

2023-2024
Annual Action Plan
DRAFT

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

Annually, Pinellas County receives federal grant allocations from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for three federal Community Planning and Development entitlement grants:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)
- Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG)

The 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan is a five-year planning document required by HUD that identifies the County's housing and community development priority needs and establishes corresponding goals to address those needs. The Annual Action Plan identifies the specific actions, activities, and federal and non-federal resources that will be used to address the housing and community development priority needs and goals identified in the 5-Year Consolidated Plan.

The 2023-2024 Action Plan is Pinellas County's application to HUD for CDBG, HOME and ESG funding for Program Year 2023-2024, covering the period October 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024 (PY 23-24). The PY 23-24 Action Plan identifies specific activities the County will undertake during the program year using these federally funded grants and non-federal resources. The additional recourses include state and local funding that will be used to support, match, or leverage the federally funded grants targeting the preservation and production of affordable housing. These include Florida's State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program funding and Pinellas County's Penny IV and Housing Trust Fund (HTF) funding.

In Pinellas County there are five entitlement jurisdictions that receive annual allocations through the above federal grants. Pinellas County's CDBG funding is used throughout the County, except within the municipal boundaries of the cities of Clearwater, Largo, Pinellas Park, and St. Petersburg, which receive CDBG funding for the benefit of their residents. The County's ESG funding is used throughout the County, except within the City of St. Petersburg, which receives ESG funding for the benefit of city residents.

Pinellas County is the lead entity for the Pinellas County Consortium for HOME funding, of which the City of Largo is a participating jurisdiction. As the lead entity, Pinellas County assumes overall responsibility for HOME compliance and requirements. HOME funding is used throughout the County, except within the City of Clearwater and St. Petersburg, which receives HOME funding for the benefit of city residents.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

The PY 23-24 Action Plan represents the fourth year of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. The 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan identifies 13 goals, with outcomes, that will guide funding decisions over the course of the five-year term to address identified needs. The goals to be addressed in the PY 23-24 Action Plan are:

- Public Facility Improvements – Provide funding for the acquisition, design/engineering and/or construction/rehabilitation of facilities that benefit low- and moderate-income, homeless, and/or special needs populations.
- Public Services – Provide funding for operating expenses of public services that benefit low- and moderate-income, homeless, and/or special needs populations.

- Elimination of Slum and Blight – Provide funding to eliminate or prevent slum and blight to assist in restoring economic vitality in blighted areas or on a spot basis
- Code Enforcement – Provide funding for the payment of salaries and overhead costs directly related to the enforcement of local codes in deteriorating or deteriorated areas in Target Areas.
- Neighborhood Improvements – Provide funding for public facility improvements, physical improvements, and comprehensive neighborhood planning activities in Target Areas, and HUD designated Low-Mod Areas to improve the quality of life and health of neighborhood residents.
- Preservation of Housing – Provide funding for the acquisition and/or rehabilitation/preservation of housing affordable to low- and moderate-income residents.
- Production of Housing – Provide funding for the acquisition, development, and/or construction of new affordable housing units.
- Homeownership Opportunities – Provide funding for direct assistance to prospective low- and moderate-income homebuyers, including down payment and closing cost assistance, credit counseling, and/or homeownership education/training.
- Rental Assistance – Provide funding for rental assistance and security/utility deposits for income eligible individuals/households or rapid rehousing for individuals/households at-risk of or already experiencing homelessness.
- Shelter and Housing for the Homeless – Provide funding for the acquisition, construction, and/or rehabilitation of shelter facilities and housing for the homeless.
- Emergency/Disaster Response – Provide assistance prior to, during and after a community emergency and/or disaster event to prepare for and/or mitigate loss, protect during an event, and aid with recovery. Outcomes: Other: Emergency/disaster responses as needed
- Administration – General planning and administration costs associated with administering Federal CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds; State SHIP funds; and other local funding sources, including but not limited to Housing Trust Funds (HTF).

A summary of the goals and objectives are shown in Table AP-20 – Annual Goals and Objectives.

The County has established strategies to address each goal and specific target outcomes to measure progress over the five years, as noted above. Such strategies address how the County will tackle issues related to affordable housing, public housing, homelessness, housing rehabilitation/lead-based paint mitigation, anti-poverty, and program monitoring.

