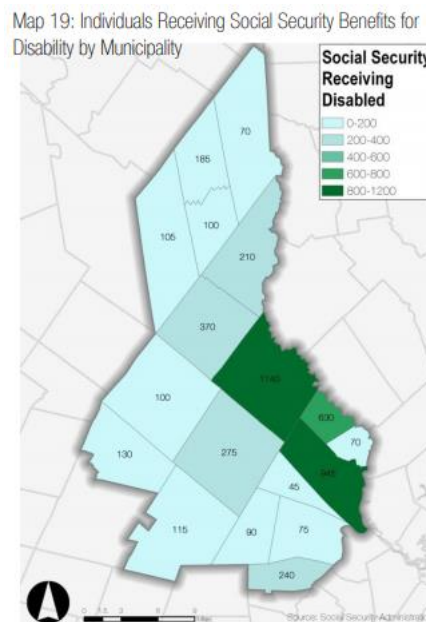
residents with disabilities. The Rochester Housing Authority also has a high number of elderly residents. Transportation and accessibility are key concerns for these demographics in particular, and consultations with RHA and health care services providers indicate that the disproportionate number of residents with disabilities and elderly residents among RHA residents will continue.

Other needs identified through consultation with RHA include the addition of more crosswalks near public housing buildings to improve walkability for residents, more mental health facilities and services, and more homeless shelter space and services.

The most immediate need for Housing Choice voucher holders, as identified by consultations with RHA, homeless services providers, and social services providers, is for more landlords in the Seacoast New Hampshire region to accept vouchers. RHA and other local housing authorities have reported that, when lower-income residents receive their housing vouchers, they are often unable to find a rental unit before the voucher expires. This stems from a combination of two main factors: (1) the very low vacancy rates in the Seacoast region, which means it is difficult for voucher holders to find available housing in general and (2) resistance from landlords to accept housing vouchers.

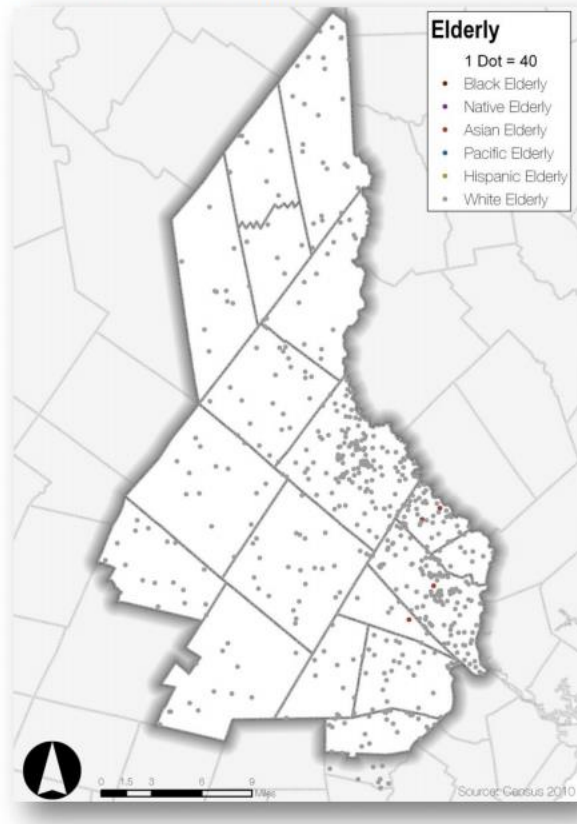
How do these needs compare to the housing needs of the population at large

The need for more affordable housing is also a primary need for Rochester residents at large. The need for greater transportation options/access and accessibility improvements in residential units are also shared needs, as the general population of the City of Rochester is disproportionately comprised of persons with disabilities, as compared to regional data, as well as increasingly elderly, in keeping with statewide age demographic trends.



Source: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment: Local Solutions for the Strafford Region, Strafford Regional Planning Commission

Map 7: Elderly Population Concentration



Source: Fair Housing and Equity Assessment: Local Solutions for the Strafford Region, Strafford Regional Planning Commission

Other consultations have also indicated the need for more homeless shelter beds and services and more mental health services for the general population. Both homeless services and mental health services, including permanent supportive housing, are priorities of this Consolidated Plan.

Discussion

N/A.

NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)

Introduction

Extensive consultations and research indicate a high priority need for supportive services and shelter for the City of Rochester’s homeless populations. In particular, while the number of homeless individuals versus homeless families tends to fluctuate on a year to year basis, homeless services for chronically homeless individuals remain consistently high priority. The needs of the City’s homeless population will be addressed through a combination of short-term services provisions, such as funding of regional emergency homeless shelters, and longer-term planning, such as affordable housing initiatives, permanent supportive housing projects, and funding for programs serving those with mental illnesses and/or substance use disorder issues.

During the PY 2015-2020 period, the City of Rochester participated and supported the Seacoast New Hampshire region’s transition to a coordinated access system which provides a single point of access for the provision of homeless services in the region. In late 2018, the New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care began the process of implementing a statewide coordinated entry system. The new statewide system is still in the analysis and set-up phases. The City of Rochester has attended New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care meetings regarding coordinated entry and will continue to support its statewide implementation in the PY 2020-2025 period.

Homeless Needs Assessment

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Unsheltered	Sheltered				
Persons in Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	4	20	60	14	20	72
Persons in Households with Only Children	0	0	0	0	0	0
Persons in Households with Only Adults	30	57	280	16	51	72
Chronically Homeless Individuals	12	1	25	14	1	72
Chronically Homeless Families	U	U	U	U	U	U
Veterans	2	1	14	0	1	72
Unaccompanied Youth	7	1	8	0	0	0
Persons with HIV	U	U	U	U	U	

Data sources: Community Action Partnership of Strafford County 2018 Community Needs Assessment, New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care, 2018 AHAR Part 1, NH Coalition to End Homelessness 2018 State of Homelessness in New Hampshire Report

If data is not available for the categories "number of persons becoming and exiting homelessness each year," and "number of days that persons experience homelessness," describe these categories for each homeless population type (including chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth):

According to 2013-2017 ACS estimates, Strafford County comprises about 9.5% of the overall state population. In the 2018 Annual Homeless Assessment Report, Part 1, HUD estimated that there were 835 homeless individuals, 615 homeless people in families with children, 81 unaccompanied homeless youth, 143 homeless veterans, and 141 chronically homeless individuals, for a total of 1,450 homeless individuals in 2018. A little under 90% of those experiencing homelessness were living in sheltered conditions, while the remaining 10% were living in unsheltered conditions. Using these estimates and the statewide data provided in the 2018 Annual Homeless Assessment Report, Part 1, provided by HUD, estimates for the chronically homeless individuals and families, homeless veterans, and homeless unaccompanied youth were calculated at the Strafford County level.

Data from the 2018 State of Homelessness in New Hampshire report, drafted by the New Hampshire Coalition to End Homelessness, provides statewide and county-by-county homelessness trends analysis. Between 2016 and 2018, there was a 46% overall increase in homelessness in Strafford County, or about 30 individuals. During this same time frame, there was a 127% increase in chronic homelessness (14 individuals), 50% increase in homeless families (14 individuals), 0% increase in veteran homelessness, and 150% increase in unsheltered homeless individuals (27 individuals).

Data from the 2018 Annual Report from Cross Roads House, the largest-capacity homeless shelter in the Seacoast New Hampshire region, indicates that the average length of stay for all Cross Roads House residents for 2018 was 72 days. The same time period also saw about 90% of all residents who stayed at the shelter 90+ days moving to permanent housing. This included 100% of all families staying at the shelter.

The 2018 Community Needs Assessment conducted by the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County also stated that there were 158 homeless students in the Rochester School District during PY 2016-2017. AIDS Response Seacoast data from 2017 stated that it served 19 Rochester clients during that year but did not specify how many were homeless individuals. However, AIDS Response Seacoast did report that many were homeless or unstably housed and at risk for homelessness.

Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance for families with children and the families of veterans.

There are an estimated 135 homeless persons total in Strafford County. Out of this 135 persons, there are 60 persons in families with children, as well as 8 unaccompanied youth. This comprises about 50% of the entire homeless population. In comparison, the PY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan found that families in need of housing assistance comprised 38% of the Strafford County homeless population. This matches reports from the regional homeless shelters that there has been a recent rise in homelessness among families as opposed to individuals.

Many of these families are female-headed households. Data from regional homeless shelter My Friend's Place shows that of 39 homeless Rochester residents served in PY 2018, 11 residents were in female-headed households (about 28%), while PY 2017 data from the Rochester-based Homeless Center for Strafford County reported nine out of 18 Rochester homeless residents served were in female-headed households (50%).

Out of the 135 homeless persons in Strafford County, there are an estimated 14 homeless veterans. This comprises about 10% of the entire homeless population. Weekly data on homeless veterans provided by Cross Roads House show a high number of 7 homeless veterans in January 2018 and a low of 1 homeless veteran in July 2018. While this does not include other regional homeless shelters' veteran residents, Cross Roads is the largest-capacity shelter in the region. This means that either most homeless veterans are unsheltered or the estimate of 14 homeless veterans is higher than the actual number.

Describe the nature and extent of homelessness by racial and ethnic group.

In PY 2018, Cross Roads House reported serving 75 total homeless Rochester residents. Of these 75 residents, 67 were white, one was Hispanic/Latino, four were Black/African-American, one was American Indian/Alaskan Native, and two were multi-racial/other. In PY 2018, My Friend's Place reported serving 39 total homeless Rochester residents. Of these 39 residents, 35 were white, one was Hispanic/Latino, one was Asian, and two were Black/African-American and white. About 89% of Rochester homeless residents served between the two shelters were white residents, while 2017 American Community Survey data estimates that the total Rochester population is about 95% white.

For racial and ethnic minorities, the highest amount of homelessness, in terms of raw numbers, is experienced among Black/African-American residents followed next by multi-racial residents. This also parallels the representation of both racial/ethnic groups in the overall population.

Describe the nature and extent of unsheltered and sheltered homelessness.

According to 2013-2017 ACS estimates, Strafford County comprises about 9.5% of the overall state population. In the 2018 Annual Homeless Assessment Report, Part 1, HUD estimated that there were 835 homeless individuals, 615 homeless people in families with children, 81 unaccompanied homeless youth, 143 homeless veterans, and 141 chronically homeless individuals, for a total of 1,450 homeless individuals in 2018. A little under 90% of those experiencing homelessness were living in sheltered conditions, while the remaining 10% were living in unsheltered conditions. Data from Community Action Partnership of Strafford County indicated a total of 48 homeless persons in Strafford County living in sheltered conditions during the 2017 Point-In-Time Count compared to 29 persons living in “doubled-up” conditions and 34 homeless persons living in unsheltered conditions. This equates to an estimate of about 70% of those experiencing homeless living in sheltered conditions, while the remaining 30% were living in unsheltered conditions.

Consultations with homeless services providers and others indicate that chronically homeless individuals are more likely to live in unsheltered conditions while homeless families with children are more likely to live in sheltered conditions (such as in motels, shelters, or “doubled-up” with other families). The Community Action Partnership data also supports these estimates, as the 2017 Point-In-Time Count for Strafford County found that only four families were living in unsheltered conditions compared to 12 families living in sheltered conditions and eight families living in “doubled-up” conditions. By comparison, 30 individuals were living in unsheltered conditions, 36 were living in sheltered conditions, and 21 were living in “doubled-up” conditions.

Discussion

The City of Rochester plans to fund a wide range of public service agencies that provide services such as housing, homelessness prevention, and mental health assistance. This includes direct funding to the region’s homeless shelters, rental assistance to those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, and supportive services such as mental health support and substance use disorder recovery. In particular, funding to the regional homeless shelters is meant to benefit those who are chronically homeless and to support emergency housing and permanent supportive housing.

In addition, the City of Rochester recognizes that a longer-term approach to ending homelessness means addressing the lack of affordable housing in the region. The City of Rochester plans to prioritize affordable housing construction projects during PY 2020-2025, to continue to participate in the Tri-City Homelessness Task Force and New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care planning initiatives, and to evaluate Rochester codes and ordinances to identify ways to reduce housing development costs and to incentivize affordable housing development.

NA-45 Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment - 91.205 (b,d)

Introduction

Extensive consultations and research have indicated the need for permanent supportive housing and related support services for people with mental illnesses, developmental disabilities, and/or substance use disorders; fair housing education and support for people with disabilities; and additional housing that can meet the needs of Rochester's growing population of elderly residents. Consultations with mental health providers, substance use disorder recovery providers, and the Region 6 Integrated Delivery Network indicate that permanent supportive housing and case management services can help residents with mental illnesses and residents in recovery to maintain their housing. Fair housing data indicates that the highest numbers of housing-related complaints within the City of Rochester are based upon disability. Lastly, both statewide and regional demographic trends indicate that the population of the City will increasingly be comprised of elderly residents.

Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community.

Consultations with mental health providers, such as Community Partners and Tri-City Consumers' Action Alliance; substance use disorder recovery providers, such as SOS Recovery Center; and the Region 6 Integrated Delivery Network indicate that permanent supportive housing and case management services can help residents with mental illnesses and residents in recovery to maintain their housing. Case management has been shown to prevent evictions. Cross Roads House' newly implemented housing stability program, which provides continuing supportive services once homeless residents are housed, has prevented several evictions through early intervention and mediation efforts.

Data from the New Hampshire Legal Assistance Housing Justice Project, as well as the New Hampshire Commission on Human Rights, indicate that disability is by far the protected category with the most reports of discrimination and that the majority of discrimination reports are housing-related. These reports do not include information on the nature of the disability, unfortunately (e.g., physical, developmental, behavioral).

In addition, the Strafford Regional Planning Commission's *Fair Housing and Equity Assessment* identified the City of Rochester's 75+ population as an "area of concern," which indicates segregation of this population. Other community needs assessments, such as those compiled by the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County and Strafford Regional Planning Commission, have indicated that the population of the City of Rochester increasingly will skew older over the next five years and beyond. This is in keeping with overall statewide trends, and the preference for New Hampshire's elderly population to "age in place."

What are the housing and supportive service needs of these populations and how are these needs determined?

Consultations with mental health providers, such as Community Partners and Tri-City Consumers' Action Alliance; substance use disorder recovery providers, such as SOS Recovery Center; and the Region 6 Integrated Delivery Network indicate that permanent supportive housing and case management services can help residents with mental illnesses and residents in recovery to maintain their housing. Case management has been shown to prevent evictions. Cross Roads House' newly implemented housing stability program, which provides continuing

supportive services once homeless residents are housed, has prevented several evictions through early intervention and mediation efforts.

Data from the New Hampshire Legal Assistance Housing Justice Project, as well as the New Hampshire Commission on Human Rights, indicate that disability is by far the protected category with the most reports of discrimination and that the majority of discrimination reports are housing-related. These reports do not include information on the nature of the disability, unfortunately (e.g., physical, developmental, behavioral). Consultations with local services providers who provide rental assistance and other housing services have indicated that landlord outreach and education regarding the rights of tenants with disabilities, as well as supportive services available for such tenants, is needed for these residents.

Data from the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County and Strafford Regional Planning Commission have indicated that the population of the City of Rochester increasingly will skew older over the next five years and beyond. This is in keeping with overall statewide trends, and the preference for New Hampshire's elderly population to "age in place." Consultations with elderly services providers, such as The Homemakers/EasterSeals and Cornerstone VNA, and consultations with Rochester Housing Authority's tenant advisory board have indicated that transportation and food insecurity are among the highest priority needs of Rochester's elderly residents. Many elderly residents are no longer able to drive, which means public transportation and medical transport services become increasingly important for these residents. In addition, many of Rochester's elderly residents live on fixed incomes and often rely on food assistance services, such as those provided by the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, Strafford Nutrition Meals on Wheels, and local food pantries run by churches and non-profit agencies.

Discuss the size and characteristics of the population with HIV/AIDS and their families within the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area.

The City of Rochester falls within the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is spread across the counties of Strafford (Rochester and Dover) and Rockingham (Portsmouth). According to the *New Hampshire STD/HIV Surveillance Program 5 Year Data Summary Report: 2013-2017*, prepared by the New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services, three new HIV cases were reported for 2017 within Strafford County, and zero new AIDS cases were reported. For the period between 2013 and 2017, a total of 15 new HIV cases were reported for Strafford County, and a total of 5 new AIDS cases were reported.

Statewide statistics indicate the majority of these persons living with HIV/AIDS are men, mostly between the ages of 20 and 54, though there has been a rise in the last five years of HIV diagnoses among those 50+ years of age. A little under half of the statewide cases of HIV infection were associated with male-to-male sexual contact, 15% were associated with heterosexual sexual contact, and about 4% were associated with intravenous drug use. There were similar rates associated with AIDS diagnoses statewide.

Discussion

The COVID-19 pandemic reached New Hampshire in early March 2020. The pandemic has created a number of new issues for Rochester residents, especially lower-income residents, and has exacerbated existing issues. These include homeless shelter capacity and isolation capabilities; health care access, including mental health and substance use disorder recovery; and further worsening of the existing affordable housing crisis, as pandemic-related unemployment jeopardizes the ability of lower-income residents to continue to pay rent.

NA-50 Non-Housing Community Development Needs – 91.215 (f)

Describe the jurisdiction’s need for public facilities.

Consultations with youth services providers, such as Bridging the Gaps (which seeks to prevent youth substance use) and Rochester Youth Reach (which serves homeless youth), as well as consultations with the general public have indicated a strong community desire for a teen center for Rochester. All of these consultations have noted a lack of pro-social recreational opportunities for Rochester youth. Further, the consultations with Bridging the Gaps and Rochester Youth Reach have identified the period of 3 p.m. to about 6 p.m. as a critical time span, which is after youth are let out of school but before many working parents arrive home for the day.

In addition, consultations with regional homeless services providers and the general public have indicated public need for expansion of the Homeless Center for Strafford County. The Homeless Center for Strafford County is the only homeless shelter physically located within the City of Rochester. Cross Roads House, based about twenty miles away in the City of Portsmouth, serves more Rochester residents as it is a larger-capacity shelter, but the distance and lack of public transportation infrastructure can make it difficult for Rochester residents staying at Cross Roads House to maintain their jobs and social connections in Rochester. The Homeless Center for Strafford County also currently leases space at a minimal yearly rate from Waste Management, but Waste Management is terminating the lease in 2021. A new and larger location is an immediate need for the Homeless Center for Strafford County and the homeless residents it serves.

How were these needs determined?

Consultations with youth services providers, such as Bridging the Gaps (which seeks to prevent youth substance use) and Rochester Youth Reach (which serves homeless youth), as well as consultations with the general public have indicated a strong community desire for a teen center for Rochester. All of these consultations have noted a lack of pro-social recreational opportunities for Rochester youth. Further, the consultations with Bridging the Gaps and Rochester Youth Reach have identified the period of 3 p.m. to about 6 p.m. as a critical time span, which is after youth are let out of school but before many working parents arrive home for the day.

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location is an immediate need for the Homeless Center for Strafford County and the homeless residents it serves.

Describe the jurisdiction’s need for public improvements.

Consultations with Department of Public Works staff, the Rochester Housing Authority tenant advisory board, and the general public identified roads and sidewalks improvements as top priorities. Especially given the harsh New England winters and resultant use of snowplows, roads and sidewalks in the City of Rochester are in need of constant repair and replacement work. Consultations have identified sidewalk and road conditions as an important safety issue, especially for elderly residents and residents with disabilities who rely on sidewalks for transportation. These consultations have also indicated a need for more sidewalks, generally, in the areas outside the downtown core.

Consultations with Rochester Main Street, downtown businesses, and the general public, as well as the final report from the City of Rochester’s 2018 downtown housing workshop, have also identified downtown beautification and downtown economic revitalization as vital for the city. While most of the downtown is comprised of privately-owned buildings, in PY 2016 and PY 2019 the City of Rochester’s CDBG program granted funding for a downtown façade and code improvement program to help improve the safety and exterior appearances of the downtown. Continuation and extension of this program is being explored for the PY 2020-2025 period as there is a strong continuing need for such work. There are also opportunities for downtown beautification involving publicly-owned properties, such as the large municipal parking lot located off of Union Street and riverwalk-related projects.

How were these needs determined?

Consultations with Department of Public Works staff, the Rochester Housing Authority tenant advisory board, and the general public identified roads and sidewalks improvements as top priorities. Especially given the harsh New England winters and resultant use of snowplows, roads and sidewalks in the City of Rochester are in need of constant repair and replacement work. Consultations have identified sidewalk and road conditions as an important safety issue, especially for elderly residents and residents with disabilities who rely on sidewalks for transportation. These consultations have also indicated a need for more sidewalks, generally, in the areas outside the downtown core.

Consultations with Rochester Main Street, downtown businesses, and the general public, as well as the final report from the City of Rochester’s 2018 downtown housing workshop, have also identified downtown beautification and downtown economic revitalization as vital for the city. While most of the downtown is comprised of privately-owned buildings, in PY 2016 and PY 2019 the City of Rochester’s CDBG program granted funding for a downtown façade and code improvement program to help improve the safety and exterior appearances of the downtown. Continuation and extension of this program is being explored for the PY 2020-2025 period as there is a strong continuing need for such work. There are also opportunities for downtown

beautification involving publicly-owned properties, such as the large municipal parking lot located off of Union Street and riverwalk-related projects.

Describe the jurisdiction’s need for public services.

Consultations with homeless services providers, the Rochester welfare director, rental assistance programs, and the general public have indicated continuing needs for homeless services for homeless residents and rental assistance and financial assistance to prevent homelessness for at-risk residents. Also, to address poverty in the longer term, services such as high school degree equivalency programs and vocational skills-training programs have been identified as key services in ensuring economic growth for our lower-income residents. These needs were determined through consultations with the Rochester welfare director, homeless services providers, and the general public.

How were these needs determined?

Consultations with homeless services providers, the Rochester welfare director, rental assistance programs, and the general public have indicated continuing needs for homeless services for homeless residents and rental assistance and financial assistance to prevent homelessness for at-risk residents. Also, to address poverty in the longer term, services such as high school degree equivalency programs and vocational skills-training programs have been identified as key services in ensuring economic growth for our lower-income residents. These needs were determined through consultations with the Rochester welfare director, homeless services providers, and the general public.

Housing Market Analysis

MA-05 Overview

Housing Market Analysis Overview

The City of Rochester has a large number of single-family detached homes as well as a large number of manufactured homes, especially as compared to neighboring municipalities. The City of Rochester has eight manufactured home parks, by far the largest number in the Strafford County region. Identified demographic trends indicate that the City's population will be increasingly older, by proportion, and will desire smaller units of housing. The 2017 ACS housing data, when compared to the 2013 data, shows that there has been a decline in overall housing units and, especially, a decline in 1-unit attached structures.

In addition, a fair percentage of current housing is forty years or older, and this housing will require rehabilitation or replacement over the next five years. Of all 13,694 housing units within the City of Rochester, only 133 units were built in 2010 or later, according to ACS data. The majority of available housing within the city (7,593 units) was built prior to 1980. A significant percentage (3,783 units) was built prior to 1950. This aged and aging housing stock, built prior to the ban against lead-based paints for residential purposes, presents serious concerns as to the presence of lead-based paint in both the interiors and exteriors of these units.

In PY 2020-2025, the City of Rochester plans to continue its existing partnerships with the Rochester Housing Authority and regional non-profits (such as the SHARE Fund and the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County) and to develop new partnerships (such as with the regional non-profit housing developer The Housing Partnership) to address barriers to affordable housing. This will be accomplished through a variety of approaches, including weatherization assistance for low-income homeowners, rental assistance for low-income renters, and lead abatement efforts. Weatherization of low-income homes, accomplished through the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, will reduce energy expenses and thereby will lower overall home ownership and maintenance expenses for low-income householders. Rental assistance will help low-income residents obtain and/or maintain safe, quality housing. Lead-safe work practices and lead remediation efforts will be included in all CDBG-funded housing rehabilitation projects, and the City of Rochester will explore partnerships with state officials and local medical providers to increase blood lead level testing for Rochester children.

MA-10 Number of Housing Units – 91.210(a)&(b)(2)

Introduction

The City of Rochester has a large number of single-family detached homes as well as a large number of manufactured homes, especially as compared to neighboring municipalities. The City of Rochester has eight manufactured home parks, by far the largest number in the Strafford County region. Identified demographic trends indicate that the City’s population will be increasingly older, by proportion, and will desire smaller units of housing. The 2017 ACS housing data, when compared to the 2013 data, shows that there has been a decline in overall housing units and, especially, a decline in 1-unit attached structures.

In addition, a fair percentage of current housing is forty years or older, and this housing will require rehabilitation or replacement over the next five years. Of all 13,694 housing units within the City of Rochester, only 133 units were built in 2010 or later, according to ACS data. The majority of available housing within the city (7,593 units) was built prior to 1980. A significant percentage (3,783 units) was built prior to 1950. This aged and aging housing stock, built prior to the ban against lead-based paints for residential purposes, presents serious concerns as to the presence of lead-based paint in both the interiors and exteriors of these units.

In PY 2020-2025, the City of Rochester plans to continue its existing partnerships with the Rochester Housing Authority and regional non-profits (such as the SHARE Fund and the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County) and to develop new partnerships (such as with the regional non-profit housing developer The Housing Partnership) to address barriers to affordable housing. This will be accomplished through a variety of approaches, including weatherization assistance for low-income homeowners, rental assistance for low-income renters, and lead abatement efforts. Weatherization of low-income homes, accomplished through the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, will reduce energy expenses and thereby will lower overall home ownership and maintenance expenses for low-income householders. Rental assistance will help low-income residents obtain and/or maintain safe, quality housing. Lead-safe work practices and lead remediation efforts will be included in all CDBG-funded housing rehabilitation projects, and the City of Rochester will explore partnerships with state officials and local medical providers to increase blood lead level testing for Rochester children.

BEDROOMS				
Total housing units	13,661	+/-337	13,661	(X)
No bedroom	265	+/-164	1.9%	+/-1.2
1 bedroom	1,315	+/-260	9.6%	+/-1.9
2 bedrooms	5,577	+/-383	40.8%	+/-2.7
3 bedrooms	4,911	+/-379	35.9%	+/-2.6
4 bedrooms	1,370	+/-264	10.0%	+/-1.9
5 or more bedrooms	223	+/-93	1.6%	+/-0.7
HOUSING TENURE				
Occupied housing units	12,837	+/-353	12,837	(X)
Owner-occupied	8,308	+/-395	64.7%	+/-2.7
Renter-occupied	4,529	+/-385	35.3%	+/-2.7
Average household size of owner-occupied unit	2.37	+/-0.08	(X)	(X)
Average household size of renter-occupied unit	2.28	+/-0.13	(X)	(X)

Source: 2013-2017 ACS data

All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	6,465	47%
1-unit, attached structure	370	3%
2-4 units	2,615	19%
5-19 units	1,315	10%
20 or more units	830	6%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc.	2,215	16%
Total	13,810	100%

Table 27 – Residential Properties by Unit Number

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	20	0%	310	7%
1 bedroom	160	2%	1,165	26%
2 bedrooms	2,830	34%	2,395	53%
3 or more bedrooms	5,205	63%	670	15%
Total	8,215	99%	4,540	101%

Table 28 – Unit Size by Tenure

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Describe the number and targeting (income level/type of family served) of units assisted with federal, state, and local programs.

New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority lists the following housing units available within the City of Rochester (<https://www.nhhfa.org/housing/search>):

Brookside Place 6, 21, 36 Punch Brook Way Rochester Housing Type: Family	Contact: Stewart Property Mgmt. Company 2 Cote Lane PO Box 10540 Bedford, NH 03110-0540 6036412163 www.stewartproperty.net	Total Units: 90 Assisted Units: 90 Accessible Units: 30
Chaplin Adrien Chase Village 11 Adrien Circle Rochester Housing Type: Elderly	Contact: Southern New Hampshire Services 40 Pine Street PO Box 5040 Manchester, NH 03108-5040 6036688010 www.snhhs.org	Total Units: 42 Assisted Units: 42 Accessible Units: 3
Cold Spring Manor Brock Street Rochester Housing Type: Elderly	Contact: Rochester Housing Authority 77 Olde Farm Ln Rochester, NH 03867 6033324126	Total Units: 60 Assisted Units: 60 Accessible Units: 0
Cold Spring Manor II 31 Emerson Street Rochester Housing Type: Family	Contact: Rochester Housing Authority 77 Olde Farm Ln Rochester, NH 03867 6033324126	Total Units: 12 Assisted Units: 12 Accessible Units: 0
Glenwood Manor 17 Glenwood Ave Rochester Housing Type: Elderly	Contact: Rochester Housing Authority 77 Olde Farm Ln Rochester, NH 03867 6033324126	Total Units: 24 Assisted Units: 24 Accessible Units: 0

Laurel Terrace 21 McKinley Street Rochester Housing Type: Elderly	Contact: Southern New Hampshire Services 40 Pine Street PO Box 5040 Manchester, NH 03108-5040 6036688010 www.snhs.org	Total Units: 55 Assisted Units: 55 Accessible Units: 3
Linscott Court 20 Columbus Ave Rochester Housing Type: Family	Contact: Rochester Housing Authority 77 Olde Farm Ln Rochester, NH 03867 6033324126	Total Units: 58 Assisted Units: 58 Accessible Units: 4
Marsh View 194 Brock St Rochester Housing Type: Elderly	Contact: Rochester Housing Authority 77 Olde Farm Ln Rochester, NH 03867 6033324126	Total Units: 12 Assisted Units: 12 Accessible Units: 2
Mayor Roland Roberge Manor 45 Mayor Roland Roberge Manor Rochester Housing Type: Elderly	Contact: Southern New Hampshire Services 40 Pine Street PO Box 5040 Manchester, NH 03108-5040 6036688010 www.snhs.org	Total Units: 44 Assisted Units: 44 Accessible Units: 3
Rochester East 33 Highland Street Rochester Housing Type: Elderly	Contact: Stewart Property Mgmt. Company 2 Cote Lane PO Box 10540 Bedford, NH 03110-0540 6036412163 www.stewartproperty.net	Total Units: 48 Assisted Units: 48 Accessible Units: 5
Rochester Transitional Housing 10 Harvard Street Rochester Housing Type: Family	Contact: Alliance Asset Management 383 Central Ave The Housing Partnership Properties Dover, NH 03820 6035160590 www.alliancenh.com	Total Units: 12 Assisted Units: 12 Accessible Units: 0
Salmon Falls Estates 1 Salmon Falls Road Rochester Housing Type: Family	Contact: Preservation Management 707 Sable Oaks Drive South Portland, ME 04106 2077746989 www.presgmt.com	Total Units: 32 Assisted Units: 30 Accessible Units: 2
Wellsweep Acres Autumn Street Extension Rochester Housing Type: Elderly	Contact: Rochester Housing Authority 77 Olde Farm Ln Rochester, NH 03867 6033324126	Total Units: 100 Assisted Units: 100 Accessible Units: 0
Wyandotte Falls Apartments No. Main Street Rochester Housing Type: Elderly	Contact: Rochester Housing Authority 77 Olde Farm Ln Rochester, NH 03867 6033324126	Total Units: 72 Assisted Units: 72 Accessible Units: 0

All of these units are intended for lower income residents. It should be noted that the accessibility information for these units is somewhat out of date. For example, the City of

Rochester CDBG program funded accessibility improvements at the Wyandotte Falls and Wellsweep Acres units in PY 2016. Even with these additional accessible units, however, more accessibility improvements to currently non-accessible units are needed to meet anticipated rising needs for such units.

In addition, Rochester CDBG funding has supported a number of other housing programs during the PY 2015-2020 period. First, the Community Action Partnership for Strafford County (Strafford CAP) receives CDBG funding for its Weatherization Program work. This includes improving insulation, installing new heating systems, and lead-based paint abatement work. During PY 2018, the Weatherization Program performed improvements to 31 homes in the City of Rochester. All 31 homes are owned by residents who are classified as extremely low income or low income, and 17 of the homes are owned by elderly residents. CDBG funding has also supported rental assistance programs operated by the SHARE Fund and by Community Partners. In PY 2018, the SHARE Fund provided rental assistance to 66 individuals, most of whom were extremely low income and over half of whom lived in female-headed households. Also in PY 2018, Community Partners provided rental assistance to nine of its clients, all of whom were extremely low income and all of whom were persons with mental illnesses and/or developmental disabilities.

Provide an assessment of units expected to be lost from the affordable housing inventory for any reason, such as expiration of Section 8 contracts.

Consultations with the Rochester Housing Authority indicate that there is not an anticipated loss of public housing over the next five years. The housing authority is in the early processes of new housing initiatives for permanent supportive housing and rent-controlled housing projects. The Rochester Housing Authority anticipates that during PY 2020-2025 it will be shifting from direct public housing to an increasingly voucher-based housing model. This should not result in an overall change in available housing units, however.

Consultations with New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority and others, such as the Coalition to End Homelessness, indicate there are not an adequate supply of private market landlords willing to accept Section 8 vouchers. Agencies who interact with voucher-holders have reported that many voucher-holders have their vouchers expire before they are able to locate housing that will accept the voucher. In addition, the Homeless Center for Strafford County has been selling its transitional housing units, which has further depleted the Seacoast region's already low supply of transitional housing.

Does the availability of housing units meet the needs of the population?

Consultations with non-profit housing developers, homeless services providers, and local and regional planners all agree that there is (1) a significant lack of housing in the Seacoast region and (2) specifically, a serious lack of affordable housing in the region. According to the *2018 Residential Rental Cost Survey Report* by the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, Strafford County had a median monthly rental cost of \$1,174 for a two-bedroom unit, an increase of 19.7% in median rent from 2013 to 2018, and a vacancy rate of 2.6%. This same

report also found that only 1% of two-bedroom units are below the affordable rent (based on \$38,225 annual household income) in Strafford County.

In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic reached New Hampshire in early March 2020. The pandemic has created a number of new issues for Rochester residents, especially lower-income residents, and has exacerbated existing issues. This includes further worsening of the existing affordable housing crisis, as pandemic-related unemployment jeopardizes the ability of lower-income residents to continue to pay rent.

Another area of need is lack of accessible housing. As with the state as a whole, the City of Rochester's demographics are shifting older. Much of the available public housing, including housing intended for elderly residents, is not fully accessible. The City of Rochester's CDBG program addressed this partially during the PY 2015-2020 performance period by funding the installation of accessible bathroom fixtures in two of Rochester Housing Authority's buildings housing elderly residents and residents with disabilities. During the PY 2020-2025 performance period, the City of Rochester's CDBG program will continue to consult with the Rochester Housing Authority on accessibility needs of public housing residents and how CDBG funding can be used to meet these needs.

Describe the need for specific types of housing.

Consultations with non-profit housing developers, homeless services providers, and local and regional planners all agree that there is (1) a significant lack of housing in the Seacoast region and (2) specifically, a serious lack of affordable housing in the region. According to the *2018 Residential Rental Cost Survey Report* by the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, Strafford County had a median monthly rental cost of \$1,174 for a two-bedroom unit, an increase of 19.7% in median rent from 2013 to 2018, and a vacancy rate of 2.6%. This same report also found that only 1% of two-bedroom units are below the affordable rent (based on \$38,225 annual household income) in Strafford County.

Another area of need is lack of accessible housing. As with the state as a whole, the City of Rochester's demographics are shifting older. Much of the available public housing, including housing intended for elderly residents, is not fully accessible. The City of Rochester's CDBG program addressed this partially during the PY 2015-2020 performance period by funding the installation of accessible bathroom fixtures in two of Rochester Housing Authority's buildings housing elderly residents and residents with disabilities. During the PY 2020-2025 performance period, the City of Rochester's CDBG program will continue to consult with the Rochester Housing Authority on accessibility needs of public housing residents and how CDBG funding can be used to meet these needs.

There are two main areas where the current housing stock matches current and projected needs well, however. The City of Rochester has eight manufactured home parks, and manufactured homes are smaller and more affordable housing options that are in popular demand from both elderly residents and younger, lower-income residents. Also, statewide the supply of affordable rental housing, according to data from New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority's *Affordable Rental Housing Developments* report, skews heavily toward one-

bedroom and two-bedroom units. Consultations with regional homeless shelter providers and agencies such as Community Action Partnership of Strafford County have shown that most of those experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness are disproportionately individual adults, couples, or a single parent with one or two children. Smaller housing units are a good match for these demographics.

Discussion

N/A.

MA-15 Housing Market Analysis: Cost of Housing - 91.210(a)

Introduction

As can be seen in the tables below, there has been an 87% increase in median home costs between 2000 and 2017 and a 91% increase in median rent costs in that same time period. According to Census and ACS data from that time period, the median household income for the City of Rochester changed from \$40,596 in 2000 to \$55,767 in 2017, an increase of only about 37%. Regional increases in housing costs have been outpacing increases in household income by large margins. Consultations with City personnel and regional public service agencies indicate that home costs and rental rates are expected to continue to increase during the next five years, although possibly at a slower rate than between 2015 and 2020.

Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2000	Most Recent Year: 2017	% Change
Median Home Value	89,300	166,700	87%
Median Contract Rent	510	976	91%

Table 29 – Cost of Housing

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2013-2017 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than \$500	467	10.7%
\$500-999	1910	43.6%
\$1,000-1,499	1643	37.5%
\$1,500-1,999	342	7.8%
\$2,000 or more	20	0.4%
Total	4,382	100.0%

Table 30 - Rent Paid

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

Housing Affordability

% Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	555	No Data
50% HAMFI	2,130	1,185
80% HAMFI	3,900	3,235
100% HAMFI	No Data	4,419
Total	6,585	8,839

Table 31 - Housing Affordability

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent (\$)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	934	940	1187	1631	1948
High HOME Rent	934	940	1187	1631	1814
Low HOME Rent	868	930	1116	1290	1438

Table 32 – Monthly Rent

Data Source: HUD FMR and HOME Rents, Portsmouth-Rochester, NH HUD Metro FMR Area

Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

The demand for affordable housing continues to outmatch the supply. This is true for both renters and home owners, especially for those at 30% HUD Area Median Family Income (HAMFI). Average income has not kept pace with average rental costs, in particular; as a result, many Rochester residents spend well over 30% of their income on housing. According to recent calculations from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, only about 2% of two-bedroom rental units in Strafford County are below affordable rent. Housing cost burdens above 30% of household income are a problem for all City residents, with a City-wide percentage of 38% facing this problem, according to recent CHAS data.

How is affordability of housing likely to change considering changes to home values and/or rents?

Consultations with the City of Rochester’s Planning Development, the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, and others indicate that home values and rents are expected to increase during the next five years though potentially at a slower rate than the increases seen during PY 2015-2020. During PY 2015-2020, there was a region-wide trend of rising costs of living beginning in the south and moving north. Over this time period last few years, the City of Rochester saw immigration from its southern neighbors, such as the cities of Dover and Portsmouth, as those residents became unable to afford the rental costs of the southern Seacoast region.

A number of efforts have been initiated during the PY 2015-2020 performance period to increase the supply of affordable housing in the area. These have included changes to downtown density allowances and the PY 2019 workforce housing charrette and its recommendations. The City of Rochester anticipates that these efforts and their continuation into the PY 2020-2020 will help increase the supply of affordable housing but will be a long-term implemented solution.

How do HOME rents / Fair Market Rent compare to Area Median Rent? How might this impact your strategy to produce or preserve affordable housing?

The HOME rents, especially the Low HOME rent, is lower than the fair market rent. There is a particularly pronounced difference in the larger, three-bedroom and four-bedroom units.

According to 2018 rental housing survey data from New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, the area median rent for Strafford County was \$1,174. These factors indicate that, while many demographic trends suggest focusing on smaller housing units (*i.e.*, studio, one-bedroom, and two-bedroom units), the needs of larger households should not be ignored, as larger rental units are disproportionately expensive.

Discussion

The COVID-19 pandemic reached New Hampshire in early March 2020. The pandemic has created a number of new issues for Rochester residents, especially lower-income residents, and has exacerbated existing issues. This includes further worsening of the existing affordable housing crisis, as pandemic-related unemployment jeopardizes the ability of lower-income residents to continue to pay rent.

MA-20 Housing Market Analysis: Condition of Housing – 91.210(a)

Introduction

A significant portion of the City of Rochester’s housing stock originates from 1980 or earlier. This aging housing stock presents a number of challenges for providing safe and affordable housing for the City’s residents. Much of this aging housing stock requires updates in heating and cooling systems as well as lead-based paint abatement. Housing condition challenges are unequally spread between renters and homeowners. While 32% of homeowners’ housing has one or more conditions of concern, 49% of renters’ housing has one or more conditions of concern. Also, while 51% of homeowners’ housing was built prior to 1980, 63% of renters’ housing was built prior to 1980.

Definitions

The City of Rochester applies the International Residential Code, 2009 Edition, and International Property Maintenance Code, 2006 Edition, when determining whether a property is in “substandard condition” or “substandard condition but suitable for rehabilitation.”

(<https://www.rochesternh.net/building-zoning-and-licensing-services/pages/codes-currently-enforced>) The International Residential Code defines “building” as

any one- and two-family dwelling or portion thereof, including townhouses, that is used, or designed or intended to be used for human habitation, for living, sleeping, cooking or eating purposes, or any combination thereof, and shall include accessory structures thereto. (§R202, emphasis in original)

The International Residential Code defines “dwelling” as “any building that contains one or two *dwelling units* used, intended, or designed to be built, used, rented, leased, let or hired out to be occupied, or that are occupied for living purposes.” (§R202, emphasis in original) A “dwelling unit” is defined as “[a] single unit providing complete independent living facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation.” (§R202)

The International Property Maintenance Code defines an “unsafe structure” as one that is

found to be dangerous to the life, health, property or safety of the public or the occupants of the structure by not providing minimum safeguards to protect or warn occupants in the event of fire, or because such structure contains unsafe equipment or is so damaged, decayed, dilapidated, structurally unsafe or of such faulty construction or unstable foundation, that partial or complete collapse is possible. (§108.1.1)

The International Property Maintenance Code defines a “structure unfit for human occupancy” as a structure that is found to be

unsafe, unlawful or, because of the degree to which the structure is in disrepair or lacks maintenance, is insanitary, vermin or rat infested, contains filth and contamination, or lacks ventilation, illumination, sanitary or heating facilities or other essential equipment

required by this code, or because the location of the structure constitutes a hazard to the occupants of the structure or to the public. (§108.1.3)

The International Property Maintenance Code defines “habitable space” as “space in a structure for living, sleeping, eating or cooking” but does not include “[b]athrooms, toilet rooms, closets, halls, storage or utility spaces, and similar areas.” (§202)

Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	2,660	32%	2,210	49%
With two selected Conditions	35	0%	200	4%
With three selected Conditions	50	1%	50	1%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	5,475	67%	2,085	46%
Total	8,220	100%	4,545	100%

Table 33 - Condition of Units

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	1,505	18%	565	12%
1980-1999	2,525	31%	1,135	25%
1950-1979	2,405	29%	1,075	24%
Before 1950	1,780	22%	1,770	39%
Total	8,215	100%	4,545	100%

Table 34 – Year Unit Built

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	4,185	51%	2,845	63%
Housing Units build before 1980 with children present	890	11%	480	11%

Table 35 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS (Total Units) 2011-2015 CHAS (Units with Children present)

Vacant Units

	Suitable for Rehabilitation	Not Suitable for Rehabilitation	Total
Vacant Units	824	0	824
Abandoned Vacant Units	9	0	0
REO Properties	7	0	7
Abandoned REO Properties	0	0	0

Table 36 - Vacant Units

Data 2013-2017 ACS, City of Rochester Property Assessment Data (Sept. 2018), Zillow, RealtyTrac
Sources:

Describe the need for owner and rental rehabilitation based on the condition of the jurisdiction's housing.

A significant portion of the City of Rochester's housing stock originates from 1980 or earlier. This aging housing stock presents a number of challenges for providing safe and affordable housing for the City's residents. Much of this aging housing stock requires updates in heating and cooling systems as well as lead-based paint abatement. Housing condition challenges are unequally spread between renters and homeowners. While 32% of homeowners' housing has one or more conditions of concern, 49% of renters' housing has one or more conditions of concern. Also, while 51% of homeowners' housing was built prior to 1980, 63% of renters' housing was built prior to 1980.

Estimate the number of housing units within the jurisdiction that are occupied by low or moderate income families that contain lead-based paint hazards.

The New Hampshire Healthy Homes & Environment Section continues to classify the City of Rochester as one of eight "high risk" communities for lead-based paint hazards statewide. The state classification is based on the age of Rochester's housing stock, the percentage of lower income resident households, residents households receiving WIC benefits, and other factors. State data from 2018 indicates that there were 416 Rochester children between the ages of birth and six years who tested 0 - 4 µg/dL for blood lead elevation and 22 children who tested 5 - 9 µg/dL for blood lead elevation.

About 4,034 households that own their homes are living in housing built before 1980, and about 2,653 households that rent their homes are living in housing built before 1980. According to 2013-2017 ACS data, about 5,871 households are between 0-80% of the PY 2018 median family income for the Portsmouth-Rochester Metro FMR Area. This represents about 48% of all Rochester households, which leads to an estimated 1,936 home-owning households living in housing built before 1980 (and potentially containing lead-based paint hazards) and an estimated 1,273 renter households living in housing built before 1980 (and potentially containing lead-based paint hazards).

Discussion

N/A.

MA-25 Public and Assisted Housing – 91.210(b)

Introduction

The City of Rochester’s Community Development Coordinator works with the Rochester Housing Authority (RHA) to identify and address public housing needs, such as the need for accessibility renovations in older housing units and increased transportation options. During the creation of the PY 2020-2025 Consolidated Plan, the Community Development Coordinator consulted with both Rochester Housing Authority staff and the Rochester Housing Authority advisory board on public housing needs and how best the City’s CDBG program can assist in addressing these needs. Such assistance during the PY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan period included installation of handicap-accessible bathrooms in RHA housing units for elderly and/or disabled residents and funding for a postponed RHA renovation project to create permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless residents.

The City of Rochester also plans to continue to support regional rental assistance programs, including rental assistance specifically for people with mental illness and/or developmental disabilities. As the current wait list for RHA housing units and Section 8 vouchers extends to several years, non-governmental rental assistance programs help to bridge the deficient in housing assistance supply. The City of Rochester also plans to explore opportunities to partner with public and private-sector developers to develop more affordable housing in the city to expand the stock of housing that is affordable both with and without vouchers or other rental assistance.