Additionally, the County has identified seven (7) geographic areas for implementation. These areas include two general areas, Pinellas County overall (countywide) and the Urban County, and five (5) specific target areas: Tarpon Springs, High Point, Greater Ridgcrest, Central Lealman, and East Lealman. These target areas have been identified by Pinellas County as at-risk communities, having higher concentrations of low-and moderate-income populations, poverty-level households, and minority racial and ethnic groups than other areas of Pinellas County. These areas also have more risk factors for Fair Housing issues.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

Over the past three years, Pinellas County has continued to work towards meeting the goals and addressing needs identified in the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. At the end of PY 21-22, the second complete year of the five-year plan, the County accomplished the following outcomes:

<u>Goal Name:</u>	Code Enforcement
<u>5-Year Goal:</u>	20,000 Household Housing Units
<u>Outcomes (2 Years):</u>	16,540 Household Housing Units
<u>Outcome:</u>	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care
 <u>Goal Name:</u>	 Elimination of Slum and Blight
<u>5-Year Goal:</u>	7 Buildings
<u>Outcomes (2 Years):</u>	2 Buildings
<u>Outcome:</u>	Buildings Demolished
 <u>Goal Name:</u>	 Homeownership Opportunities
<u>5-Year Goal:</u>	145 Households
<u>Outcomes (2 Years):</u>	41 Households
<u>Outcome:</u>	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers
 <u>Goal Name:</u>	 Neighborhood Improvements
<u>5-Year Goal:</u>	50,000 Persons
<u>Outcomes (2 Years):</u>	53,528 Persons
<u>Outcome:</u>	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit
 <u>Goal Name:</u>	 Neighborhood Improvements
<u>5-Year Goal:</u>	0 Persons
<u>Outcomes (2 Years):</u>	104,515 Persons
<u>Outcome:</u>	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit
 <u>Goal Name:</u>	 Preservation of Housing
<u>5-Year Goal:</u>	175 Household Housing Units
<u>Outcomes (2 Years):</u>	20 Household Housing Units
<u>Outcome:</u>	Rental Units Rehabilitated
 <u>Goal Name:</u>	 Preservation of Housing
<u>5-Year Goal:</u>	75 Household Housing Units
<u>Outcomes (2 Years):</u>	20 Household Housing Units
<u>Outcome:</u>	Homeowner Units Rehabilitated
 <u>Goal Name:</u>	 Production of Housing
<u>5-Year Goal:</u>	105 Household Housing Units
<u>Outcomes (2 Years):</u>	21 Household Housing Units
<u>Outcome:</u>	Rental Units Constructed
 <u>Goal Name:</u>	 Production of Housing
<u>5-Year Goal:</u>	50 Household Housing Units
<u>Outcomes (2 Years):</u>	18 Household Housing Units
<u>Outcome:</u>	Homeowner Units Constructed
 <u>Goal Name:</u>	 Public Facility Improvements
<u>5-Year Goal:</u>	35,000 Persons
<u>Outcomes (2 Years):</u>	24,516 Persons
<u>Outcome:</u>	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit

<u>Goal Name:</u>	Public Facility Improvements
<u>5-Year Goal:</u>	0 Persons
<u>Outcomes (2 Years):</u>	24 Persons
<u>Outcome:</u>	Homeless Persons-Overnight Shelter
<u>Goal Name:</u>	Public Services
<u>5-Year Goal:</u>	25,000 Persons
<u>Outcomes (2 Years):</u>	86,918 Persons
<u>Outcome:</u>	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit
<u>Goal Name:</u>	Public Services
<u>5-Year Goal:</u>	0 Persons
<u>Outcomes (2 Years):</u>	56 Persons
<u>Outcome:</u>	Homeless Persons-Overnight Shelter
<u>Goal Name:</u>	Rental Assistance
<u>5-Year Goal:</u>	75 Persons
<u>Outcomes (2 Years):</u>	47 Persons
<u>Outcome:</u>	Homelessness Prevention