Totals Number of Units

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers available	0	0	232	182	33	149	0	0	0
# of accessible units	0	0	13	59	13	Unavailable	0	0	0

***includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**

Table 37 – Total Number of Units by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center), New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, Rochester CDBG, Rochester Housing Authority

Describe the supply of public housing developments

The Rochester Housing Authority has 232 public housing units available. At present, the waiting list for those seeking public housing within the City of Rochester is about three years, and there are 342 people on the waiting list. In addition, since the PY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan,

Rochester Housing Authority oversaw a tax credit project to create 24 units of housing for elderly housing, the Arthur H. Nickless Jr. Housing for the Elderly project.

Describe the number and physical condition of public housing units in the jurisdiction, including those that are participating in an approved Public Housing Agency Plan.

The Rochester Housing Authority has 232 public housing units available. These are the 76 units of housing for elderly residents and residents with disabilities at Wellsweep Acres (Olde Farm Ln.); 72 units of housing for elderly residents and residents with disabilities at Wyandotte Falls (Bridge St.); 12 units of housing for elderly residents and residents with disabilities (Felker St., Gonic); 12 units of housing for elderly residents and residents with disabilities (Magic Ave., East Rochester); and 60 units of housing for families at Cold Spring Manor (Emerson Ave.). In addition, there are several tax credit properties:

- Linscott Court Apartments - Columbus Avenue, Rochester - 58 family tax credit units
- Emerson Court - Emerson Avenue, Rochester - 12 family tax credit units
- Marsh View Housing for the Elderly - 12 elderly tax credit units
- Arthur H. Nickless Jr. Housing for the Elderly - 24 elderly tax credit units

Consultations with Rochester Housing Authority indicate that these public housing units are generally in good physical condition. Repair and maintenance work during PY 2015-2020 has included the addition of walk-in showers and tubs to units for elderly residents and residents with disabilities, as they become vacant; repairs to sidewalks at Cold Spring Manor; and replacement of roofs and plumbing at Wellsweep Acres. In addition, during the PY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan period, the City of Rochester’s CDBG program funded the installation of handicap-accessible bathrooms in RHA housing units for elderly and/or disabled residents and funding for a postponed RHA renovation project to create eight units of permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless residents.

Public Housing Condition

Public Housing Development	Average Inspection Score
Wellsweep Acres	92.09
Cold Spring Manor	89.55
Wyandotte Falls	63.81

Table 38 - Public Housing Condition

Describe the restoration and revitalization needs of public housing units in the jurisdiction.

According to data included in RHA’s most recent Five Year Plan, the public housing units are currently in generally good repair. Concerns regarding the physical condition of the building include water in lower parts of some building; security issues related to tree overgrowth; the desire for more security cameras at the Wyandotte Falls building; replacement of pipes, boilers, and roofs at several building; and replacement of stair treads at the Cold Spring Manor building.

In addition, consultation with RHA indicate that accessibility upgrades will continue to be needed, as state and regional demographic trends show an increasingly aging population.

Describe the public housing agency's strategy for improving the living environment of low- and moderate-income families residing in public housing.

The RHA utilizes federal funds under the capital fund program to make large capital improvements to its various building locations and also requests Rochester CDBG funds to serve as gap funding for selected projects. RHA also partners with a number of agencies, including the City's Community Development Division and mental health-focused public service agency Community Partners, to provide case management and social services for RHA residents. Other partnerships have included working with the Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST), to host COAST's Community Transportation Manager at the Wellsweep Acres location to discuss community transportation programs and options, and coordination with the Rochester Community Development Division to post CDBG-funded project bid invitations at RHA properties. The RHA partnered with the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County to install additional insulation in attics and basements at their family development and continues to work with the organization to increase insulation at their Wellsweep Acres community and replace boilers that are over twenty years old.

Discussion

N/A.

MA-30 Homeless Facilities and Services – 91.210(c)

Introduction

Extensive consultations and research indicate a continuing need for homeless shelter services for the City of Rochester’s homeless population. Based on these consultations, during PY 2020-2025 the City of Rochester plans to fund a wide range of activities and projects that provide services such as shelter provision, homelessness prevention and rental assistance, mental health and recovery services, and affordable housing initiatives. In particular, services aimed at those with substance use disorders and mental health issues are meant to effectively and permanently home the segment of the population which is chronically homeless and consumes a disproportionately large portion of services such as bed nights and emergency room visits.

Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

	Emergency Shelter Beds		Transitional Housing Beds	Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	
	Year Round Beds (Current & New)	Voucher / Seasonal / Overflow Beds	Current & New	Current & New	Under Development
Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	73	33	60	0	0
Households with Only Adults	54	19	0	8	8
Chronically Homeless Households	0	0	0	18	28
Veterans	0	0	0	0	0
Unaccompanied Youth	0	0	0	0	0

Table 39 - Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

Data Sources: New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care, Cross Roads House, New Generation, My Friend’s Place, Homeless Center for Strafford County, Families in Transition, Hope on Haven Hill, Lydia’s House of Hope

Describe mainstream services, such as health, mental health, and employment services to the extent those services are used to complement services targeted to homeless persons.

The Homeless Center for Strafford County, which provides seasonal shelter; My Friend's Place, which provides year-round shelters; and Cross Roads House, which provides year-round shelter, all offer a range of supportive services in addition to shelter for homeless persons. The Homeless Center for Strafford County offers basic financial skills counseling and employment services such as interview preparation. Cross Roads House offers tutoring and GED preparation assistance, referrals to mental health counseling and/or substance use disorder treatment, job search and vocational training, life skills training, and access to primary medical and dental care. In 2018, Cross Roads House started providing housing stability case management services for former shelter residents who had obtained permanent housing to help these clients successfully maintain their new housing. My Friend's Place provides emergency and transitional housing, food assistance, vocational rehabilitation services, and referrals for physical and mental health services.

Families in Transition, Hope on Haven Hill, and Lydia's House of Hope all provide transitional housing and structured programs for homeless residents. Families in Transition has transitional housing units statewide, including six units in the neighboring City of Dover. Hope on Haven Hill has eight units available for pregnant women with substance use disorders, as part of a one-year program, and it is in the process of developing additional transitional housing for those who have completed the one-year program but are not yet ready for permanent housing. Lydia's House of Hope provides transitional housing and vocational skills development for women and children in a faith-based program.

In addition, Community Partners provides a range of behavioral health services to low-income and homeless people in the City of Rochester. This includes rental assistance to homeless individuals and families with mental illness or a developmental disability to aid these persons in obtaining and maintaining permanent housing. Community Partners provides services to many of the regional homeless shelters. Other regional organizations providing assistance to homeless residents and those at risk of homelessness include the SHARE Fund, which runs a food pantry and provides rental assistance, and the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, which provides emergency food, fuel, and other financial assistance; weatherization services for lower-income homeowners; and regional affordable housing development projects.

List and describe services and facilities that meet the needs of homeless persons, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth. If the services and facilities are listed on screen SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure or screen MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services, describe how these facilities and services specifically address the needs of these populations.

The Homeless Center for Strafford County, which provides seasonal shelter; My Friend's Place, which provides year-round shelters; and Cross Roads House, which provides year-round shelter, all offer a range of supportive services in addition to shelter for homeless persons. The Homeless Center for Strafford County offers basic financial skills counseling and employment services such as interview preparation. Cross Roads House offers tutoring and GED preparation assistance, referrals to mental health counseling and/or substance use disorder treatment, job search and vocational training, life skills training, and access to primary medical and dental care. In 2018, Cross Roads House started providing housing stability case management services for former shelter residents who had obtained permanent housing to help these clients successfully maintain their new housing. My Friend's Place provides emergency and transitional housing, food assistance, vocational rehabilitation services, and referrals for physical and mental health services.

Due to being a lower-barrier shelter with a higher capacity, Cross Roads House serves more chronically homeless individuals than either My Friend's Place or the Homeless Center for Strafford County. Starting in 2018, Cross Roads House also began participating in the New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care's targeted efforts to eliminate homelessness among veterans and has provided services to between three to seven veterans per month. My Friend's Place and the Homeless Center for Strafford County both serve women, children, and men who are admitted as part of a family including children.

Families in Transition, Hope on Haven Hill, and Lydia's House of Hope all provide transitional housing and structured programs for homeless residents. Families in Transition has transitional housing units statewide, including six units in the neighboring City of Dover. Hope on Haven Hill has eight units available for pregnant women with substance use disorders, as part of a one-year program, and it is in the process of developing additional transitional housing for those who have completed the one-year program but are not yet ready for permanent housing. Lydia's House of Hope provides transitional housing and vocational skills development for women and children in a faith-based program.

Both Lydia's House of Hope and Hope on Haven Hill (which are unaffiliated, despite similar names) specifically serve homeless women and children. Further, Hope on Haven Hill serves pregnant women with substance use disorders and women with substance use disorders who have infants.

Services for unaccompanied homeless Rochester youth primarily consist of Rochester Youth Reach (<http://www.ryr603.org>), which provides services, food, and clothing to homeless and housing insecure youth, and the Rochester School District's Families in Transition coordinator, Jacky LeHoullier, which is the school district liaison for homeless students and their families. The Families in Transition coordinator coordinates transportation for homeless students to get to their schools, provides assistance in obtaining food and clothing for homeless students, and refers homeless students and their families to regional social service agencies (*e.g.*, Community Partners) as applicable.

MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services – 91.210(d)

Introduction

Consultations with regional homeless services providers and other social service agencies have indicated a need for more permanent supportive housing for people with disabilities, especially for residents with mental illnesses and/or developmental disorders. In addition, there is a need for transitional housing for those existing in-patient recovery programs, as there is a housing gap for these residents and the lack of transitional housing has been identified as a significant factor in relapses.

The City of Rochester will also support rental assistance to those who are at risk of becoming homeless, with priority given to rental assistance programs that serve populations with special needs, such as Community Partners' program that provides rental assistance to its clients with mental illnesses and/or developmental disabilities. Supportive services will include activities undertaken by organizations such as Tri-City Co-op, which provides peer to peer mental health services; SOS Recovery Center, which provides substance use disorder recovery services; and Bridging the Gaps, a local coalition focused on youth prevention.

Including the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities (mental, physical, developmental), persons with alcohol or other drug addictions, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, public housing residents and any other categories the jurisdiction may specify, and describe their supportive housing needs.

Consultations with regional homeless services providers and other social service agencies have indicated a need for more permanent supportive housing for people with disabilities, especially for residents with mental illnesses and/or developmental disorders. In addition, there is a need for transitional housing for those existing in-patient recovery programs, as there is a housing gap for these residents and the lack of transitional housing has been identified as a significant factor in relapses.

Consultation with the Rochester Housing Authority and Home for All (formerly the Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness) has indicated a particular need for more permanent supportive housing for residents who are chronically homeless. The Rochester Housing Authority has also indicated that public housing residents continue to need mental health supportive services, such as those provided by Community Partners and Tri-City Co-op, and transportation services for elderly residents and residents with mobility-related disabilities.

Supportive housing needs of local residents living with HIV/AIDS, per consultations with regional service providers, largely consist of the need for more affordable housing and transportation services.

Describe programs for ensuring that persons returning from mental and physical health institutions receive appropriate supportive housing.

Community Partners offers permanent supportive housing to those with mental illnesses as well as a rental assistance program to those with mental illnesses and/or developmental disabilities. The rental assistance program has received Rochester CDBG funding in recent years and pairs financial support with ongoing case management and other supportive services. There are a number of out-patient and in-patient services for those with substance use disorders, including those provided by Goodwin Community Health and Southeastern New Hampshire Services, but there is a substantial lack of supportive housing for those existing in-patient programs or for those in out-patient programs. Our region is slowly addressing this lack. For example, Hope on Haven, which provides shelter and supportive services for pregnant women with substance use disorders, is currently in the process of implementing a transitional housing program for its clients who have completed the one-year main program.

There are a number of non-housing supportive services that help offset the lack of permanent supportive housing in the region, however. The EasterSeals/Homemakers and Cornerstone Visiting Nurses Association, both located within the City of Rochester and primarily serving Rochester residents, provide home-care services for elderly persons, people with physical disabilities, and people with ongoing chronic health issues. Such services include home nurse visits, behavioral health services, social worker case management, and hospice care. AIDS Response Seacoast provides a wide range of supportive services to those living with HIV/AIDS, including health care referrals, utility costs assistance, emergency financial assistance, transportation for medical appointments, mental health counseling, food pantry, and support groups. While physically located in the City of Portsmouth, AIDS Response Seacoast estimates that about 20% of all its clients are Rochester residents.

Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. 91.315(e)

The City of Rochester will support rental assistance to those who are at risk of becoming homeless, with priority given to rental assistance programs that serve populations with special needs, such as Community Partners' program that provides rental assistance to its clients with mental illnesses and/or developmental disabilities. Supportive services will include activities undertaken by organizations such as Tri-City Co-op, which provides peer to peer mental health services; SOS Recovery Center, which provides substance use disorder recovery services; and Bridging the Gaps, a local coalition focused on youth prevention.

Local and state data indicates that people with mental illnesses and people with substance use disorders disproportionately experience homelessness in general and chronic homelessness specifically. Focusing on rental assistance and supportive services is aimed at preventing homelessness for these particularly at-risk populations.

For entitlement/consortia grantees: Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs

identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. (91.220(2))

The City of Rochester will support rental assistance to those who are at risk of becoming homeless, with priority given to rental assistance programs that serve populations with special needs, such as Community Partners' program that provides rental assistance to its clients with mental illnesses and/or developmental disabilities. Supportive services will include activities undertaken by organizations such as Tri-City Co-op, which provides peer to peer mental health services; SOS Recovery Center, which provides substance use disorder recovery services; and Bridging the Gaps, a local coalition focused on youth prevention.

Local and state data indicates that people with mental illnesses and people with substance use disorders disproportionately experience homelessness in general and chronic homelessness specifically. Focusing on rental assistance and supportive services is aimed at preventing homelessness for these particularly at-risk populations.

MA-40 Barriers to Affordable Housing – 91.210(e)

Describe any negative effects of public policies on affordable housing and residential investment.

During the PY 2015-2020 performance period, the City of Rochester sought to reduce or eliminate many barriers to affordable housing for the City of Rochester's residents. Statewide low-income housing tax credits help to incentivize housing developers to take on housing projects that might otherwise prove economically disadvantageous. Further, a number of local-level efforts have been initiated during the PY 2015-2020 performance period to increase the supply of affordable housing in the area. These have included changes to downtown density allowances and the PY 2019 workforce housing charrette and its recommendations. The City of Rochester anticipates that these efforts and their continuation into the PY 2020-2020 will help increase the supply of affordable housing but will be a long-term implemented solution.

Other areas for potential improvement, identified during the workforce housing charrette and consultations with the Rochester Planning Department and Rochester Department of Building, Zoning, and Licensing Services, include downtown core requirement of first-floor commercial space and the increased enforcement of municipal building codes. During the PY 2019 workforce housing charrette, the first-floor commercial space requirement for buildings located in the "downtown core" was identified as a barrier to affordable housing, as residential units are currently much more in demand downtown than commercial space. Consultations with the Rochester Codes Compliance Officer have also indicated that increase code enforcement in the city, after an extended period where there was a lack of monitoring and enforcement, has disproportionately impacted rental housing for lower-income residents. In addition, the City's current fire safety codes have impacted the development of multi-family housing units. Such multi-family units are required to have sprinkler systems, as opposed to fire alarms, and building developers and property owners often find this cost-prohibitive. Given that this impacts multi-family housing but not single-family housing, these fire safety codes disproportionately impact the City of Rochester's affordable housing.

During PY 2020-2025, the Community Development Coordinator will work with city staff and the City Council to address these barriers to affordable housing. This will include proposing that the city eliminate the first-floor commercial space requirement in the downtown core, either entirely or on as part of affordable housing incentives, and working with the Codes Compliance Officer to explore the use of CDBG funds to renovate existing affordable housing units to bring them up to code.

MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets – 91.215 (f)

Introduction

Since the PY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan and its 2007-2011 ACS data, the City of Rochester has seen an increase of about 5,000 workers. The majority of this increase is represented in the industries of manufacturing, retail trade, and education and health care services. This tracks with regional data and economic development consultations, as the City of Rochester has purposefully developed relationships with businesses and local educational partners to market itself as an aerospace composites manufacturing center. Albany International (<http://www.albint.com>) and Safran Aerospace Composites (<https://www.safran-group.com>) are both large-scale manufacturers located within the City of Rochester, and Great Bay Community College has an Advanced Technology and Academic Center (<http://greatbay.edu/courses/atac>) that is located in Rochester.

The retail sector has seen increases in employment thanks in large part to the completion of Phase I of the city’s Granite Ridge project (<http://www.theridgenh.com/>), which has brought a large number of retailers, restaurants, and other businesses to the city. Phase II of the project, which is looking to add a movie theater among other businesses, will be completed by the early part of the PY 2020-2025 performance period. It is anticipated that the completion of Phase II will add a substantial additional number of retail jobs to the local economy.

The health care sector remains strong and growing, in large part due to the region’s aging population. Home care supportive services are provided by EasterSeals and Cornerstone Visiting Nurses’ Association, both located within the City of Rochester. The Rochester office of MY TURN, a regional organization that provides vocational and educational services to lower-income youth, reports that a large number of its Rochester clients are training to enter the nursing and allied health professions.

Economic Development Market Analysis

Business Activity

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	45	19	0	0	0
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	1,524	1,171	11	12	0
Construction	546	380	4	4	0
Education and Health Care Services	2,233	1,900	17	19	2
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	1,021	426	8	4	-4
Information	344	162	3	2	-1

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Manufacturing	1,997	1,554	15	15	0
Other Services	501	469	4	5	1
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	946	469	7	5	-3
Public Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	2,255	2,753	17	27	10
Transportation and Warehousing	344	117	3	1	-1
Wholesale Trade	581	163	4	2	-3
Total	12,337	9,583	--	--	--

Table 40 - Business Activity

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS (Workers), 2015 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (Jobs)

Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	16,020
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	14,950
Unemployment Rate	6.57
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	25.46
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	4.24

Table 41 - Labor Force

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	3,080
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	890
Service	1,650
Sales and office	3,655
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	1,630
Production, transportation and material moving	1,295

Table 42 - Occupations by Sector

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	8,830	62%
30-59 Minutes	4,095	29%
60 or More Minutes	1,240	9%
Total	14,165	100%

Table 43 - Travel Time

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Education

Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	820	80	705

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	3,885	290	1,470
Some college or Associate's degree	4,105	240	1,115
Bachelor's degree or higher	3,165	95	495

Table 44 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	40	20	105	310	330
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	240	280	390	495	570
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	1,230	1,215	1,270	3,165	2,160
Some college, no degree	690	1,085	820	1,920	980
Associate's degree	175	295	535	820	285
Bachelor's degree	205	910	620	1,225	500
Graduate or professional degree	100	260	210	565	200

Table 45 - Educational Attainment by Age

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	25,412
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	29,605
Some college or Associate's degree	32,673
Bachelor's degree	45,997
Graduate or professional degree	46,563

Table 46 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Based on the Business Activity table above, what are the major employment sectors within your jurisdiction?

Since the PY 2015-2020 Consolidated Plan and its 2007-2011 ACS data, the City of Rochester has seen an increase of about 5,000 workers. The majority of this increase is represented in the industries of manufacturing, retail trade, and education and health care services. This tracks

with regional data and economic development consultations, as the City of Rochester has purposefully developed relationships with businesses and local educational partners to market itself as an aerospace composites manufacturing center. Albany International (<http://www.albint.com>) and Safran Aerospace Composites (<https://www.safran-group.com>) are both large-scale manufacturers located within the City of Rochester, and Great Bay Community College has an Advanced Technology and Academic Center (<http://greatbay.edu/courses/atac>) that is located in Rochester.

The retail sector has seen increases in employment thanks in large part to the completion of Phase I of the city's Granite Ridge project (<http://www.theridgenh.com/>), which has brought a large number of retailers, restaurants, and other businesses to the city. Phase II of the project, which is looking to add a movie theater among other businesses, will be completed by the early part of the PY 2020-2025 performance period. It is anticipated that the completion of Phase II will add a substantial additional number of retail jobs to the local economy. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic that reached New Hampshire in March 2020, there has been a drastic spike in unemployment in retail and food service sectors that will take considerable time to drop to pre-pandemic levels.

The health care sector remains strong and growing, in large part due to the region's aging population. Home care supportive services are provided by EasterSeals and Cornerstone Visiting Nurses' Association, both located within the City of Rochester. The Rochester office of MY TURN, a regional organization that provides vocational and educational services to lower-income youth, reports that a large number of its Rochester clients are training to enter the nursing and allied health professions.

Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community.

The increase in high-tech industrial businesses, such as Albany International and Safran Aerospace Composites, demands a workforce with post-secondary education and technical skills. Currently, the City of Rochester has a lower percentage of residents with college degrees than several neighboring municipalities. This mismatch is being addressed through several approaches, including a dual certification program between the Rochester School Department's technical center and Great Bay Community College's Advanced Technology & Academic Center.

In addition, these regional employers have reported experiencing troubles in hiring adequate numbers of workers. Three main factors have been identified as causes: low unemployment rates, the increasing opioid epidemic in the Seacoast region, and the lack of affordable housing in the Seacoast region. ACS data from 2011-2015 shows a 4.2% unemployment rate for ages 25-65, and 2018 data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows a 2.3% unemployment rate. SOS Recovery Center has reported that in 2018 it served 971 clients between its two locations in Rochester and Dover. As discussed in the housing market section above, there is currently a shortage of all types of housing within the Seacoast region and especially of affordable housing specifically.

Describe any major changes that may have an economic impact, such as planned local or regional public or private sector investments or initiatives that have affected or may affect job and business growth opportunities during the planning period. Describe any needs for workforce development, business support or infrastructure these changes may create.

During PY 2015-2020, the retail sector has seen increases in employment thanks in large part to the completion of Phase I of the city's Granite Ridge project (<http://www.theridgenh.com/>), which has brought a large number of retailers, restaurants, and other businesses to the city. Phase II of the project, which is looking to add a movie theater among other businesses, will be completed by the early part of the PY 2020-2025 performance period. It is anticipated that the completion of Phase II will add a substantial additional number of retail jobs to the local economy. Anticipated infrastructure needs include upgrades and expansion of the City of Rochester's water and sewer systems to accommodate industrial and commercial development. The City of Rochester has started to address these issues through a water extension project funded through the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

Also, the COVID-19 pandemic, which reached New Hampshire in March 2020, has led to a large spike in unemployment and the closure of many restaurants and small businesses. The food service sector and retail sector have been the hardest hit.

How do the skills and education of the current workforce correspond to employment opportunities in the jurisdiction?

The increase in specialty manufacturing industries, such as Albany International and Safran Aerospace Composites, demands a workforce with post-secondary education and specialized technical skills. Currently, the City of Rochester has a lower percentage of residents with college degrees than several neighboring municipalities. According to 2017 American Community Survey data, only about 16% of Rochester residents have a bachelor's degree, whereas nearly 27% of Dover residents have a bachelor's degree. The statewide percentage of residents with a bachelor's degree, meanwhile, is about 22%, meaning Rochester falls well below the state average. This mismatch is being addressed through several approaches, including a dual certification program between the Rochester School Department's technical center and Great Bay Community College's Advanced Technology & Academic Center.