In the previous Five-Year Consolidated Plan, the County re-evaluated and reduced the expected goals for the five-year cycle due to the continued reduction in resources for affordable housing. Affordable housing continues to be one of the high priority goals identified in the Five-Year Plan and will continue to be addressed in the Annual Action Plans and Pinellas County will continue to utilize federal CDBG, HOME and ESG funds, as well as State SHIP funds and local HTF funds, to meet the needs identified. The County continues working towards the identified five-year goals set for each objective. Based on current year projects, the County is on track to meet the identified goals.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

As part of the planning process, the County conducted two public meetings to assess the needs and priorities of the community. Pinellas County conducted a public hearing on January 30, 2023, to solicit input on the priorities and needs in the County to include in the Annual Action Plan. Participants were asked to provide input on community needs and how funds should be allocated to programs and projects related to housing, homelessness, special needs, and community development. The public hearing also served as an opportunity for the County to provide an overview of existing programs and to summarize the County's accomplishments in meeting identified goals over the past year.

The citizen participation process also includes consultation with housing providers, housing authorities, health and social services providers, and the Continuum of Care (CoC) for the County's homeless population. The Consortium consulted these entities throughout the preceding year concerning ongoing topics of mutual interest and during the preparation of the Consolidated Plan. Consultation occurred via email invitation and correspondence, online surveys, public meetings, public hearings, focus group consultation and webinars. In some cases, specific reports and plans of the agencies were referenced or utilized in the preparation of the Plan.

5. Summary of public comments

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen participation section of the Con Plan.

As part of the planning process, Pinellas County conducted public meetings to assess housing and community development needs. Needs identified during the planning process were affordable housing/housing assistance and homelessness prevention/eviction prevention/legal services/intensive case management. The identified needs fall within the 10 priority needs identified for the 2020-2024 planning period:

- Preservation/production of affordable housing, renter and owner
- Housing assistance, renter and owner
- Mental and behavioral health services, including substance abuse counseling/treatment
- Homeless shelters, facilities, and services, including shelter for families with children and unaccompanied youth as well as prevention activities
- Special needs housing, facilities, and services for all populations, especially the elderly
- Public facilities and improvements, including infrastructure and accessibility
- Public services, including mental health services, transportation access, and youth programming
- Code enforcement/blight removal
- Economic development for small businesses and employment opportunities/job training
- Program administration of federal, state, and local grants for housing and community development activities

These 10 priority needs will be addressed through the 13 goals and specific target outcomes identified in the Consolidated Plan.

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

All comments received were considered in the development of the plan.

7. Summary

Through the establishment of specific goals, outcomes, and target areas, the Pinellas County Consortium strives to address the priority needs of low- and moderate-income persons in a coordinated and strategic manner. Pinellas County's anticipated federal funding allocations from CDBG, HOME, and ESG will help to address many of the County's goals related to housing, homeless, and special needs, and community development; however, due to the significant lack of affordable housing in particular, the County must also supplement these funds with other State and local sources, such as SHIP, Penny IV, and HTF to fill funding gaps, which continue to widen. To address needs related homeless, special needs and community development, the County is fortunate to have a network of public and private partners and local governments/municipal departments to support these goals through financial leveraging, coordination, and collaboration.

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	Pinellas County	Housing & Community Development Department – Community Development Division
CDBG Administrator	Pinellas County	Housing & Community Development Department – Community Development Division
HOME Administrator	Pinellas County	Housing & Community Development Department – Community Development Division
ESG Administrator	Pinellas County	Housing & Community Development Department – Community Development Division
HOPWA Administrator	City of Tampa	Housing and Community Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

Pinellas County serves as the lead agency for the Pinellas County HOME Consortium, which includes the City of Largo. The County is responsible for the development of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan for the CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs. Pinellas County, designated as an Urban County by HUD, consists of all unincorporated areas of the County and the nineteen (19) municipalities participating in the County's program. The participating cooperating cities are:

Belleair	Indian Rocks Beach	Oldsmar	Seminole
Belleair Beach	Indian Shores	Redington Beach	Tarpon Springs
Belleair Bluffs	Kenneth City	Redington Shores	Treasure Island
Dunedin	Madeira Beach	Safety Harbor	
Gulfport	North Redington Beach	St. Pete Beach	

The cities of Clearwater, Largo, Pinellas Park, and St. Petersburg are separate CDBG entitlement communities and are not included in the Urban County.

The Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners is the local government entity responsible for approving the allocation of grant funds to various activities outlined in the Consolidated Plan and subsequent Annual Action Plans. The Community Development Division of the Pinellas County Housing and Community Development Department, along with the cooperating cities, partner agencies, and various nonprofit housing and public service providers, will play a major role in administering programs and implementing projects selected to carryout strategic objectives identified in the Consolidated Plan.

Separately, the City of Tampa administers HOPWA funding for local jurisdictions in the Tampa Bay area, including those within Pinellas County.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Bruce Bussey, Community Development Division Manager
Pinellas County Housing and Community Development Department
310 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756
Phone: (727) 464-8257
Email: bbussey@pinellas.gov

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

1. Introduction

Partnering with other local, public and private entities is vital to addressing the identified priority needs related to affordable housing, homeless, special needs and community development. Pinellas County's Citizen Participation Plan incorporates the goals, policies, and implementation strategies that the County will undertake to encourage and ensure adequate citizen participation in the development of the Consolidated Plan, the Annual Action Plan, any substantial amendments to the Plans, and the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

Citizen participation provides a means of involving the citizens of Pinellas County in an advisory capacity in all phases of HUD programs. Citizen participation in such efforts is essential if the activities to be undertaken are to be truly successful and responsive to the needs and concerns of the community. The Citizen Participation Plan provides for and encourages residents to explain their needs and voice their concerns. Emphasis is placed on persons of low- and moderate-income who are residents of low- and moderate-income areas in which funds are proposed to be used. However, at the same time, residents are reminded that their input is advisory and that final authority for decision-making rests with the Board of County Commissioners, who is responsible to both the citizens of Pinellas County and the Federal government.

The most recent update to the Citizens Participation Plan was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on May 19, 2020 (Resolution No. 20-45). The Citizen Participation Plan requires that public hearings be held to obtain citizen comments, that a period of not less than 30 days is allowed for citizen (public) comment, and that timely responses to citizen inquiries are provided.

Notices of public meetings, public hearings, and availability for viewing of the draft Annual Action Plan and proposed use of funds was advertised in four local newspapers [Tampa Bay Times (general circulation), La Gaceta (Spanish language), The Weekly Challenger (African American communities), and Tre Florida (Vietnamese language)], on the Community Development Division website at www.pinellas.gov/departments/community-development, and on the Pinellas County online Government Calendar website at www.pinellas.gov/events.

Two public hearings were conducted to determine the needs and priorities of the community. The public meetings provided an opportunity for citizens and interested parties to become knowledgeable about Pinellas County housing and community development programs and eligibility requirements. Participants were asked to provide input on how funds should be allocated to programs and projects related to housing, homelessness, special needs, and community development.

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 public participation process included consultation with housing providers, housing authorities, health and social services providers, and the Continuum of Care (CoC) for the County's homeless population. The Consortium consults entities throughout the preceding year concerning ongoing topics of mutual interest and during the preparation of the Action Plan. Consultation occurred via email, correspondence, and public meetings and hearings. In some cases, specific reports and/or plans of agencies were referenced or utilized in preparation of the Plan.

To broaden public participation, public notices were advertised in four newspapers [Tampa Bay Times (general); La Gaceta (Spanish); The Weekly Challenger (African American); Tre Florida (Vietnamese)], placed on the County's online Calendar, and on the County's Community Development webpage. Advisory emails/invitations were sent to all participating jurisdictions, public service providers (housing/homeless/health/social services), and other interested parties to advertise public meetings/hearings, and request comments on the Plan. Subrecipients were invited to attend public meetings in order to gather information on client needs. Attendees had opportunity to identify priority needs for housing, homeless, special needs, and community development.

Three public housing authorities are part of the Consortium - Pinellas County, Tarpon Springs, and Dunedin Housing Authorities. Pinellas County regularly consults with housing authorities and other non-profit/for-profit housing providers operating within County.

Pinellas County is a member of the Tampa Bay Healthcare Collaborative, which is comprised of government entities, nonprofit organizations, business and labor organizations, educational institutions, and healthcare professionals committed to working together to improve healthcare delivery systems for uninsured and underinsured County residents. The County participates in quarterly meetings/facilitates attendance of nonprofits and partners.