Describe any current workforce training initiatives, including those supported by Workforce Investment Boards, community colleges and other organizations. Describe how these efforts will support the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan.

In PY 2019, the Rochester School Department's technical center partnered with Great Bay Community College's Advanced Technology & Academic Center to create a dual-certification program for junior and senior level high school students. The program allows students to attend classes at both the tech center and the community college while receiving a stipend. At the end of two years, successful students will have both their high school diploma and a post-secondary certificate in advanced composites manufacturing. The City of Rochester Community Development Coordinator has assisted the school department in setting up this program and identifying funding avenues to support it.

In addition, the Rochester office of MY TURN, a regional organization that provides vocational and educational services to lower-income youth, has focused on the retail and allied health care industries. They have provided financial support for lower-income young adults to obtain health care credentials (such as licensed nursing assistance certification) and paid internships in local restaurants and other businesses. MY TURN has received Rochester CDBG funding for most of

the PY 2015-2020 performance period, and it is anticipated that MY TURN will continue to receive CDBG funding during the PY 2020-2025 period.

Does your jurisdiction participate in a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)?

The City of Rochester participates in a city-wide Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Plan. The City also participates in a county-wide CEDS for Strafford County as part of a coalition spearheaded by the Strafford Regional Planning Commission.

If so, what economic development initiatives are you undertaking that may be coordinated with the Consolidated Plan? If not, describe other local/regional plans or initiatives that impact economic growth.

The City of Rochester's Economic Development Strategic Plan was most recently updated in March 2018. The updated plan outlines a need for more affordable housing for Rochester's workforce; a need for higher-paying jobs, as much of the Rochester economy is based on lower-paying retail work; a need for downtown revitalization; and a need for continued education to support economic growth and the reduction and elimination of poverty in the long term. This Consolidated Plan addresses these identified needs through a prioritization of affordable housing and downtown revitalization initiatives, support for educational and vocational programs such as the Dover Adult Learning Center and MY TURN, and the Job Opportunity Benefit (JOB) revolving loan fund.

The Strafford County region's most recent update to its Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy was finalized in June 2018. The updated CEDS discusses a growth in the regional economy's retail sector, which is lower-paying than manufacturing; infrastructure and public transit needs; hazard mitigation planning, and the continuing need for workforce training programs. It also found that the City of Rochester's median income, when controlled for inflation, decreased by 1.74% between 2012 and 2016. This Consolidated Plan addresses these identified needs through support for educational and vocational programs such as the Dover Adult Learning Center and MY TURN, inclusion of hazard mitigation measures in public infrastructure and facility projects, and the Job Opportunity Benefit (JOB) revolving loan fund.

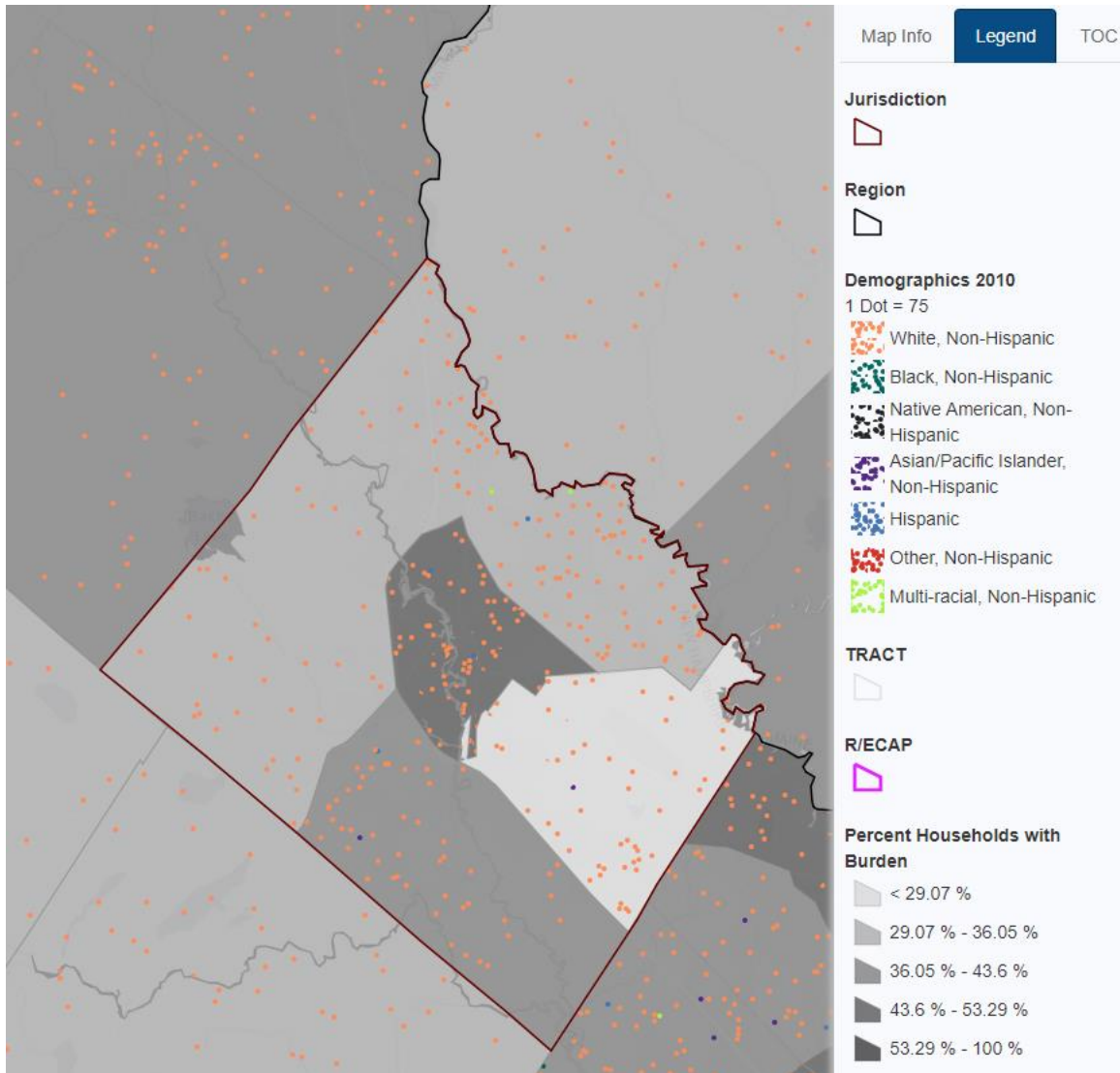
Discussion

Mean travel time, according to 2011-2017 ACS data, for the City of Rochester is 27.2 minutes.

MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

**Are there areas where households with multiple housing problems are concentrated?
(Include a definition of “concentration.”)**

Housing condition challenges are unequally spread between renters and homeowners. While 32% of homeowners’ housing has one or more conditions of concern, 50% of renters’ housing has one or more conditions of concern. Also, while 48% of homeowners’ housing was built prior to 1980, 60% of renters’ housing was built prior to 1980. As seen in the map below, created using HUD’s Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) Data Tool, there is a higher concentration of those experiencing housing burdens in the more urban and densely populated downtown/central city region than the more rural western and northwestern parts of the city. There are also significant numbers of housing burdened residents in the north and southeast parts of the city. For the purposes of this analysis, the term “concentration” means at least 1,000 residents in a single large census tract or two neighboring smaller census tracts.



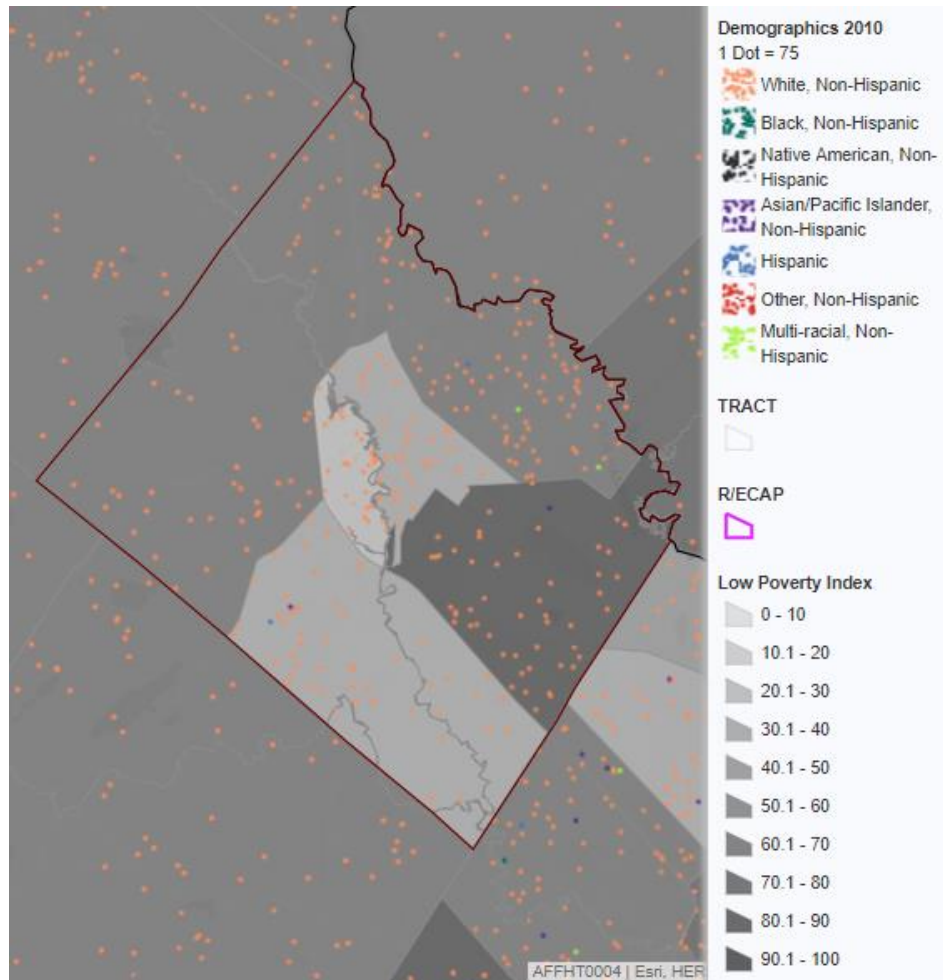
Households with Housing Burdens, by Race/Ethnicity
 source: HUD AFFH Data and Mapping Tool

Are there any areas in the jurisdiction where racial or ethnic minorities or low-income families are concentrated? (Include a definition of "concentration.")

According to the Strafford Regional Planning Commission’s most recent *Fair Housing and Equity Assessment*, the Stafford County region of New Hampshire is “fortunate to be home to zero HUD designated Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty.” Approximately six percent of the region’s total population belonged to a racial/ethnic minority category, which the report determined meant “the presence of RCAP’s and ECAP’s in the region and state is highly improbable.”

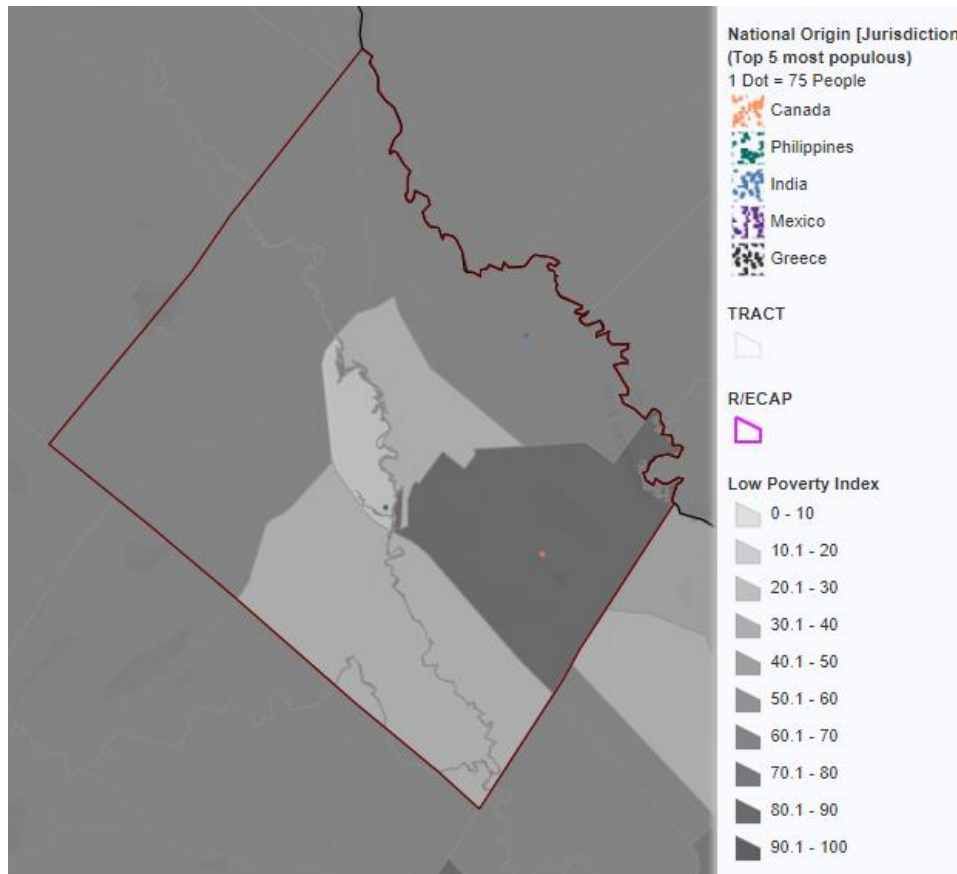
However, there are areas of concentration by race/ethnicity. In the maps below, created using HUD data on depth and intensity of poverty by census tract, the values range from 0 to 100, and higher scores indicate less exposure to poverty in a neighborhood, which corresponds heavily with areas with

higher numbers of housing concerns. The areas of highest poverty exposure are the more urban center of the city and the southeastern region of the city, while the more rural eastern and western region of the city has the least poverty exposure. The northern region of the city, comprised of the former Village of East Rochester, has intermediate levels of poverty exposure. For the purposes of this analysis, the term “concentration” means at least 1,000 residents in a single large census tract or two neighboring smaller census tracts.



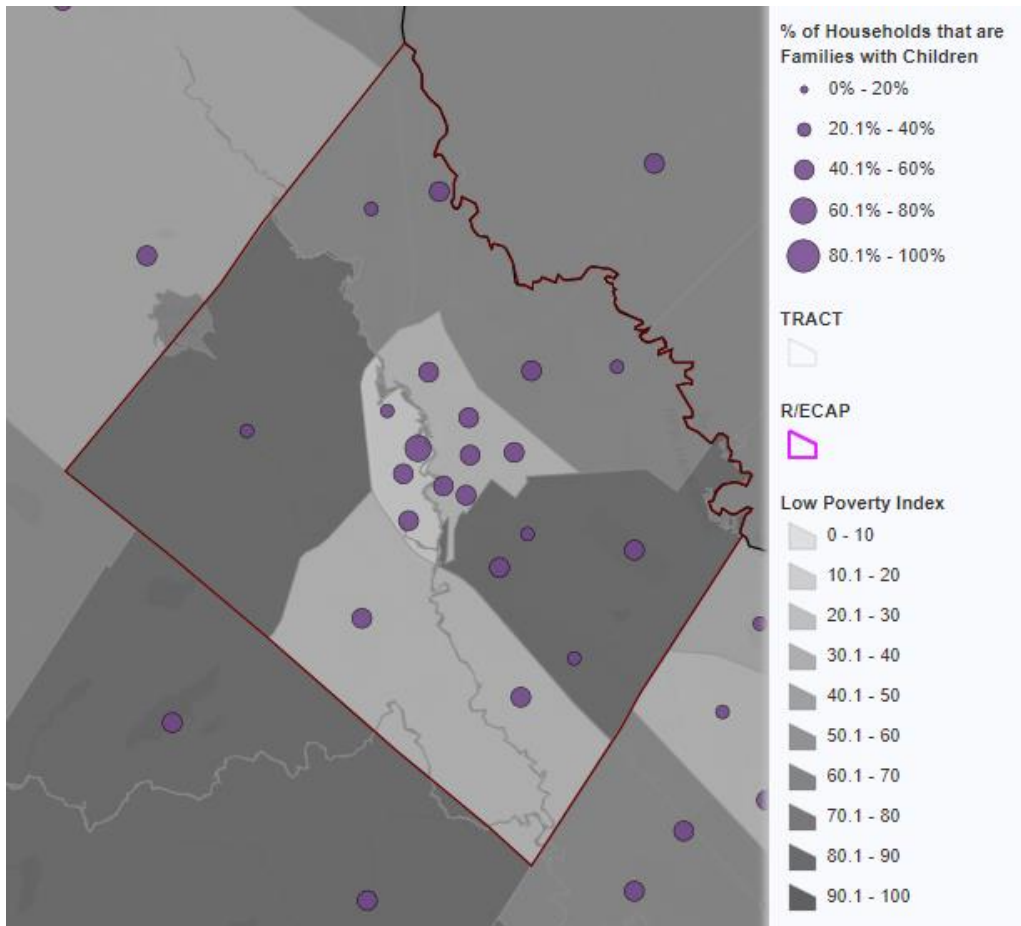
Poverty and Race/Ethnicity

As shown on the map above, created using the HUD AFFH Tool, Asian/Pacific Islander residents and Hispanic residents disproportionately live in the census tracts with intermediate and highest poverty exposure, while multiracial residents disproportionately live in intermediate poverty exposure census tracts.



Poverty and National Origin

As shown on the map above, created using the HUD AFFH Tool, residents with a national origin from India live disproportionately in census tracts with the highest poverty exposure, while residents with a national origin from Canada live disproportionately in census tracts with the lowest poverty exposure.



Poverty and Family Status

As shown on the map above, created using the HUD AFFH Tool, families with children largely live in the census tracts with the highest poverty exposure, although there are sizable populations of families with children in census tracts with intermediate and lowest poverty exposures.

The areas of highest poverty exposure are the more urban center of the city and the southeastern region of the city, while the more rural eastern and western region of the city has the least poverty exposure. The northern region of the city, comprised of the former Village of East Rochester, has intermediate levels of poverty exposure. Asian/Pacific Islander residents and Hispanic residents disproportionately live in the census tracts with intermediate and highest poverty exposure, while multiracial residents disproportionately live in intermediate poverty exposure census tracts. Residents with a national origin from India live disproportionately in census tracts with the highest poverty exposure, while residents with a national origin from Canada live disproportionately in census tracts with the lowest poverty exposure. Families with children largely live in the census tracts with the highest poverty exposure, although there are sizable populations of families with children in census tracts with intermediate and lowest poverty exposures.

What are the characteristics of the market in these areas/neighborhoods?

In general, rents and property values are lower in the neighborhoods/areas identified above. Especially in the downtown district, there have been ongoing concerns related to vacant units (both commercial

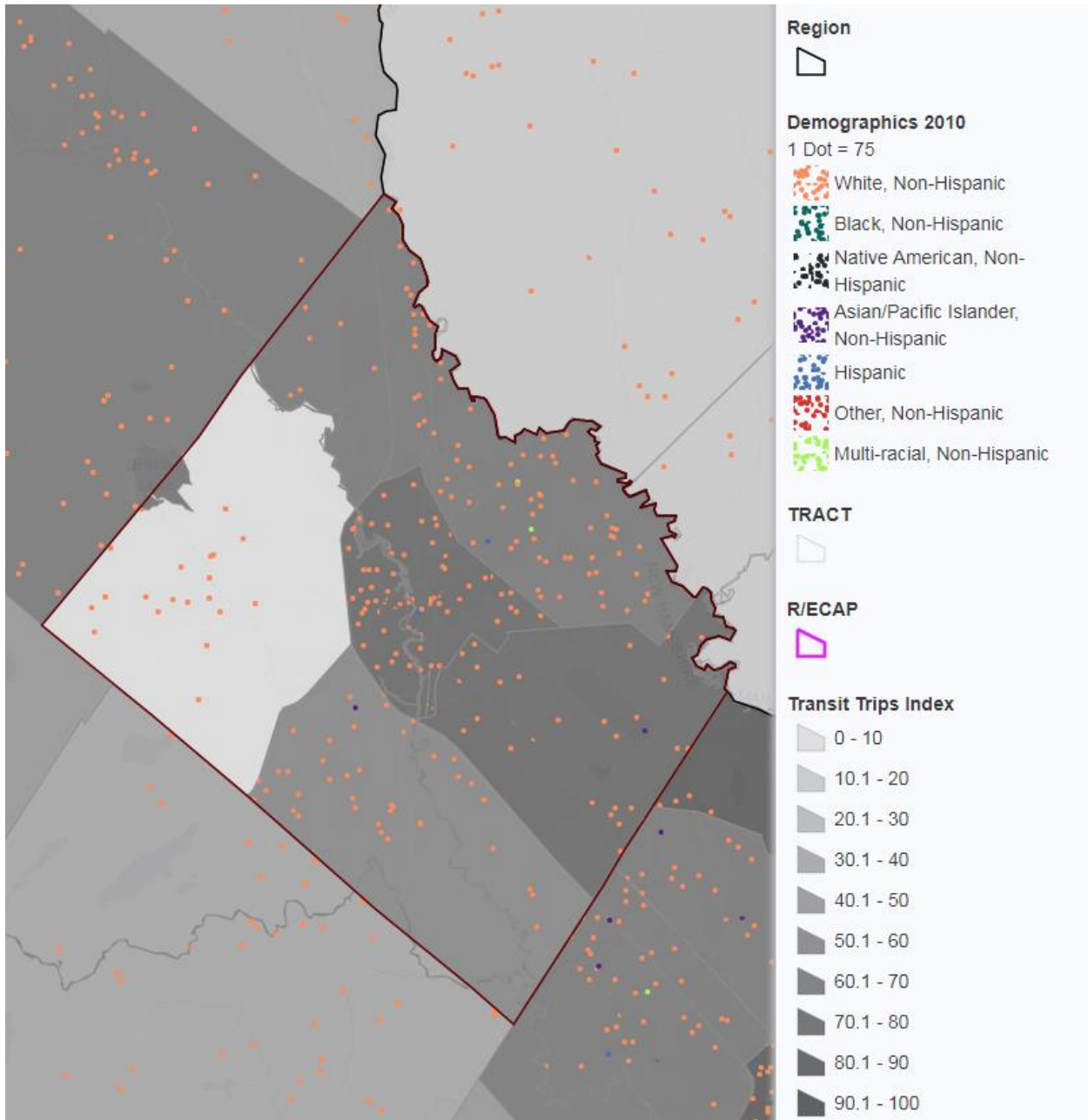
and residential), buildings with code violations that pose a threat to health and safety, and “absentee landlord” property owners who reside outside the City of Rochester and are perceived as not investing in their properties. These issues have been identified through consultations with Rochester Main Street, the general public, the Rochester Economic Development Office, and others. In addition, consultations with local property owners, conducted during the 2018 Rochester downtown housing workshop, and with the Economic Development Office have indicated that the downtown has an adequate supply of office and retail space but needs construction of more residential units and renovation of existing substandard units.

Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?