Similarly, the Health in All Policies (HiAP) Pinellas County Collaborative, which includes the governments of Pinellas County, the cities of Pinellas Park and St. Petersburg, the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County, Forward Pinellas, and the Foundation for a Healthy St. Petersburg, also seeks to ensure that all residents in the County have equal opportunity to live a healthy life by considering the potential effect of local government policies/programs on vulnerable populations.

The County Human Services Department helps County residents obtain access to medical care and emergency financial assistance, connect to county judicial resources, optimize benefits for veterans and dependents, investigate consumer complaints, and helps those who are experiencing homelessness. Human Services actively networks with over 105 partner agencies, manages contract and grants, and is a key organization in County's institutional delivery structure. Human Services publishes resource guides and oversees the Health Care for the Homeless (HCH) Co-Applicant Board, comprised of consumer/patient representatives, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners (BCC).

At the direction of the Health and Human Services Coordinating Council, a Behavioral Health Summit was held during the last 5-years. Resulting initiatives included the Pinellas County Empowerment Team approved and funded by the BCC in May 2016, focusing on targeted services for high-need clients. In July 2018, the Pinellas Integrated Care Alliance was created to provide intensive case management. The County has pursued a range of grant opportunities for behavioral health services for homeless clients newly housed, Assisted Outpatient Services (AOT), expanded drug court and medication-assisted treatment, and other efforts to help mitigate

opioid impacts in the community. Local partners continue to review behavioral health efforts in conjunction with these initiatives.

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.

Pinellas County is a member of the Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Alliance, which serves as the lead agency for the Continuum of Care (CoC). The County's Human Services Department is the primary interface between Pinellas County and the Homeless Leadership Alliance. Staff of the Homeless Leadership Alliance, the County's Human Services Department, and the County's Community Development Division meet every other month to discuss the needs of the homeless population. Additionally, a representative of the Homeless Leadership Alliance is involved in the County's annual Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) application cycle and participates in the review, ranking, and selection of projects funded by the County's CDBG program.

Consortium members and non-profit agencies also work closely with the Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Alliance, attend general meetings of the Board, and provide staff support for the Point-in-Time count. Every January, the Continuum of Care (CoC) conducts annual Point-in-Time surveys to determine the needs of homeless persons, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, unaccompanied youth, and persons at risk of homelessness.

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

Consortium member agencies have consulted with the CoC on a regular basis to determine how to allocate ESG funds in accordance with the CoC and the Consolidated Plan and review of applications for funding requests. The 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness in Pinellas County provides a strategic, countywide system to prevent and end homelessness in Pinellas County. Pinellas County consults regularly with the CoC on homeless matters including allocation of funds and development of performance standards, outcomes, and HMIS. County staff serve on various committees of the CoC, including the Executive Committee and Funders Council. County staff hold monthly coordination meetings with the Homeless Leadership Alliance.

ESG funds are awarded to agencies that provide case management, homeless prevention, and emergency shelter and services to homeless persons.

The CoC is responsible for the administration and operation of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Policies and procedures in place are consistently reviewed for necessary updates. ESG agencies awarded funds are required to enter client data into HMIS in accordance with HUD guidelines. Pinellas Homeless Management Information System (PHMIS) is the official HMIS system of record for Pinellas County. PHMIS is a locally administered, electronic case management system that stores longitudinal client-level data about the men, women, and children who have accessed homeless and other basic needs social service programs in Pinellas County. PHMIS is funded by the Human Services Department, HUD, the Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Alliance and the Juvenile Welfare Board and is administered/operated by the Homeless Leadership Alliance. The system is responsible for annual system-level accountability reports showing the progress to end homelessness such as the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (a report on the use of homeless housing), the

Point-in-Time Count Report (a report on the one-day count of clients living in shelters and on the street) and the Housing Inventory Chart (a report on the availability of homeless dedicated housing beds and units).

Consortium member agencies are part of the development and implementation of the Pinellas Coordinated Assessment process; ESG subcontractors will use the process for selecting families to enroll in their programs.

All ESG participant data is entered in PHMIS and the reports are used to track/report on ESG performance. Member agency staffs are part of the System Quality Improvement Committee working to set performance outcome goals and overseeing measurement and reports. The County can build upon the success of PHMIS to develop performance metrics and advanced reports that monitors and evaluates client-level and provider-level utilization and outcome.

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

The following agencies, including the type of organization, section of plan addressed by consultation, and anticipated outcomes, participated in the process:

1
Pinellas County Housing & Community Development Department
Other Government-County; Grantee Department
Housing Need Assessment; Homeless Needs-Chronically homeless; Homeless Needs-Families with Children; Homelessness Strategy; Non-Homeless Special Needs; Lead- based Paint Strategy; Anti-poverty Strategy; Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
Consultation: Organization participated in the January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need
2
Community Action Stops Abuse, Inc.
Services-Victims of Domestic Violence; Services-Victims
Homeless Needs – Families with Children
Homelessness Strategy
Consultation: Organization participated in the January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need
3
YMCA of the Suncoast, Inc.
Services-Children; Services-Elderly Persons; Services-Health
Services-Education; Neighborhood Organization
Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
Consultation: Organization participated in the January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need
4
Feeding Tampa Bay
Services – Food Insecurity
Anti-poverty Strategy; Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
Consultation: Organization participated in the January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need
5
St. Pete Free Clinic
Services-Health; Health Agency
Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
Consultation: Organization participated in the January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need

6
Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Alliance
Continuum of Care
Homelessness Strategy; Homeless Needs (Chronically Homeless, Families with Children, Veterans, Unaccompanied Youth); Homelessness Strategy; Anti-Poverty Strategy
Consultation: Organization participated in the January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need. The County continues to participate on the Funder's Council for Continuum of Care and facilitated by the HLA. The Homeless Leadership Alliance also participates in the monthly Jurisdictions/Agencies meetings to stay in contact about funding needs and resources.
7
The Salvation Army
Services-Homeless
Homeless Needs – Chronically Homeless; Homeless Needs - Families with children; Homelessness Needs - Veterans; Homelessness Strategy
Consultation: Organization participated in the January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need
8
Pinellas Sheriff's Police Athletic League
Services – Children
Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
Consultation: Organization participated in the January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need
9
Suncoast Housing Connections / Tampa Bay CDC
Services - Housing
Housing Needs Assessment; Market Analysis
Consultation: Organization participated in the January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need
10
Tampa Bay Neighborhood Housing Services (Clearwater Neighborhood Housing Services)
Services - Housing
Housing Needs Assessment; Market Analysis
Consultation: Organization participated in the January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need
11
Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay
Services Elderly Persons; Services – Persons with Disabilities
Non-Homeless Special Needs; Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
Consultation: Organization participated in the January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need
12
Directions for Living, Inc.
Services – Housing; Services-Children; Services-Persons with Disabilities; Services-Homeless; Services-Victims; Services-Health
Homeless Needs - Chronically Homeless; Homeless Needs – Families with Children; Homelessness Needs Strategy; Non-Homeless Special Needs; Anti-poverty Strategy; Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
Consultation: Organization participated in the January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need
13
The Salvation Army of St. Petersburg
Services - Homeless
Homeless Needs – Chronically Homeless; Homeless Needs – Families with Children; Homelessness Needs – Veterans;