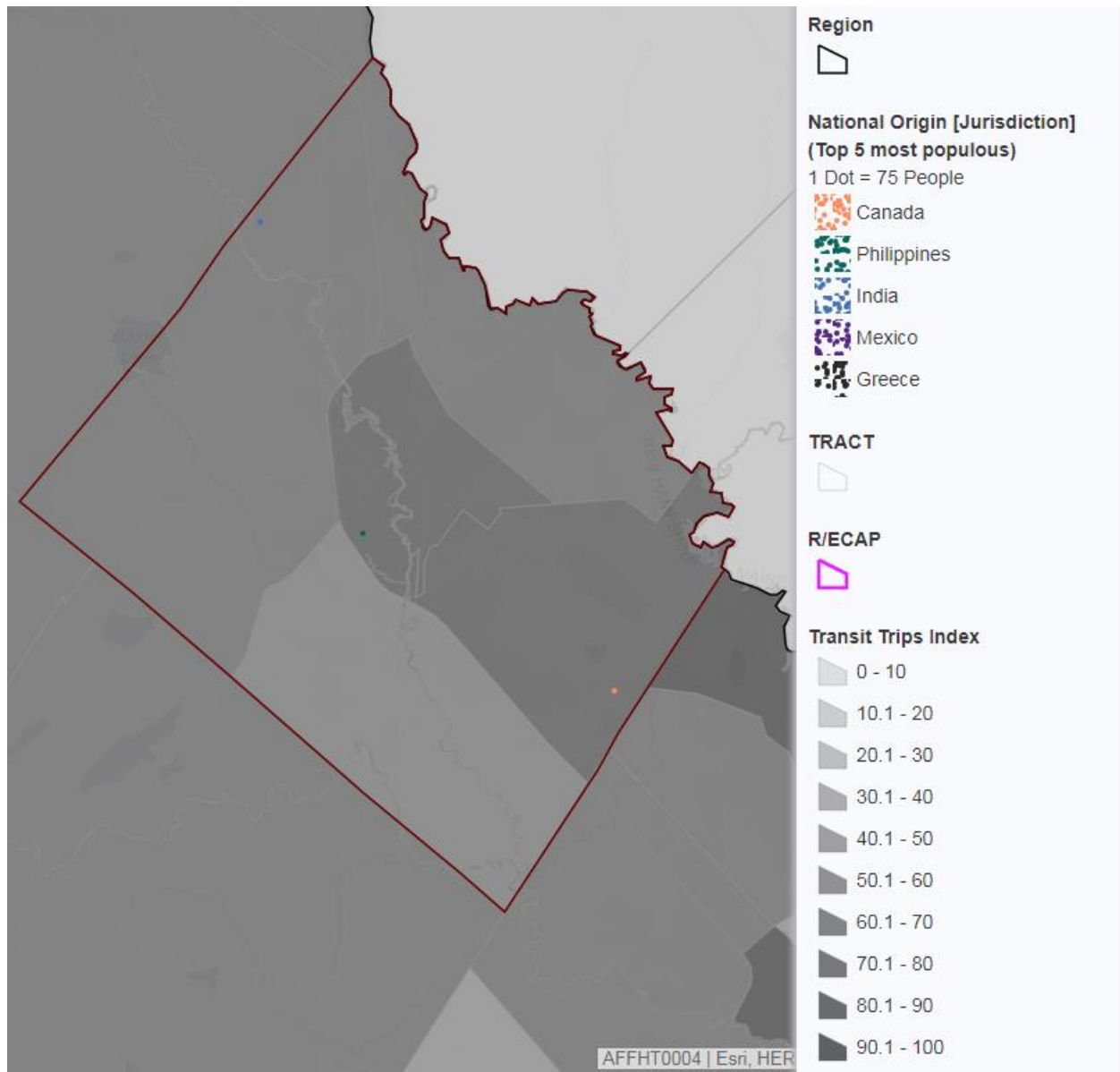
Rochester City Hall, the Rochester Opera House, the Rochester Public Library, the Commons and Central Square parks, the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce, and the Rochester Historical Society Museum are all located in the downtown district. The downtown district also offers a number of independently-owned restaurants and retailers.

Also located within 51% or greater low to moderate income census tracts but outside the downtown district are the Rochester Community Center, which houses multiple public service agencies and governmental offices as well as recreational facilities; the Richard W. Creteau Regional Technology Center, located within Spaulding High School; and Great Bay Community College’s Advanced Technology & Academic Center. The East Rochester Public Library is located in the northwestern part of the city and serves the former Village of East Rochester.

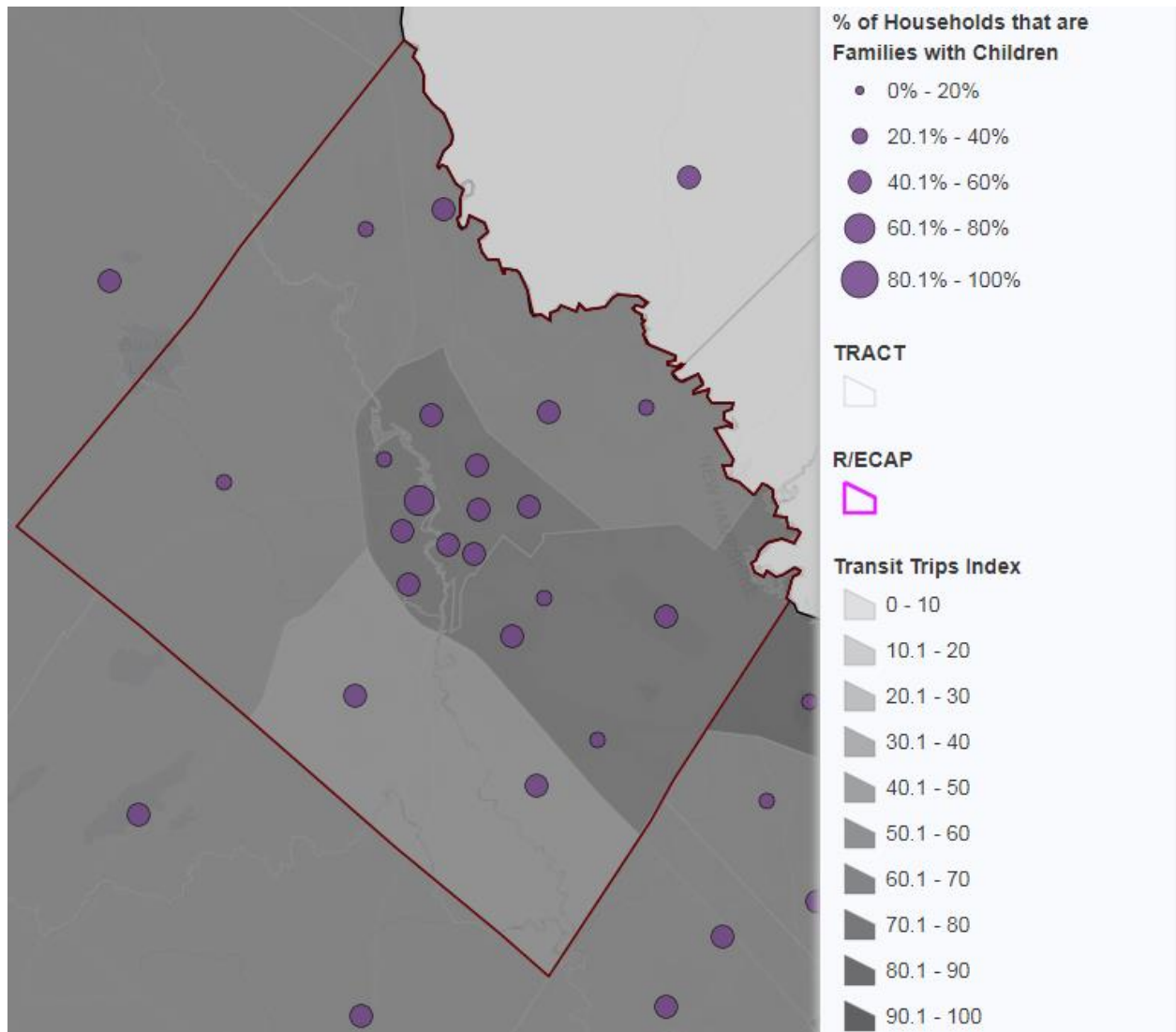
Most to all of these community assets are easily reached via public transit, as well. The Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST) has four bus routes that run through the City of Rochester. These routes primarily pass through the main corridors of the city—NH Route 11, NH Route 125, and NH Route 108.



Transit Trips and Race/Ethnicity



Transit Trips and National Origin

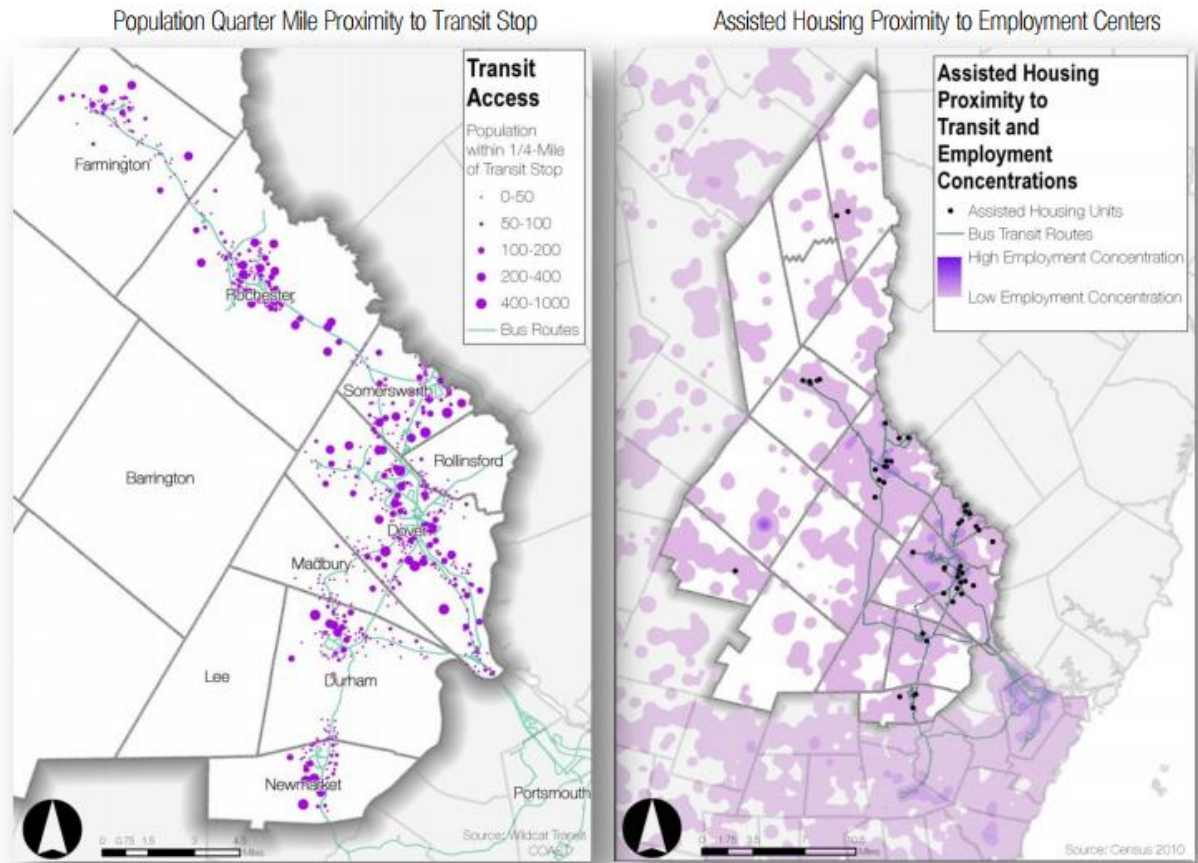


Transit Trips and Family Status

As seen on the maps above, created using HUD data and the HUD AFFH Tool, there are high levels of transit access citywide. The central area of the city and the eastern area have slightly higher levels, however, while the southeastern portion of the city has slightly lower levels. Racial and ethnic minorities, residents with foreign national origins, and families with children live largely in the areas of the city with higher levels of transit access.

In addition, American Community Survey data from 2012-2016 indicates that 3.7% of Rochester households do not have a personal vehicle and 18.1% of households have only one personal vehicle. The alternative transportation access section of Strafford Regional Planning Commission's *Fair Housing and Equity Assessment* affirmed that access to opportunity, including employment opportunity, is dependent on access to transportation. Two GIS-based surveys conducted by the commission examined the relationship between population centers in Strafford County and transportation services, and these analyses (mapped below) found that

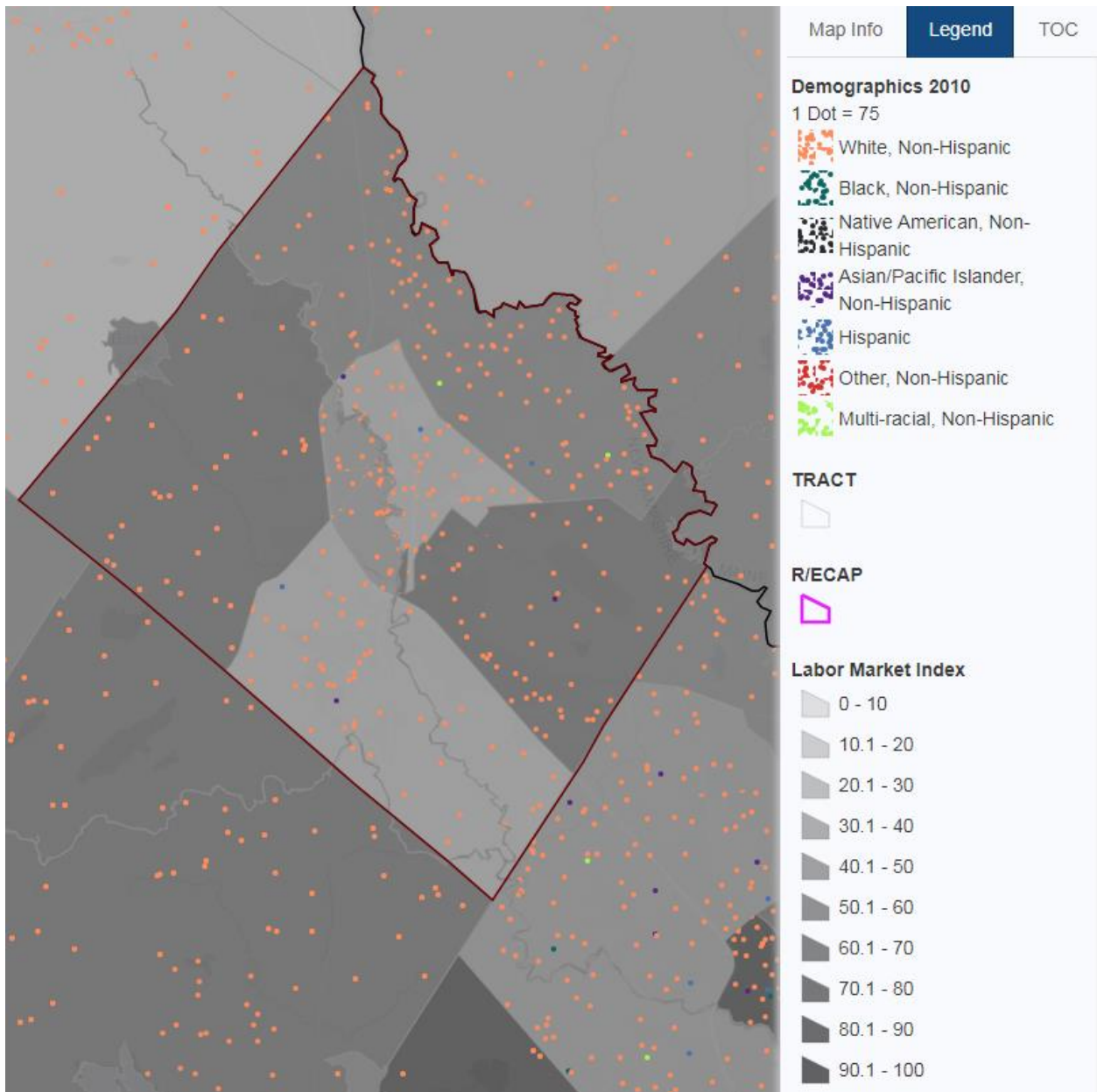
transportation services are available within a quarter mile walking distance of the most densely populated regions of the county and large portions of the county's population.



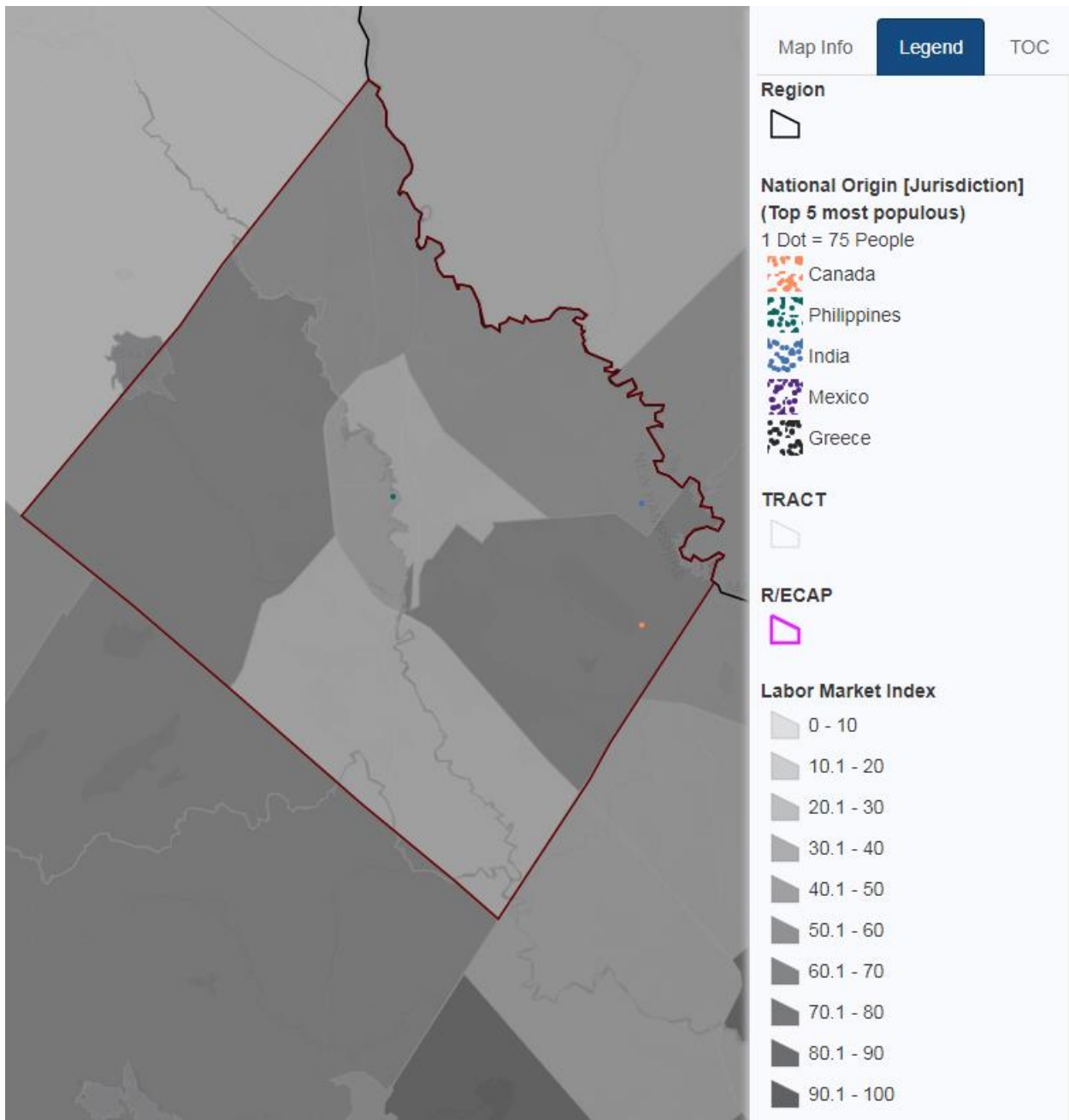
Population Proximity to Bus Stops in Strafford County
 source: Strafford Regional Planning Commission, Fair Housing and Equity Assessment (January 2015)

Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?

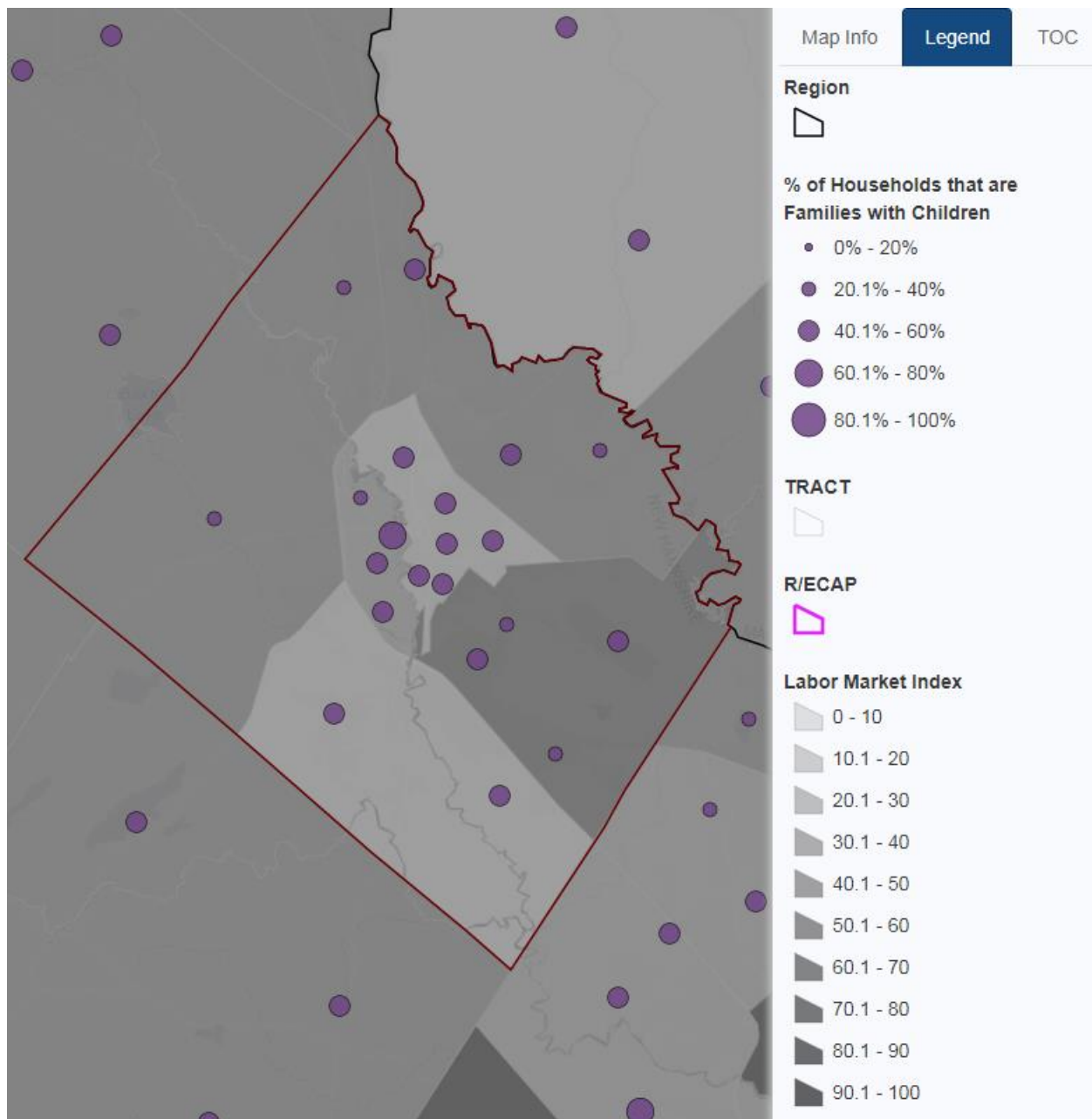
As seen on the maps below, created using the HUD AFFH Tool, darker areas indicate higher levels of labor engagement, while lighter areas indicate lower levels of labor engagement. No areas of the city are either at the highest or lowest levels, but there are disparities, with the central (downtown) and south-southeastern parts of the city showing lower levels than the northern, western, and eastern parts of the city. While residents seem relatively evenly spread between higher and lower census tracts based on race/ethnicity and national origin, there appears to be a concentration of families with children in the lower census tracts.