Homelessness Strategy
Consultation: Organization participated in the January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need
14
Operation Par, Inc.
Housing; Services – Housing; Services- Persons with Disabilities
Non-Homeless Special Needs; Non-Housing Community Development Strategy
Consultation: Organization participated in the January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need
15
Pinellas County Housing Authority
PHA
Public Housing Needs
Consultation: The Pinellas County Housing Authority Director participated in monthly jurisdiction meetings. The Housing Authority indicated there is still a need for more housing units to accept Housing Choice Vouchers.
16
St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church
Other – Religious Organization
Housing Need Assessment; Homeless Needs – Chronically homeless; Homeless Needs – Families with children; Anti-poverty strategy
Consultation: Organization participated in the January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need
17
Tampa Bay Neighborhood Housing Services
Services - Housing
Housing Needs Assessment; Market Analysis
Consultation: Organization participated in the January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need
18
Century 21
Services - Housing
Housing Need Assessment; Market Analysis
Consultation: Organization participated in the January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need
19
Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
Regional Organization; Planning Organization
Market Analysis
Tampa Bay Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)/ National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) & Tampa Bay Climate Science Advisory Panel (CSAP), and NOAA Office for Coastal Management for ongoing consultation (use of plans/reports/data throughout the year for continued analysis of sea level rise projects and risks (flooding, transportation disruptions, increased costs of homeowners insurance, physical to damage to transportation systems causing disruptions & critical infrastructure damage including drinking water/wastewater systems), resulting from coastal inundation due to geographic location directly on the Gulf of Mexico and Tampa Bay.
20
City of Largo
Other government - Local
Housing Need Assessment; Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless; Homelessness Strategy; Anti-poverty Strategy
Consultation: HOME Consortium Partner/ Organization; participated in monthly jurisdiction meetings; participated in the joint January 2023 needs assessment public meeting; Outcome: Identification of Need

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

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

The City of Tampa administers HOPWA funding for local jurisdictions. Both Pinellas County and the City of Tampa coordinates with the local CoC. As part of the citizen participation process, the County strives to receive input and participation from all interested agencies, groups, and organizations, including low-income persons and persons residing in local neighbor revitalization areas, local target areas and slum/blighted areas. The Pinellas County Health Department, public housing authorities, state government agencies, business and civic leaders are included in citizen participation outreach but have historically chosen not to participate or provide input into development of the Plan.

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	Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Alliance	Goals: Increase progress toward ending chronic homelessness; Increase housing stability; Use rapid re-housing as a method to reduce family homelessness; Supportive services
Pinellas County Strategic Plan	Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners	Vision: To be the standard for public service in America. Goal: Ensure public health, safety, and welfare; Provide planning, coordination, prevention, and protective services to ensure a safe and secure community; Be a facilitator, convener, and purchaser of services for those in need; Provider comprehensive services to connect veterans and dependents to the benefits they have earned; Support programs that seek to prevent and remedy the causes of homelessness and move individuals and families from homelessness to permanent housing; Enhance pedestrian and bicycle safety. Goal: Foster continual economic growth and vitality; Proactively attract and retain businesses with targeted jobs; Invest in communities that need it the most; Catalyze redevelopment through planning and regulatory programs; invest in infrastructure to meet current and future needs; Provide safe and effective transportation systems; Support a vibrant community with recreation, arts, and culture.
Pinellas by Design	Pinellas County Economic Development	Goal: Establishes economic, real estate, and urban design strategies to serve as a foundation for future countywide economic development and redevelopment efforts.
Affordable Housing Compact	Pinellas County and Local Jurisdictions	The compact is to have a unified commitment to expanding affordable housing. Overlapping Goal: Housing
Pinellas County SHIP LHAP & LHS	Pinellas County Housing and Community Development Department/Community Development Division	The Community Development Division completed the FY 2021-2024 Local Housing Assistance Plan for the County. Affordable Housing Strategies: Create partnerships/ produce new rental and owner housing or preserve existing rental and owner housing; Promote housing opportunities; Provide housing services.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative

The County partnered with the City of Largo for a joint public meeting with agencies serving the community. Residents were invited as well. Pinellas County, City of St. Petersburg, City of Clearwater, City of Pinellas Park, JWB, HLA and various other agencies have been participating in monthly meetings to identify community needs and update on available financial resources to serve the community.

Representatives from each of the 19 municipalities located within the County who also cooperate with the County in the CDBG program, were invited to participate and to provide input on the needs within each of their communities.

The cities of Clearwater, Largo, Pinellas Park, and St. Petersburg are entitlement jurisdictions located within Pinellas County. When funding requests are made to the County for projects physically located within the geographic limits of these entitlement jurisdictions, the County coordinates closely with the respective jurisdiction to jointly fund projects that serve both City and County residents.

Effective implementation of the Consolidated Plan involves a variety of agencies both in the community and in the County. Pinellas County also reviews and approves plans of the local housing authorities for consistency with the County's Consolidated Plan. Coordination and collaboration between agencies are important to ensuring that the needs in the community are addressed. The Pinellas County Consortium maintains an ongoing relationship with local housing authorities, affordable housing providers, and agencies providing services to low- and moderate-income populations and the homeless. Not all agencies were able to attend the public hearings but consult and discuss needs with County staff throughout the year as needed.