Labor Market Index by Race/Ethnicity



Labor Market Index by National Origin



Labor Market Index by Family Size

Given both the labor market and housing market data, strategic opportunities will include partnering with downtown revitalization non-profit Rochester Main Street to increase employment opportunities for low-income residents, as well as downtown affordable housing initiatives; increasing the educational and vocational services available to lower-income residents, through support of organizations such as the Dover Adult Learning Center and MY TURN; development of the downtown district's Cocheco River riverwalk to provide both recreational space for lower-income residents in this area as well as downtown beautification; and support for community resources and institutions, such as the East Rochester Library, located within the northern part of the city (the former Village of East Rochester).

MA-60 Broadband Needs of Housing occupied by Low- and Moderate-Income Households - 91.210(a)(4), 91.310(a)(2)

Describe the need for broadband wiring and connections for households, including low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods.

Consultations with Atlantic Broadband, one of the two broadband service providers in the region, indicate that most if not all areas of the city have broadband access. In addition, the 2019 Community Profile from the Tufts Health Plan Foundation found that 97% of Strafford County residents have access to broadband. In addition, our residents experiencing homelessness usually have at least some internet access through smart phones and wireless access plans.

Describe the need for increased competition by having more than one broadband Internet service provider serve the jurisdiction.

There are currently two broadband internet service providers that serve the City of Rochester, Atlantic Broadband and Comcast. The City of Rochester City Council voted to allow Comcast to begin operations within the city in 2017, and Comcast began serving its first Rochester customers in 2018. This increased competition has allows Rochester residents to have at least some choice in how they access the internet.

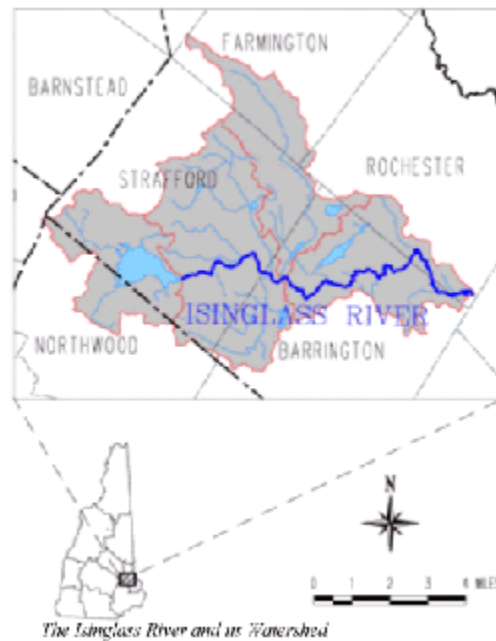
MA-65 Hazard Mitigation - 91.210(a)(5), 91.310(a)(3)

Describe the jurisdiction's increased natural hazard risks associated with climate change.

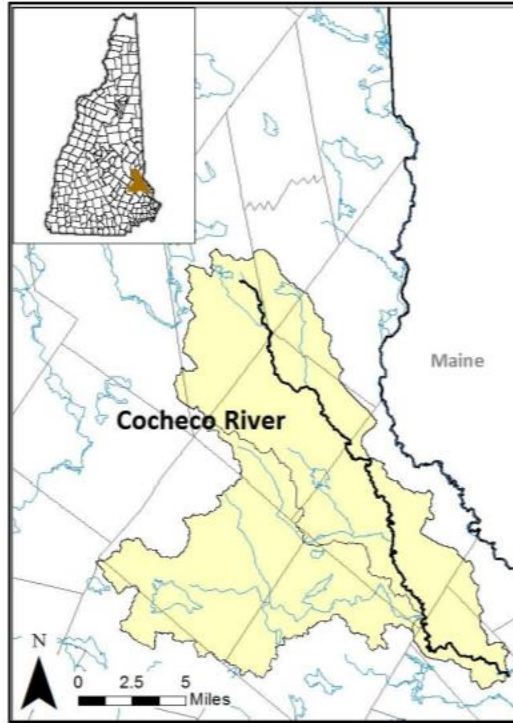
According to the New Hampshire Coastal Risks and Hazards Commission's Science and Technical Advisory Panel, the State of New Hampshire should anticipate a 2 to 6.6 foot sea level rise and 15% increase in extreme precipitation events by 2050. The City of Rochester's own 2018 update to its Multi-Hazard Mitigation plan also addresses a variety of natural hazards, especially the rise in extreme winter weather events due to climate change, including winter snow storms and flooding.

Describe the vulnerability to these risks of housing occupied by low- and moderate-income households based on an analysis of data, findings, and methods.

As the City of Rochester lies outside the New Hampshire Coastal Zone, most of the flooding risks experienced by the city are from rivers. There are three main rivers that flow through the City of Rochester: the Isinglass River, the Cocheco River, and Salmon Falls River. The Isinglass River cuts across the very southeastern tip of the city, while the Cocheco River cuts across the city roughly in half diagonally. The Salmon Falls River runs along the border between Rochester and the State of Maine.

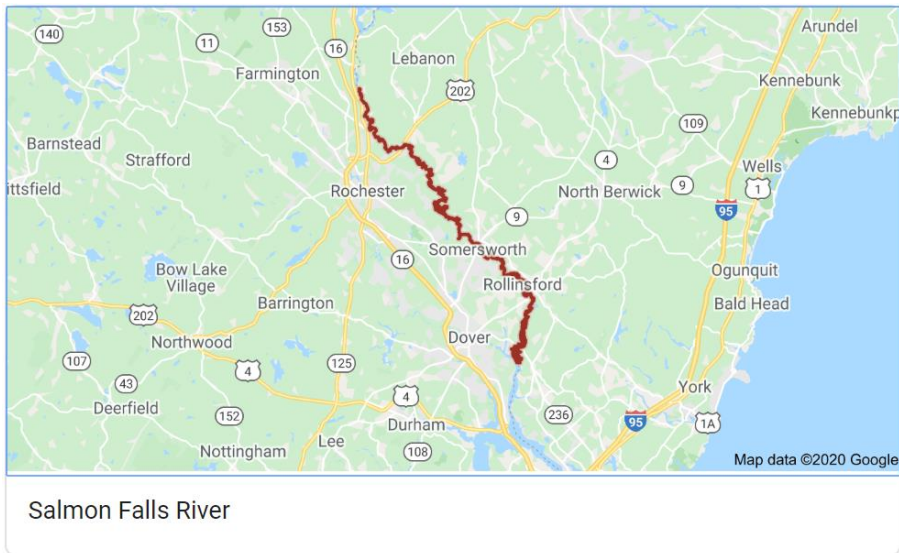


Map of Isinglass River
Source: NH Department of Environmental Services



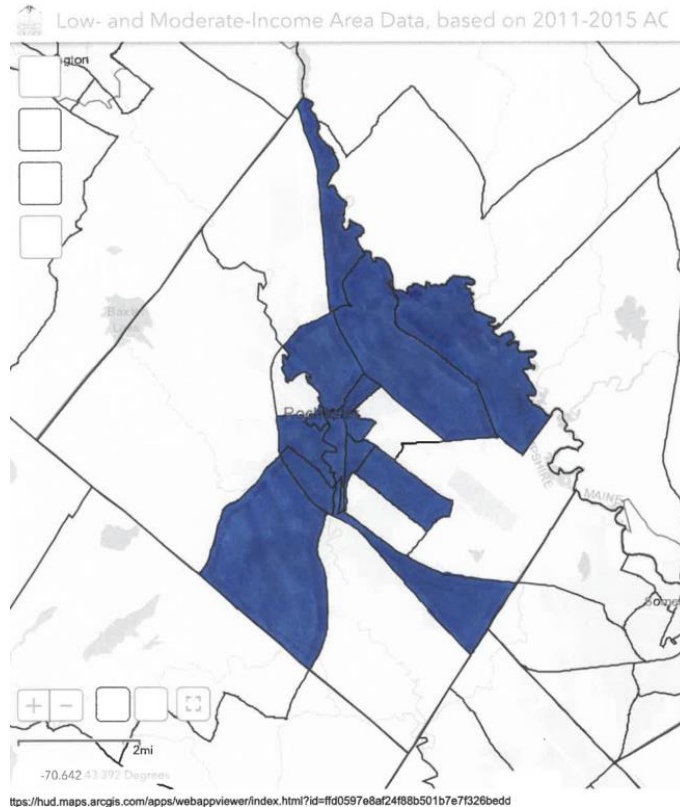
Map of Cocheco River

Source: NH Department of Environmental Services



Map of Salmon Falls River

Source: Google Maps



Map of 51%+ LMI Census Tracts in Rochester, NH

Source: HUD ARCGIS

The blue regions in the Rochester census tracts map represent tracts that are 51% or more low to moderate income residents as determined by most recent HUD data. These areas are also priority areas for natural hazard mitigation projects, such as projects to prevent or reduce damages from flooding. The Isinglass River does not run through any LMI census tracts or neighborhoods, but the Cocheco River and Salmon Falls River both do. The Cocheco River runs through the downtown, which is 51% LMI, as well as running near the Briar Ridge Estates manufactured home park, which is also primarily low-income. The Salmon Falls River runs through the northernmost border of the city, which is 51%+ LMI, as well as running near Tara Estates manufactured home park, which is also primarily low-income.

The homeowners in Briar Ridge Estates and Tara Estates are at potential risk of damages due to river flooding. The City of Rochester plans to address these risks through monitoring of river dams, public infrastructure projects aimed at reducing flooding and preventing flooding damage, and through weatherization and other home renovation assistance provided through the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County.

Strategic Plan

SP-05 Overview

Strategic Plan Overview

The City of Rochester plans to focus its programs and efforts in three primary ways—(1) through the support of affordable housing initiatives for lower and moderate income residents; (2) through the support of regional homeless shelters, homelessness prevention services, and “Housing First” housing approaches; (3) through the provision of non-housing services and programs targeted specifically for lower-income residents; and (4) through the support of public facilities and infrastructure projects located within low to moderate income census tracts and areas of particularly high need. The City’s priorities and programs for these areas are based on the extensive research and consultations that the Community Development Coordinator conducted with local public service agencies, relevant government agencies and departments, and the general public.

The needs of the City’s homeless population are high on the list of priority needs, and a number of efforts are planned to address the housing and supportive service needs of this population. Focus on permanent housing solutions for the chronically homeless, “Housing First” homeless approaches for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, and supportive services aimed at preventing and reducing homelessness (such as behavioral health services, substance use disorder recovery services, employment assistance, and rental assistance) are some of the key strengths of the region’s current services ecosystem and programs that the City of Rochester’s CDBG program has supported during the PY 2015-2020 performance period.

The City of Rochester plans to continue to fund such programs in the PY 2020-2025 Consolidated Plan period as part of its strategy to reduce homelessness and poverty through a combination of shorter-term approaches (such as emergency shelters) and longer-term approaches (*e.g.*, affordable housing initiatives, vocational and educational services). In particular, services aimed at assisting and supportive those with substance use disorders and/or mental illnesses who are experiencing homelessness are meant to effectively and permanently home a segment of the population which disproportionately is chronically homeless and consumes a disproportionately large portion of services such as bed nights and emergency room visits.

Other components of the City of Rochester’s strategic plan include the continual review of municipal zoning ordinances on the development of new affordable and workplace housing projects, projects aimed at increasing lead-based paint screening and lead-based paint abatement of lower-income housing units and other at-risk homes within the City, and continued support for the Job Opportunity Benefit (JOB) Loan Program which provides loans to businesses that commit to the creation or retention of jobs available to lower and moderate income residents.

SP-10 Geographic Priorities – 91.215 (a)(1)

Geographic Area

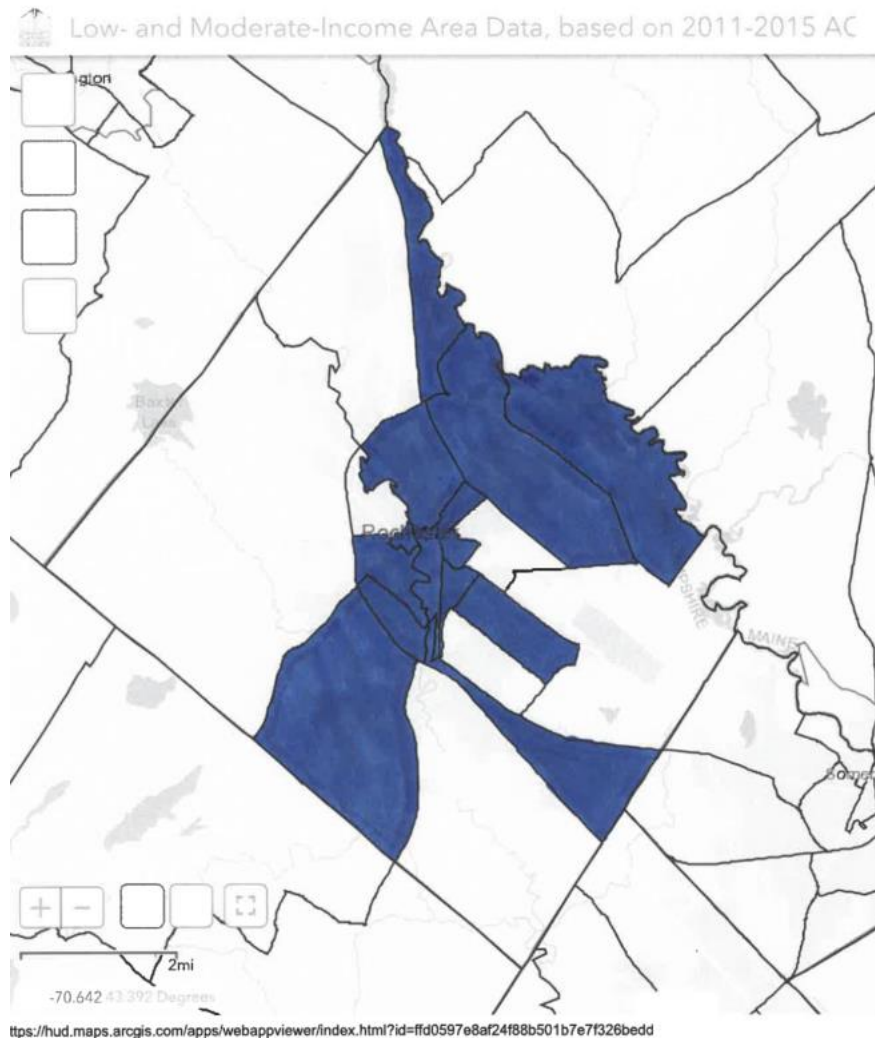


Table 47 - Geographic Priority Areas

The blue regions on the map above, which are 51% or more low to moderate income residents as determined by most recent HUD data (ACS 2012-2015), comprise the City of Rochester’s general allocation priority areas.

General Allocation Priorities

Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA).

These identified regions, which are 51% or more low to moderate income residents as determined by most recent HUD data (ACS 2012-2015), comprise the City of Rochester’s general allocation priority areas. Prioritizing these census tracts as a basis for allocation prioritization is intended to ensure that PY

2020-2025 public facilities and housing rehabilitation projects will benefit the lowest income City residents. Coordinated revitalization efforts planned for PY 2020-2025 include downtown façade improvement programs, affordable housing initiatives, partnering with the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce and Rochester Main Street to encourage downtown business, partnering with the Rochester Housing Authority to identify public housing improvements and affordable housing opportunities, and other such activities.

SP-25 Priority Needs - 91.215(a)(2)

Priority Needs

Name	Priority Level	Description	Population	Target Areas Affected	Associated Goals	Basis for Relative Priority
Assisting Homeless Persons to Obtain Affordable Housing and Assisting Persons at Risk of Homelessness	High	This priority need addresses the housing and supportive services needs of residents experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.	<p>Income Level: Extremely Low</p> <p>Family Types: Large Families, Family with Children, Elderly</p> <p>Homeless: Rural, Chronic Homelessness, Individuals, Families with Children, Mentally Ill, Chronic Substance Abuse, Veterans, Persons with HIV/AIDS, Victims of Domestic Violence, Unaccompanied Youth</p>	N/A. Targeted populations are homeless communities within the City of Rochester.	Support of homeless shelters, including emergency shelters and permanent supportive housing, for homeless persons and other vulnerable groups, including funding for building upgrades and rehabilitation; Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and low-income persons at risk for homelessness (including persons with substance use disorder and persons with mental illnesses); Support for permanent supportive	Safe and adequate housing is a basis-level need. Research has shown that Housing First approaches help reduce homelessness in the long-term as well as enables long-term stability for formerly-homeless persons.

					housing projects; Continued participation in local coalitions of service providers (e.g., Balance of State Continuum of Care, Tri-City Homelessness Task Force, and Home for All Coalition)	
Retention and Creation of Affordable Housing Stock	High	This priority need addresses the creation and retention of affordable housing units, with a focus on rental housing.	Income Level: Extremely Low, Low, Moderate Family Types: Large Families, Families with Children, Elderly, Public Housing Residents Non-Homeless Special Needs: Elderly, Frail Elderly, Persons with Mental Disabilities, Persons with Physical Disabilities, Persons	The target area for this goal is the City of Rochester's low-income downtown core, though other areas of the city will also be served, especially to promote mixed-income housing integration.	Support of weatherization and other energy efficiency efforts to provide long-term and sustainable affordability to low-income homeowners, including flooding mitigation and extreme winter storm mitigation renovations, as applicable; Support of housing rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing and remediation; Support for workforce	This priority has been determined to be high priority as data and consultations have shown a serious lack of affordable housing in the Seacoast New Hampshire region, especially in terms of rising housing costs compared to flagging wage increases.

			with Alcohol or Other Addictions		housing and affordable housing projects; Support for permanent supportive housing projects; Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and low-income persons at risk for homelessness (including persons with substance use disorder and persons with mental illnesses): Funding for allocations for accessibility features (e.g., wheelchair ramps, lifts, etc.) in residential buildings	
Providing Services and Aid for LMI Residents and Other Vulnerable Residents in Response to Emergency	High	This priority need addresses the substantial health, housing, economic, and other effects of emergency situations	Population: Extremely Low, Low, Moderate Family Types: Large Families, Families with Children,	N/A. Targeted population are low to moderate income residents affected by emergency	Support for emergency response-related services such as food pantries and food deliveries, rental assistance for LMI persons who have lost	This priority has been determined to be high priority as emergency situations and natural disasters threaten the lives, health, and safety of residents, especially lower-

and Disaster Events (Such as the COVID-19 Pandemic)		and natural disasters, such as the spring 2020 COVID-19 pandemic.	Elderly, Public Housing Residents Non-Homeless Special Needs: Elderly, Frail Elderly, Persons with Physical Disabilities Non-Housing Community Development	situations and natural disasters.	income sources, sanitation and other services for unsheltered homeless persons, etc.; Support for non-profits engaged in CDBG-eligible activities that have lost funding due to emergency situations, natural disasters, etc;	income residents and other vulnerable populations.
Providing Services for Residents with Substance Use Disorder and Addressing Root Causation	High	This priority need addresses substance use disorders affecting Rochester communities, especially the continuing opioid epidemic.	Income Level: Extremely Low, Low, Moderate, Middle Family Types: Large Families, Families with Children, Elderly, Public Housing Residents Homeless: Chronic Homelessness, Mentally Ill, Chronic Substance	N/A. Targeted populations are Rochester residents with substance use disorders.	Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and low-income persons at risk for homelessness (including persons with substance use disorder and persons with mental illnesses); Support for organizations and programs addressing mental illnesses (as there is high coincidence of substance	This priority has been determined to be high priority due to the historical lack of state funding for substance use disorder recovery and treatment, as well as state data showing that the City of Rochester has one of the highest rates of overdose in New Hampshire.

			Abuse Non-Homeless Special Needs: Persons with Mental Disabilities, Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions		abuse and mental illness; Support for organizations and programs for substance use disorder recovery; Identification of opportunities to support the creation of local residential treatment facilities for substance use disorder	
Improving the Safety and Livability of Neighborhoods	Low	This priority involves coordination with the Department of Public Works and Recreation Department to improve existing public facilities and infrastructure and to build new public facilities aimed at serving lower-income neighborhoods.	Population: Extremely Low, Low, Moderate Family Types: Large Families, Families with Children, Elderly, Public Housing Residents Non-Homeless Special Needs: Elderly, Frail Elderly, Persons with Physical Disabilities Non-	Target areas will be 51%+ low-moderate income census tracts, although other areas may be included if they will serve low-moderate income residents.	Ongoing coordination with the Department of Public Works for infrastructure improvement projects in low-income neighborhoods, including natural hazard mitigation projects to protect property and lives; Ongoing coordination with the Recreation Department for improvement and expansions to youth recreational facilities to	This priority has been determined to be low priority due to (1) the higher need for more basic-level services such as housing and educational/vocational services and (2) the potential availability of other funding sources for these projects.

			Housing Community Developme nt		provide pro- social recreational opportunities for low-income residents, especially low- income youth; Support of building rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing and remediation	
Increase Access to Quality Public and Private Facilities and Services	High	This priority includes a variety of social services such as educational and vocational programs, as well as public facilities renovations for accessibility and sustainabili ty.	Income Level: Extremely Low, Low, Moderate Family Types: Large Families, Families with Children, Elderly, Public Housing Residents Non- Homeless Special Needs: Elderly, Frail Elderly, Persons with Physical Disabilities Non-	Target areas will be 51%+ low- moderate income census tracts, although other areas may be included if they will serve low- moderate income residents.	Support for public service agencies providing programs and support to low- income populations of greatest need (e.g., educational and vocational services, legal services for abused and neglected children, medical and paramedical services for persons living with HIV/AIDS and persons with substance use disorder); Renovation to public buildings and public facilities	This priority has been determined to be a high priority due to (1) the social services to be provided provide for the most basic needs of the city's most vulnerable residents and (2) accessibility improvements and renovations will become increasingly necessary due to the region's aging demographics.

			Housing Community Developme nt		to increase accessibility for all residents, with particular focus on people with disabilities; Support for regional transportation groups to provide greater access to community resources for low-income residents, as well as elderly residents and people with disabilities; Continued participation in local coalitions of service providers (e.g., Balance of State Continuum of Care, Tri-City Homelessness Task Force, and Home for All Coalition)	
Increase Access to Affordable and Quality Housing for All Residents	High	This priority supports non-rental assistance program housing initiatives, including housing rehabilitati on and affordable housing	Income Level: Extremely Low, Low, Moderate Family Types: Large Families, Families with Children,	The target area for this goal is the City of Rocheste r's low- income downtow n core, though other	Support of housing rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing and remediation; Support for workforce housing and	This priority has been determined to be high priority as data and consultation s have shown a serious lack of affordable housing in the Seacoast New Hampshire region, especially in terms of rising

		construction.	Elderly, Public Housing Residents Non-Homeless Special Needs: Elderly, Frail Elderly, Persons with Mental Disabilities, Persons with Physical Disabilities, Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions, Persons with HIV/AIDS and Their Families, Victims of Domestic Violence	areas of the city will also be served, especially to promote mixed-income housing integration.	affordable housing projects; Funding allocations for accessibility features (e.g., wheelchair ramps, lifts, etc.) in residential buildings; Support for fair housing education and outreach efforts, including partnerships with New Hampshire Legal Assistance's Fair Housing Project	housing costs compared to flagging wage increases.
Establishment, Stabilization, and Expansion of small Businesses, Including Micro-Businesses	Low	This priority involves the continued operation of the City of Rochester's Job Opportunity Benefit (JOB) Loan Program, which provides loans to	Income Level: Extremely Low, Low, Moderate, Middle Non-Housing Community Development	N/A. There is no geographic target for this priority.	Continue to maintain revolving loan fund for small business financing in exchange for low-moderate income job creation/retention agreements; Coordinate with the	This priority has been determined to be low priority due to (1) the higher need for more basic-level services such as housing and educational/vocational services and (2) the potential availability of other funding sources for these

		small businesses that commit to the creation and/or retention of jobs made available to low-moderate income residents.			Building, Zoning, and Licensing Services Department and private downtown organizations to explore the development and support of a revolving loan fund and/or grant program for code improvements to downtown property owners; Explore financial assistance opportunities for small businesses and LMI owners/LMI employees affected by emergency situations and natural disasters (such as COVID-19 pandemic)	projects.
Provision of Public Services Concerned with Employment	High	This priority is for programs providing educational and/or vocational services for low-	Income Level: Extremely Low, Low, Moderate Family Types: Large	N/A. There is no geographic target for this priority.	Support for educational services (including GED equivalency services) for low-income residents, including	This priority has been determined to be a high priority due to improvement of educational and employment situations for lower-income

		moderate income residents.	Families, Families with Children, Elderly, Public Housing Residents Non-Homeless Special Needs: Persons with Mental Disabilities, Persons with Physical Disabilities, Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Non-Housing Community Development		people with disabilities and other disadvantaged populations; Support for vocational and workforce training programs for low-income residents, including people with disabilities and other disadvantaged populations	residents as a primary strategy to reduce long-term poverty rates.
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Table 48 – Priority Needs Summary

Narrative (Optional)

These objectives are based on the extensive research and consultations that the Community Development Coordinator conducted with local public service agencies, relevant government agencies and departments, and the general citizenry. The City of Rochester commits to prioritizing activities and projects that meet a combination of the most important basic needs and longer-term important needs of the City's marginalized individuals and families, primarily

All programs and activities are aimed at meeting one or more of HUD's outcomes for CDBG funding: to provide decent housing, to provide a suitable living environment, and to expand economic opportunities. The individual activities were established to meet HUD outcomes and are those seen to meet the needs of the City's low- to moderate-income population as identified at present and projected over the next five years.

SP-30 Influence of Market Conditions – 91.215 (b)

Influence of Market Conditions

Affordable Housing Type	Market characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	High rental rates and home ownership costs make housing unaffordable for many residents who are extremely low, low, and moderate income. In particular, many lower-income residents rent their housing, and so tenant-based rental assistance is especially needed.
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	High rental rates and home ownership costs make housing unaffordable for many residents who are extremely low, low, and moderate income. In particular, residents who have mental illnesses and/or substance use disorders often experience difficulties obtaining and maintaining stable housing. Tenant-based rental assistance is needed for these specific populations.
New Unit Production	The City of Rochester’s population is expected to grow relatively slowly over the next five years, as it has during PY 2015-2020, but the percentage of elderly persons who comprise the City’s population is expected to increase, per statewide demographic trends. Funding will be targeted at increasing the production of smaller housing units affordable to extremely low, low, and moderate income residents, especially the production of permanent supportive housing units.
Rehabilitation	The City of Rochester has housing stock that is relatively old, and this older housing stock often makes rehabilitation projects more expensive due to code-related upgrades and lead-based paint remediation that become necessary during a rehabilitation project. Funding will be provided for accessibility-related upgrades and weatherization work that will benefit low to moderate income homeowners, many of whom are elderly residents and residents who own manufactured homes.
Acquisition, including preservation	Acquisition tends to be more affordable and more inexpensive than rehabilitation, but historic preservation work tends to be an exception. The City of Rochester’s historic district is located within census tracts that are 51% or greater low to moderate income, and the benefits of potential acquisition funding will be balanced with the potential costs of historic preservation requirements.

Table 49 – Influence of Market Conditions

SP-35 Anticipated Resources - 91.215(a)(4), 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

The City of Rochester owns the land of Hanson Pines Park, Squamanagonic Recreation Area, Rochester Commons, Rochester Community Center, Rochester Community Center tennis courts, Pickering Ponds, Rochester Arena building, East Rochester Pool, Gonic Pool, Hanson Pines Pool, Gonic Trails, William H. Champlin, Jr. Forest, Keay Sports Field, Roger Allen Park and Memorial Field, and Monsignor Gilles Simard Babe Ruth Field. More information on these recreational lands and facilities is available on the City of Rochester's website at <https://www.rochesternh.net/recreation-arena/pages/parks-and-facilities>. The City of Rochester also owns the buildings that comprise the downtown municipal complex, the Rochester Public Library, the Rochester Opera House, the building that houses the Rochester Community Center, and all public school buildings. The full list of Rochester public schools is available at <http://rochesterschools.com>. This represents a significant variety of cultural, educational, and recreational resources. In addition, the City of Rochester provides annual funding through its general budget for public services, and additional funding and leveraging is available through other awarded grants.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	Public – Federal (HUD)	Acquisition, Admin and Planning, Economic Development, Housing Rehabilitation, Public Facilities and Infrastructure Improvements, Public Services	\$254,500.00	\$98,198.16	\$9,509.74	\$362,207.90	\$850,500.00	Program income is calculated in the form of anticipated repayments to the Job Opportunity Benefit (JOB) revolving loan fund.
CDBG-CV	Public – Federal (HUD)	COVID-19 response	\$149,714.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$149,714.00	\$0.00	COVID-19 response funding authorized through the 2020 CARES Act

Non-CDBG	General City Funding	Public Service Agencies	\$284,214.00	\$0	\$0	\$284,214.00	\$1,136,856.00	The City of Rochester provides funding in its general budget for public service agencies every program year. Such agencies have included The Homemakers, Cornerstone VNA, Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, Rochester Main Street, SOS Recovery Center, and the Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST).
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Table 50 - Anticipated Resources

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

The City of Rochester’s CDBG grant application requests information on whether CDBG funding would be used to leverage other funding available to the public service agencies. This information is taken under consideration as a factor by the Community Development Committee during the grant application evaluation process, with the goal of maximizing CDBG funding impact through taking advantage of available leveraging opportunities.

The City of Rochester also provides local general funds to local public service agencies every program year. Recent local funding recipients have included the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, The Homemakers, Cornerstone VNA, and SOS Recovery Center. These agencies serve low-income residents, elderly residents, residents with disabilities, and residents in recovery.

The City of Rochester also uses general city funds to support Rochester Main Street, which provides economic development services to the downtown business district, and the Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST), which is the main public transportation agency for the region.

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 of Rochester owns the land of Hanson Pines Park, Squamanagonic Recreation Area, Rochester Commons, Rochester Community Center, Rochester Community Center tennis courts, Pickering Ponds, Rochester Arena building, East Rochester Pool, Gonic Pool, Hanson Pines Pool, Gonic Trails, William H. Champlin, Jr. Forest, Keay Sports Field, Roger Allen Park and Memorial Field, and Monsignor Gilles Simard Babe Ruth Field. More information on these recreational lands and facilities is available on the City of Rochester's website at <https://www.rochesternh.net/recreation-arena/pages/parks-and-facilities>. The City of Rochester also owns the buildings that comprise the downtown municipal complex, the Rochester Public Library, the Rochester Opera House, the building that houses the Rochester Community Center, and all public school buildings. The full list of Rochester public schools is available at <http://rochesterschools.com>. This represents a significant variety of cultural, educational, and recreational resources. In addition, the City of Rochester provides annual funding through its general budget for public services, and additional funding and leveraging is available through other awarded grants.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which reached New Hampshire in March 2020, the City of Rochester has used its Rochester Community Center and Rochester Commons public facilities to set up hygiene stations (including lavatories, hand-washing stations, and showers) for unsheltered homeless residents.

Discussion

N/A.

SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure – 91.215(k)

Explain the institutional structure through which the jurisdiction will carry out its consolidated plan including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions.

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
Community Development Division, City of Rochester	Government, Departments and Agencies	Affordable Housing: Ownership, Rental, Public Housing, Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Facilities, Neighborhood Improvements, Public Services, Economic Development, Planning	Jurisdiction
Welfare Office, City of Rochester	Government, Departments and Agencies	Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Services	Jurisdiction
Planning Department, City of Rochester	Government, Departments and Agencies	Affordable Housing: Ownership, Rental, Non-Homeless Special needs Community Development: Public Facilities, Neighborhood Improvements, Planning	Jurisdiction
Department of Public Works, City of Rochester	Government, Departments and Agencies	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Facilities, Neighborhood Improvements, Planning	Jurisdiction
Office of Economic Development, City of Rochester	Government, Departments and Agencies	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Economic Development, Planning	Jurisdiction

Recreation Department, City of Rochester	Government, Departments and Agencies	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Facilities, Neighborhood Improvements, Planning	Jurisdiction
Public Library, City of Rochester	Government, Departments and Agencies, Public Institution	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Facilities, Public Services, Planning	Jurisdiction
Police Department, City of Rochester	Government, Departments and Agencies	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Neighborhood Improvements, Planning	Jurisdiction
Rochester Schools, City of Rochester	Government, Departments and Agencies	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Facilities, Public Services, Planning	Jurisdiction
Rochester Housing Authority	PHA	Affordable Housing: Rental, Public Housing, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Neighborhood Improvements, Planning	Jurisdiction
New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care	Continuum of Care	Affordable Housing: Ownership, Rental, Public Housing, Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Facilities, Neighborhood Improvements, Public Services, Planning	State, Region
Home for All Coalition (Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness)	Non-Profit Organization	Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Services, Planning	Region

The Homemakers	Non-Profit Organization	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Services	Region, Jurisdiction
Community Action Partnership of Strafford County	Non-Profit Organization, Subrecipient	Affordable Housing: Ownership, Rental, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Facilities, Neighborhood Improvements, Public Services	Region
Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation	Regional Organization	None-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Neighborhood Improvements, Public Services, Planning	Region
AIDS Response Seacoast	Non-Profit Organization	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Services	Region
Rochester Area Senior Center	Community Organization	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Neighborhood Improvements, Public Services	Jurisdiction
HAVEN	Non-Profit Organization	Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Services	Region
New Hampshire Legal Assistance	Non-Profit Organization	Affordable Housing: Ownership, Rental, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Services	State

Rochester Main Street	Non-Profit Organization, Community Organization, Private Industry	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Neighborhood Improvements, Economic Development, Planning	Jurisdiction
Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce	Non-Profit Organization, Community Organization, Private Industry	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Neighborhood Improvements, Economic Development, Planning	Jurisdiction
SHARE Fund	Non-Profit Organization, Subrecipient	Affordable Housing: Rental, Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Services	Jurisdiction
Homeless Center for Strafford County	Non-Profit Organization	Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Facilities, Public Services, Planning	Region
SOS Recovery Center	Non-Profit Organization	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Services	Region, Jurisdiction
New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority	Non-Profit Organization, Regional Organization	Affordable Housing: Ownership, Rental, Public Housing, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Neighborhood Improvements, Planning	State

Healthy Homes & Environment Section, Division of Public Health Services, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services	Government, Regional Organization	Affordable Housing: Ownership, Rental, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Facilities, Neighborhood Improvements, Planning	State
Goodwin Community Health	Non-Profit Organization	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Services, Planning	Region
Community Partners	Non-Profit Organization, Subrecipient	Affordable Housing: Rental, Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Services	Region
My Friend's Place	Non-Profit Organization, Subrecipient	Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Facilities, Public Services	Region
Cross Roads House	Non-Profit Organization, Subrecipient	Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Facilities, Public Services	Region
Cornerstone VNA	Non-Profit Organization	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Services	Region
Dover Adult Learning Center	Non-Profit Organization, Subrecipient	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Services, Economic Development	Region
MY TURN	Non-Profit Organization, Subrecipient	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Services, Economic Development	Jurisdiction

Rochester Child Care Center	Non-Profit Organization	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public Facilities, Neighborhood Improvements, Public Services	Jurisdiction
Tri-City Consumers' Action Cooperative	Community Organization, Subrecipient	Non-Homeless Special Needs Community Development: Public facilities, Public Services	Region, Jurisdiction

Table 51 - Institutional Delivery Structure

Assessment of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

Availability of services targeted to homeless persons and persons with HIV and mainstream services

Homelessness Prevention Services	Available in the Community	Targeted to Homeless	Targeted to People with HIV
Homelessness Prevention Services			
Counseling/Advocacy	X	X	X
Legal Assistance	X		
Mortgage Assistance	X		
Rental Assistance	X	X	X
Utilities Assistance	X	X	X
Street Outreach Services			
Law Enforcement	X	X	
Mobile Clinics	X	X	
Other Street Outreach Services	X	X	
Supportive Services			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X	X	X
Child Care	X		
Education	X	X	
Employment and Employment Training	X	X	
Healthcare	X	X	X
HIV/AIDS	X		X
Life Skills	X	X	X
Mental Health Counseling	X	X	X
Transportation	X	X	X
Other			
Other	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 52 - Homeless Prevention Services Summary

Describe how the service delivery system including, but not limited to, the services listed above meet the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth).

Due to the Seacoast New Hampshire region's implementation of a regionalized Coordinated Access, most aspects of the service delivery system are now managed through an intake system run by the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County. The New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care has also started implementation of a continuum-wide Coordinated Entry system, which is managed through an intake system run by the existing statewide 211. Starting in 2019, the State of New Hampshire also has launched a statewide "hub and spoke" intake system for residents with substance use disorders. The Seacoast "hub" is Wentworth-Douglass Hospital, located in the City of Dover.

In addition to placing people with the region's three general homeless shelters (Cross Roads House, My Friend's Place, and the Homeless Center for Strafford County), Coordinated Entry provides homelessness prevention assistance and emergency shelter for chronically homeless residents. Rental assistance is also provided by other regional organizations, such as the SHARE Fund and municipal welfare offices. Rental assistance for specific special classes is also available, such as rental assistance through AIDS Response Seacoast for persons living with HIV/AIDS and rental assistance through Community Partners for people with mental illnesses and/or developmental disabilities.

Cross Roads House, My Friend's Place, and the Homeless Center for Strafford County all provide supportive services in addition to emergency and transitional shelter. Such services include employment assistance, budgeting and financial counseling, and medical and dental care. The Coordinated Entry system, along with the Home for All Coalition, has increased focus on the permanent, supported housing of chronically homeless individuals and families.

Specialized, non-housing services are provided by a number of public service agencies in the region. In addition to rental assistance, AIDS Response Seacoast provides fuel and utilities assistance, medical and legal referrals, case management, transportation for medical appointments, mental health counseling, and budgeting and financial counseling to persons living with HIV/AIDS. Community Partners provides behavioral health services, family support, case management, nursing support, supported employment, and elder services to people with mental health issues and developmental disabilities. The Homemakers and Cornerstone VNA, both located within the City of Rochester but serving the Strafford County region, provide home nursing care, adult day care, behavioral health, and other related services to elderly persons and people with disabilities.

The City of Rochester's Welfare Office provides general emergency financial assistance for low-income individuals and families, such as fuel assistance, public housing applications, and rental assistance. The Welfare office also provides referrals to other regional resources, including the Coordinated Entry intake system.

Describe the strengths and gaps of the service delivery system for special needs population and persons experiencing homelessness, including, but not limited to, the services listed above.

The continuum-wide Coordinated Entry system and regional “hubs and spokes” system for substance use disorder are still in their early implementation phases. Focus on permanent housing solutions for the chronically homeless, landlord outreach and other educational initiatives seeking to partner with private sectors, and the large number of supportive services available (such as behavioral health services, employment assistance, and rental assistance) are some of the key strengths of the region’s current service delivery system.

Gaps in the current system include a relative lack of services for homeless persons who are mentally ill and/or have substance use disorders. Currently, there is no substance use disorder in-patient treatment facility located with the City of Rochester; those seeking in-patient services must travel at least an hour away to cities such as Manchester or Concord. There is also a lack of permanent supportive housing specifically and affordable housing generally in the region, both of which negatively impact the ability for homeless services providers to find permanent housing for their most vulnerable, highest-need residents. For example, the Rochester Housing Authority’s PY 2019 planned eight-unit permanent supportive housing project has been postponed due to gap funding issues.

Provide a summary of the strategy for overcoming gaps in the institutional structure and service delivery system for carrying out a strategy to address priority needs.

During the PY 2020-2025 performance period, the City of Rochester plans to prioritize affordable housing initiatives due to (1) the current lack of adequate supply of housing, both rental and occupant-owned, that is affordable for low and moderate income residents and (2) the impact of Housing First approaches, documented through research and consultations, on the ability of residents to attain and maintain stability. Focusing on affordable housing initiatives (including the construction of new affordable housing, rental assistance programs, and housing rehabilitation programs for lower-income homes) is intended to maximize positive impacts and to reduce poverty for lower-income residents and communities over both the short term and long term.

The City of Rochester also plans to explore the creation of an in-city substance use disorder treatment facility and/or the expansion of existing substance use disorder treatment services’ locations to include the City of Rochester.

SP-45 Goals Summary – 91.215(a)(4)

Goals Summary Information

Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
Assisting Homeless Persons to Obtain Affordable Housing and Assisting Persons at Risk of Homelessness	2020	2025	Affordable Housing, Homelessness	Citywide	Affordable Housing and Homeless Assistance	\$90,000.00	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 500 persons; Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds Added: 10 beds; Tenant-Based Rental Assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 250 individuals
Retention and Creation of Affordable Housing Stock	2020	2025	Affordable Housing, Public Housing	Citywide, downtown, public housing locations	Affordable Housing and Homeless Assistance	\$250,000.00	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 200 homes
Providing Services and Aid for LMI Residents and Other Vulnerable Residents in Response to Emergency and Disaster Events (Such as the COVID-19 Pandemic)	2020	2025	Affordable Housing, Homelessness, Non-Homeless Special Needs, Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Affordable Housing and Homeless Assistance Improved Safety and Livability of Neighborhoods	\$149,714.00	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 100 Persons Public Service Activities Other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 individuals
Providing Services for Residents with Substance Use Disorder and Addressing Root Causation	2020	2025	Non-Homeless Special Needs, Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Improved Safety and Livability of Neighborhoods	\$15,000.00	Public Service Activities Other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 individuals

Improving the Safety and Livability of Neighborhoods	2020	2025	Non-Housing Community Development	Census tracts 51%+ low-moderate income	Improved Safety and Livability of Neighborhoods	\$200,000.00	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities Other than Low-Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 10,000 persons
Increase Access to Quality Public and Private Facilities and Services	2020	2025	Non-Housing Community Development	Census tracts 51%+ low-moderate income	Improved Safety and Livability of Neighborhoods	\$300,000.00	Façade Treatment/Business Building Rehabilitation: 5 buildings Public Service Activities Other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2,500 persons
Increase Access to Affordable and Quality Housing for All Residents	2020	2025	Affordable Housing, Non-Homeless Special Needs	Citywide	Affordable Housing and Homeless Assistance	\$40,000.00	Public Service Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 75 households assisted
Establishment, Stabilization, and Expansion of Small Businesses, Including Micro-Businesses	2020	2025	Non-Housing Community Development, Economic Development	Citywide	Expansion of Small Businesses, Job Creation and Retention for Low-Moderate Income Employees	\$250,000.00	LMI Jobs Created/Retained : 10 jobs
Provision of Public Services Concerned with Employment	2020	2025	Non-Housing Community Development, Economic Development	Citywide	Public Services Concerned with Employment	\$50,000.00	Public Service Activities Other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 800 individuals

Table 53 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

These objectives are based on the extensive research and consultations that the Community Development Coordinator conducted with local public service agencies, relevant government agencies and departments, and the general citizenry. The City of Rochester commits to prioritizing activities and

projects that meet a combination of the most important basic needs and longer-term important needs of the City's marginalized individuals and families, primarily

All programs and activities are aimed at meeting one or more of HUD's outcomes for CDBG funding: to provide decent housing, to provide a suitable living environment, and to expand economic opportunities. The individual activities were established to meet HUD outcomes and are those seen to meet the needs of the City's low- to moderate-income population as identified at present and projected over the next five years.

Program Goal: To Provide Decent Housing

HUD Outcome Performance Measure	Proposed Activities
Assisting Homeless Persons to Obtain Affordable Housing and Assisting Persons at Risk of Homelessness	Support of homeless shelters, including emergency shelters and permanent supportive housing, for homeless persons and other vulnerable groups, including funding for building upgrades and rehabilitation COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and low-income persons at risk for homelessness (including persons with substance use disorder and persons with mental illnesses), including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Support for permanent supportive housing projects
	Continued participation in local coalitions of service providers (e.g., Balance of State Continuum of Care, Tri-City Homelessness Task Force, Home for All Coalition)
Retention and Creation of Affordable Housing Stock	Support of weatherization and other energy efficiency efforts to provide long-term and sustainable affordability to low-income homeowners, including flooding mitigation and extreme winter storm mitigation renovations, as applicable
	Support of housing rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing and remediation
	Support for workforce housing and affordable housing projects, including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Support for permanent supportive housing projects, including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and low-income persons at risk

	for homelessness (including persons with substance use disorder and persons with mental illnesses), including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Funding allocations for accessibility features (e.g., wheelchair ramps, lifts, etc.) in residential buildings

Program Goal: To Provide a Suitable Living Environment

HUD Outcome Performance Measure	Proposed Activities
Providing Services and Aid for LMI Residents and Other Vulnerable Residents in Response to Emergency and Disaster Events (Such as the COVID-19 Pandemic)	Support for emergency response-related services such as food pantries and food deliveries, rental assistance for LMI persons who have lost income sources, sanitation and other services for unsheltered homeless persons, etc.
	Support for non-profits engaged in CDBG-eligible activities that have lost funding due to emergency situations, natural disasters, etc.
Providing Services for Residents with Substance Use Disorder and Addressing Root Causation	Support for rent assistance programs targeting homeless persons and low-income persons at risk for homelessness (including persons with substance use disorder and persons with mental illnesses), including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Support for organizations and programs addressing mental illness (as there is high coincidence of substance abuse and mental illness) and providing substance use disorder treatment and recovery services
	Identification of opportunities to support the creation of local residential treatment facilities for substance use disorder
Improving the Safety and Livability of Neighborhoods	Ongoing coordination with the Department of Public Works for infrastructure improvement projects in low-income neighborhoods, including natural hazard mitigation projects to protect property and lives
	Ongoing coordination with the Recreation Department for improvements and expansions to youth recreational facilities to provide pro-social recreational opportunities for low-income residents, especially low-income youth

	Support of building rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing and remediation
Increasing Access to Quality Public Facilities and Services	Support for public service agencies providing programs and support to low-income populations of greatest need (<i>e.g.</i> , educational and vocational services, legal services for abused and neglected children, medical and paramedical services for persons living with HIV/AIDS and persons with substance use disorder)
	Renovations to public buildings and public facilities to increase accessibility for all residents, with particular focus on people with disabilities
	Support for regional transportation groups to provide greater access to community resources for low-income residents, as well as elderly residents and people with disabilities
	Continued participation in local coalitions of service providers (<i>e.g.</i> , Balance of State Continuum of Care, Tri-City Homelessness Task Force, Home for All Coalition)
Increasing Access to Affordable and Quality Housing for All Residents	Support of housing rehabilitation programs, including funding for lead paint contamination testing and remediation
	Support for workforce housing and affordable housing projects, including COVID-19 emergency responses and other emergency responses
	Funding allocations for accessibility features (<i>e.g.</i> , wheelchair ramps, lifts, etc.) in residential buildings
	Support for fair housing education and outreach efforts, including partnerships with New Hampshire Legal Assistance's Fair Housing Project

Program Goal: To Expand Economic Opportunities

HUD Outcome Performance Measure	Proposed Activities
Establishment, Stabilization, and Expansion of Small Businesses, Including Micro-Businesses	Continue to maintain revolving loan fund for small business financing in exchange for low-moderate income job creation/retention agreements
	Explore financial assistance opportunities for small businesses and LMI owners/LMI employees affected by emergency situations and natural disasters (such as COVID-19 pandemic)

	Coordinate with the Building, Zoning, and Licensing Services Department and private downtown organizations to explore the development and support of a revolving loan fund and/or grant program for code improvements to downtown business owners
Provision of Public Services Concerned with Employment	Support for educational services (including GED equivalency services) for low-income residents, including people with disabilities, and other disadvantaged populations, and residents affected by emergency situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic
	Support for vocational and workforce training programs for low-income residents, including people with disabilities, and other disadvantaged populations, and residents affected by emergency situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.315(b)(2).

In addition to emergency housing provided through support of regional homeless shelters, the City of Rochester will provide affordable housing through support for rental assistance programs, such as general programs provided by the SHARE Fund and population-specific programs provided by Community Partners, and home rehabilitation programs for lower-income homeowners, such as the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County’s weatherization assistance program. Estimates for the PY 2020-2025 period are based on averaged data from the PY 2015-2020 performance period for these activities. During the PY 2020-2025 period, an estimated number of 275 low-moderate income households are estimated to be provided affording housing or assistance staying in affordable housing. Based on prior data, it is estimated that close to 100% of these households will be extremely low income (about 71%) or low income (about 29%).

In addition to these continuing activities, during PY 2020-2025 the City of Rochester plans to explore opportunities to create new permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless residents and in-patient treatment facility beds for residents with substance use disorders. These projects would create about 10 additional units of permanent and/or transitional housing for extremely low income residents.

SP-50 Public Housing Accessibility and Involvement – 91.215(c)

Describe the need to increase the number of accessible units (if required by a Section 504 voluntary compliance agreement).

During the PY 2020-2025 performance period, the City of Rochester plans to continue to maintain regular consultations with and to provide outreach to the Rochester Housing Authority on CDBG-related funding opportunities targeted at addressing accessibility concerns. In PY 2015, the City of Rochester provided CDBG funds to the Rochester Housing Authority for accessibility renovations for eight public housing units. These renovations installed accessible bathroom and shower features in the housing units. As the city's demographics continue to age, which will bring an increase in age-related disabilities both physical and mental, the need for accessible public housing units will also increase. The City of Rochester's Community Development Division will continue to encourage partnerships with the Rochester Housing Authority to address accessibility issues in current public housing stock, such as smaller multi-story buildings that do not have elevators, and to ensure that any newly constructed public housing units take our residents' various accessibility needs into consideration.

Describe planned activities to increase resident involvement.

The City of Rochester has verified with the Rochester Housing Authority that a Resident Advisory Board, including representatives from each of the RHA public housing sites, meets to review RHA one-year and five-year plans as well as to provide input on RHA operations. The City of Rochester plans to continue coordination with the Rochester Housing Authority throughout PY 2020-2025 to explore ways to increase resident engagement with the Resident Advisory Board as well as home ownership opportunities for RHA residents. These efforts will include meetings to engage public housing residents in the management process as well as to help identify unmet community needs and opportunities for new programs to better serve Rochester Housing Authority residents; distribution of informational materials on state homeownership programs aimed at lower-income potential homebuyers, as well as grant opportunities that might be able to fund homeownership or public housing programs; and consultation with RHA residents at public housing-focused public input meetings as part of the citizen consultation process for PY 2020-2025 Annual Action Plans.

In addition, as part of the City of Rochester's Section 3 compliance measures, the Community Development Coordinator ensures that all CDBG-funded construction project bid invitations are provided to Rochester Housing Authority residents so that residents have an opportunity to bid on such projects. This helps Rochester Housing Authority residents to build financial independence.

Is the public housing agency designated as troubled under 24 CFR part 902?

The Rochester Housing Authority is not designated as troubled.

If so, describe the plan to remove the "troubled" designation.

N/A. The Rochester Housing Authority is not designated as troubled.

SP-55 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.215(h)

Barriers to Affordable Housing

Affordable housing remains a critical under-met need in both the City of Rochester specifically and the greater Seacoast region generally. Average income has not kept pace with average rental costs; as a result, many Rochester residents spend well over 30% of their income on housing. As discussed in the Housing Market analysis sections of this Consolidated Plan, there has been an 87% increase in median home costs between 2000 and 2017 and a 91% increase in median rent costs in that same time period. Meanwhile, the median household income for the City of Rochester increased only about 37%. Consultations with City personnel and regional public service agencies indicate that home costs and rental rates are expected to continue to increase during the next five years, although possibly at a slower rate than the 2015-2020 period.

Weatherization and heating needs for manufactured home homeowners also represent a large area of concern. According to the data from the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, nearly 20% of the housing units in the City of Rochester are manufactured/mobile homes. Manufactured homes are often less energy-efficient than other housing, and there is a higher concentration of low-income residents in manufactured home parks. High heating costs during the region's bitterly cold winter months often make these homes unaffordable for their low-income owners.

Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing

During the PY 2015-2020 performance period, the City of Rochester sought to reduce or eliminate many barriers to affordable housing for the City of Rochester's residents. Statewide low-income housing tax credits help to incentivize housing developers to take on housing projects that might otherwise prove economically disadvantageous. Further, a number of local-level efforts have been initiated during the PY 2015-2020 performance period to increase the supply of affordable housing in the area. These have included changes to downtown density allowances and the PY 2019 workforce housing charrette and its recommendations. The City of Rochester anticipates that these efforts and their continuation into the PY 2020-2020 will help increase the supply of affordable housing but will be a long-term implemented solution.

Other areas for potential improvement (identified during the PY 2015-2020 workforce housing charrette and consultations with the Rochester Planning Department and Rochester Department of Building, Zoning, and Licensing Services) include downtown core requirement of first-floor commercial space and the increased enforcement of municipal building codes. During the PY 2019 workforce housing charrette, the first-floor commercial space requirement for buildings located in the "downtown core" was identified as a barrier to affordable housing, as residential units are currently much more in demand downtown than commercial space. Consultations with the Rochester Codes Compliance Officer have also indicated that increase code enforcement in the city, after an extended period where there was a lack of monitoring and enforcement, has disproportionately impacted rental housing for lower-income residents.

In addition, the City's current fire safety codes have impacted the development of multi-family housing units. Such multi-family units are required to have sprinkler systems, as opposed to fire alarms, and building developers and property owners often find this cost-prohibitive. Given that this impacts multi-family housing but not single-family housing, these fire safety codes disproportionately impact the City of Rochester's affordable housing.

During PY 2020-2025, the Community Development Coordinator will work with city staff and the City Council to address these barriers to affordable housing. This will include proposing that the city eliminate the first-floor commercial space requirement in the downtown core, either entirely or on as part of affordable housing incentives, and working with the Codes Compliance Officer to explore the use of CDBG funds to renovate existing affordable housing units to bring them up to code.

In addition to these policy-level strategies, the City of Rochester plans to continue its existing partnerships with the Rochester Housing Authority and regional non-profits (such as the SHARE Fund and the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County) and to develop new partnerships (such as with the regional non-profit housing developer The Housing Partnership) to address barriers to affordable housing. This will be accomplished through a variety of approaches, including weatherization assistance for low-income homeowners, rental assistance for low-income renters, and opportunities for the construction of affordable housing and permanent supportive housing. Weatherization of low-income homes, accomplished through the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, will reduce energy expenses and thereby will lower overall home ownership and maintenance expenses for low-income householders. Rental assistance will help low-income residents obtain and/or maintain safe, quality housing. Affordable housing projects will cap residents' share of rental payments at a maximum of 30% of the residents' income, as this is the percentage that is largely considered affordable for a household.

SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.215(d)

Describe how the jurisdiction’s strategic plan goals contribute to:

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

The City of Rochester plans to continue its leadership role with the regional homelessness planning coalition, Home for All (formerly known as the Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness), with the Tri-City Homelessness Task Force, and with the New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care. This will include assisting the New Hampshire Balance of State Continuum of Care in its continued implementation of a statewide coordinated entry, the annual Point in Time count and its assessment of homelessness statewide, and bimonthly meetings to discuss how to better serve the needs of New Hampshire’s homeless residents, which focuses strongly on the needs of chronically homeless and unsheltered homeless populations.

In terms of funding priorities, the City of Rochester will prioritize public service agencies that provide homelessness services. This includes direct CDBG funding to the region’s homeless shelters, rental assistance to those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, and permanent supportive housing projects for chronically homeless residents. The homeless shelters assess individual needs during the intake process and prioritize unsheltered persons for shelter and services. Permanent supportive housing projects will prioritize placement of unsheltered chronically homeless person first, as this represents the highest-need population.

Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons.

The City of Rochester plans to prioritize funding for the region’s homeless shelters. The Homeless Center for Strafford County provides seasonal emergency and transitional shelter for homeless women and families, My Friend’s Place provides emergency and transitional shelter for families and single women, and Cross Roads House provides emergency shelter for men, women, and families, as well as Housing First programs and post-housing case management. In addition to funding general operating expenses for these regional homeless shelters, the City of Rochester also plans to fund facilities construction work to assist in expanding transitional and emergency units and, as opportunities arise, to create new units.

Examples of such activities in the PY 2015-2020 period have included the opening of Hope on Haven Hill, an in-patient facility for homeless pregnant women with substance use disorders; the replacement of a roof on a transitional housing unit owned and operated by the Homeless Center for Strafford County; and the installation of a back-up electrical generator at the main shelter operated by the Homeless Center for Strafford County. It is anticipated that many if not all of these same agencies will receive funding during the PY 2020-2025 period, and the City’s Community Development Division plans to maintain regular contact with these agencies and to encourage them to apply for CDBG funding.

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

The Homeless Center for Strafford County provides seasonal emergency and transitional shelter for homeless women and families, My Friend's Place provides emergency and transitional shelter for families and single women, and Cross Roads House provides emergency shelter for men, women, and families, as well as Housing First programs and post-housing case management. In addition to funding general operating expenses for these regional homeless shelters, the City of Rochester also plans to fund facilities construction work to assist in expanding transitional and emergency units and, as opportunities arise, to create new units. Cross Roads House also participates in a statewide initiative to reduce veteran homelessness and provides shelter and services to between three to five homeless veterans at any given time.

The City of Rochester's Community Development Division also plans to continue regular consultations with the Rochester School Department's Title I Coordinator and Families in Transition (McKinney-Vento) Coordinator regarding the needs of homeless Rochester students and their families, as well as Rochester Youth Reach, which provides services and assistance to homeless Rochester youth.

In addition, the Community Development Coordinator will continue working with the Tri-City Homelessness Task Force (comprised of the neighboring cities of Rochester, Dover, and Somersworth) to identify strategies and programs to provide emergency shelter and permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals and families in the tri-city region. This will include identification of non-CDBG funding sources to help pay for existing and newly created housing initiatives.

More specifically, the City of Rochester plans to work with the Rochester Housing Authority to evaluate gap funding options for the postponed PY 2018 Charles Street renovation project, which would have created eight units of permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals. This project would provide essential housing for residents who are often the hardest to house, and it is a high-priority potential project for PY 202-2025.

Help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families who are likely to become homeless after being discharged from a publicly funded institution or system of care, or who are receiving assistance from public and private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education or youth needs.

The City of Rochester plans to support low-income individuals and families to avoid becoming homeless through a variety of approaches that incorporate both immediate basic needs

assistance and long-term poverty reduction strategies. The City of Rochester will fund rental assistance to those who are at risk of becoming homeless, such as the SHARE Fund's rental assistance program that provides back rent assistance and first month security deposits, as well as fund programs and activities aimed at assisting low-income individuals and families over a longer term through investments in educational and employment/vocational training, such as Dover Adult Learning Center's provision of high-school equivalency exam preparation services and MY TURN's vocational and career skills training program for lower-income young adults.

The City of Rochester also plans to fund mental health supportive services, such as rental assistance for residents with mental illnesses and/or developmental disabilities, and substance use prevention and recovery services. Community Partners' rental assistance program provides rental assistance to low-income persons with mental illnesses and/or developmental disabilities, including persons discharged from institutions; Tri-City Consumers' Cooperative's peer-to-peer mental health services, which includes residents released from behavioral health institutions, prisons and jails, and substance use disorder programs; and SOS Recovery Center's substance use disorder recovery services. SOS Recovery Center and Tri-City Consumers' Cooperative both provide services to people leaving publicly funded institutions/systems of care for mental health and/or substance use disorder.

SP-65 Lead Based Paint Hazards – 91.215(i)

Actions to address LBP hazards and increase access to housing without LBP hazards.

Continued need for programs addressing lead-based paint hazards has been determined through consultations with the Healthy Homes & Environment Section of the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services' Division of Public Health Services. According to data compiled by the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, the City of Rochester remains one of eight "high risk" communities throughout the state for lead poisoning.

During the PY 2020-2025 performance period, the City of Rochester plans to build on the preliminary network-building and planning that has been performed during the PY 2015-2020 period. In May 2018, the City of Rochester partnering with the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services to host a successful lead poisoning prevention summit, which was attended by New Hampshire Legal Assistance staff, DHHS staff, local elected officials, local property owners, and local non-profit housing providers. In spring 2019, the City of Rochester applied for and was accepted into a statewide lead poisoning community project, cosponsored by New Hampshire Listens and the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Learning Extension.

Through the community project, the City of Rochester planned to (1) identify where best to target limited municipal resources for maximum impact, (2) how to productively partner with community organizations to implement effective lead poisoning prevention and reduction strategies; and (3) how to evaluate progress and success of our implemented strategies. Implementation of this planning work will be the focus of the PY 2020-2025 lead-based paint hazard strategy for the City of Rochester.

The City of Rochester also plans to continue to fund the housing weatherization work of the Community Action Partnership of Strafford County, which includes lead-safe work practices and lead remediation under certain circumstances. The City of Rochester will ensure lead-based paint safe practices and/or lead-based paint removal in all other construction-based activities funded, as well.

How are the actions listed above related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards?

The City of Rochester is identified as one of eight "high risk" communities throughout the state. Consultations with the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services' Division of Public Health Services and referencing state lead-based paint poisoning reports have indicated that lower-income and older homes are key indicators for lead-based poisoning risk. The Community Action Partnership for Strafford County's weatherization assistance program focuses on weatherizing homes owned by low-income residents of the City of Rochester, and this Consolidated Plan includes funding for low-income home weatherization as part of its affordable housing strategy. Lead-safe work practices and, where needed, lead remediation are included in these weatherization projects.

In addition, when planning lead remediation housing rehabilitation projects and lead blood testing programs, the City of Rochester will prioritize residents living in older homes (constructed pre-1978) and households with children under the age of six.

How are the actions listed above integrated into housing policies and procedures?

There are a number of actions planned by the City of Rochester to integrate the screening and abatement of lead-based paint hazards into its housing policies and procedures. As part of regular planning and reporting processes, all CDBG-funded housing rehabilitation activities track the number of units constructed before 1978, lead-safe work practices employed, interim controls or standard practices employed, and lead abatement employed. In addition, the groundwork laid during PY 2015-2020 made sure to involve a broad range of Rochester city departments, including the Community Development Division; the Economic Development Department; Planning and Development Department; and Building, Zoning, and Licensing Services. The planned continuing lead safety work planned for PY 2020-2025 will also involve all of these departments to ensure that lead safety is fully incorporated into the City of Rochester's ordinances and policies regarding the renovation of residential properties likely to contain lead-based paint and other lead hazards.

SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy – 91.215(j)

Jurisdiction goals, programs, and policies for reducing the number of poverty-level families.

The City of Rochester plans to support a wide range of anti-poverty efforts. The City of Rochester's Economic Development Strategic outlines a need for more affordable housing for Rochester's workforce; a need for higher-paying jobs, as much of the Rochester economy is based on lower-paying retail work; a need for downtown revitalization; and a need for continued education to support economic growth and the reduction and elimination of poverty in the long term. This Consolidated Plan addresses these identified needs through a prioritization of affordable housing and downtown revitalization initiatives, support for educational and vocational programs such as the Dover Adult Learning Center and MY TURN, and job creation and retention for lower-income residents through the continuation of the Job Opportunity Benefit (JOB) revolving loan fund.

Educational activities, such as assisting low-income residents in obtaining their GEDs and specialized vocational skills training, will be supported through CDBG public service agency funding and other funding sources. The City recognizes the value of investing in education and believes there is a greater likelihood of positive future economic status if lower-income youth and other job-seekers can attain the basic skills needed to advance in the marketplace and avoid poverty. In addition, the City of Rochester plans to fund such programs services aimed at assisting and supportive those with substance use disorders and/or mental illnesses. Consultations with the Rochester Office of Economic Development and local business organizations, as well as mental health and recovery services providers, have indicated the mental illness and substance use disorders have had a significant negative impact on the employability and long-term economic health of our regional labor force.

The City of Rochester also plans to continue to support its Job Opportunity Benefits (JOB) Loan Program, which provides loans to small businesses to encourage the creation and retention of jobs that are made available to low and moderate income employees. This program not only help specifically low-income residents to obtain and retain employment within the City of Rochester, which provides benefits such as short and low-cost commutes, but also help the overall economic health and development of the City.

How the jurisdiction's poverty reducing goals, programs, and policies are coordinated with this affordable housing plan.

As discussed in the Housing Market analysis sections of this Consolidated Plan, there has been an 87% increase in median home costs between 2000 and 2017 and a 91% increase in median rent costs in that same time period. Meanwhile, the median household income for the City of Rochester increased only about 37%. Wages are not keeping up with housing costs, and the lowest income residents have the highest housing burdens (that is, pay the highest percentage of their income toward housing costs). Increasing the supply of affordable housing—and therefore decreasing the housing cost burden for lower-income residents—is a key factor in

addressing poverty. Affordable housing initiatives planned for PY 2020-2025 are discussed earlier in this Consolidated Plan.

The other side of addressing the steep housing cost burden experienced by lower-income Rochester residents is to increase incomes. Activities and programs planned for PY 2020-2025 include those aimed at assisting low-income individuals and families over a longer term through investments in educational and employment/vocational training, such as Dover Adult Learning Center's provision of high-school equivalency exam preparation services and MY TURN's vocational and career skills training program for lower-income young adults. In particular, MY TURN has reported that many recent program participants have sought health care certifications and career paths, which is a growing industry in the Seacoast region.

The City of Rochester also plans to fund mental health supportive services, such as rental assistance for residents with mental illnesses and/or developmental disabilities, and substance use prevention and recovery services. Community Partners' rental assistance program provides rental assistance to low-income persons with mental illnesses and/or developmental disabilities, Tri-City Consumers' Cooperative's peer-to-peer mental health services, and SOS Recovery Center's substance use disorder recovery services. While these programs do not provide the direct economic benefits such as those provided by MY TURN or Dover Adult Learning Center, they help to provide the stabilization and support that many of these residents need in order to obtain or maintain steady employment.

SP-80 Monitoring – 91.230

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

Prior to the award of any CDBG funds, all potential subrecipients are subject to risk assessment during the grant application process. The applicant must also certify that (1) it will comply with the City of Rochester's anti-displacement and relocation policy and (2) no contracts will be awarded, funds committed (including purchase or lease agreements), or construction started prior to the completed environmental review and issuance of a Release of Funds. Before funding decisions are made, all applications are analyzed according to how the proposed project or program meets the goals and priority needs of the City of Rochester's Consolidated Plan. Applications from previously-funded organizations are also analyzed for prior compliance and competency.

Once a subrecipient is selected for funding, the City of Rochester requires both quarterly and annual reports from the subrecipient organization and its associated programs. These reports include racial/ethnic, sex, income, and other demographical information of clients served, as well as expense details. More frequent reports and review may be required in cases where a subrecipient is underperforming, in clients served and/or funds expended. All subrecipients also have a contract on file with the City of Rochester that outlines federal obligations and other responsibilities associated with receiving CDBG funding.

Community Development Division staff perform an annual visit to each subrecipient's site office where reporting statistics are kept, as well as the subrecipient's site where program activities take place, if different. During each visit, Community Development staff interview key agency personnel, review program and financial documents, and discuss performance successes and challenges. Financial monitoring includes discussion and review of the subrecipient procurement policies, review of the audit trail report and CDBG trial balance report, review and discussion of the subrecipient's most recent audit or equivalent financial statements, review and discussion of the subrecipient's system of internal controls, review of any CDBG expenditures on staff salary/benefits, and review and discussion of cost allowability.

Community Development staff also will perform environmental reviews for all CDBG-funded projects and Davis-Bacon Act wage rate compliance monitoring for all CDBG-funded construction projects. For environmental reviews, this will include field site visits to project sites and consultations with the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources. Community Development staff also consults with CDBG subrecipients regarding environmental review procedures prior to the beginning of the program year to ensure that all subrecipients understand that work on the projects could not begin until the completion of the environmental review and the release of funds from HUD. Davis-Bacon Act monitoring will include on-site visits and confidential interviews with project laborers, collection and review of weekly payroll forms, collection of supporting documentation for payroll forms, and regular

conferences with subrecipients and other impacted parties to discuss any project-related challenges and concerns.

If at any time there is found to be any noncompliance with the Community Development Block Grant regulations regarding a subrecipient or a subrecipient's program or activity, Community Development Division staff will take immediate corrective action. Such corrective actions may vary according to the seriousness of the identified noncompliance and may include (but is not limited to) more frequent and/or extensive reporting requirements, forfeiture of received and anticipated CDBG funds, rejection of future funding requests, and higher requirements and proofs of remediation of the cause of inconsistency/noncompliance for future funding requests.