Consultation with Federal Communications Commission/National Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA)/Broadband USA for continued monitoring of broadband needs in the County, ensuring internet access, including sufficient competition between broadband service providers, for residents which is critical in supporting economic opportunity among low- and moderate-income households. Nearly the entire county is served by three or more fixed residential broadband providers at speeds slightly higher than the statewide percentage.

The County is committed to continuing its participation and coordination with federal, state, municipal and local agencies, as well as with the private and non-profit sectors, to serve the needs of low- and moderate- income and special needs individuals and families in the community. In particular, the County will continue to work in close coordination with County departments regarding infrastructure improvements and the provision of public facilities and services.

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

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

The Consortium made every effort to broaden citizen participation. Public notices were advertised in four local newspapers [Tampa Bay Times (general circulation), La Gaceta (Spanish language), The Weekly Challenger (African American communities), and Tre Florida (Vietnamese language)], placed on Pinellas County's online Government Calendar, and on the County's Community Development Division webpage. In addition, advisory emails were sent to all participating jurisdictions; public service providers (e.g., housing, homeless, health, and

social services); and other interested parties to advertise public meetings and public hearings, and to request comments on the Action Plan.

Public participation efforts were designed to identify strengths and needs, increase the community's knowledge, establish partnerships, and align resources, and allow for community buy-in and support of the Plan.

Pinellas County's Consolidated Plan for 2020-2024 is the result of an ongoing process of consultation and coordination to ensure that all residents have an opportunity to help shape a community vision for the County. Regularly, housing and community development needs are made known to County and City staff and housing and service providers through various means:

1. Administration of Affordable Housing Programs for Pinellas County;
2. Participation of County staff on committees of local agencies such as the Neighborhood Family Centers and the Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County;
3. Technical assistance to agencies and other entities for the CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs;
4. Participation in public forums such as the Behavioral Health Summit at the direction of the Health and Human Services Coordinating Council, and neighborhood meetings with communities including Lealman and Ridgecrest;
5. Meetings with public housing authorities; and
6. Outreach to minorities, non-English speakers and persons with disabilities: public hearings and meetings are the primary means by which individual citizens can provide input into the Consolidated Plan. Open meetings are held at the town level, city level, and countywide level. All such meetings are scheduled in advance and posted in the community. All meetings are held in handicapped accessible facilities with Spanish translation available if needed.

As part of the Citizen Participation process, Pinellas County held a Needs Assessment public hearing in January 2023. Participating cities, partner agencies, and community organizations were encouraged to participate and provide input on how funds should be allocated to programs and projects related to housing, homelessness, special needs, and community development. The results of the input received during the public meetings help to identify the priority housing and community development needs for the next year.

(Remainder of page intentionally left blank)

Citizen Participation Outreach

Summary of 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)
Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/ Broad Community	Meeting notices were posted on the Community Development Division webpage for the January Needs Assessment public hearing.	Not applicable (no comments received on the webpage notices specifically). Notice to general public, participating cities, partner agencies, and community organizations.	Not applicable (no comments received on the webpage notices specifically).	https://pinellas.gov/community-development-notices/
Newspaper Ad	Minorities; Non-English Speaking (Vietnamese & Spanish) Non-targeted/ Broad Community	Public meeting notices for the joint Needs Assessment and Past Performance Review on 1/30/23, were published in Tampa Bay Times (general circulation) on 1/15/23; in La Gaceta (Spanish language newspaper) and Tre Florida (Vietnamese language newspaper) on 1/20/23.	Not applicable (no comments received on the newspaper ads specifically). Notice to general public, participating cities, partner agencies, and community organizations.	Not applicable (no comments received on the newspaper ads specifically).	
Other (Advisory Emails)	Other (Stakeholders)	Emails were sent to officials of participating cities, public service providers (housing, homeless, health, and social services), and affordable housing providers, notifying these stakeholders of the Action Plan process and the public meetings held in January.	Not applicable (no comments received on the advisory emails specifically). Notice to stakeholders, including government officials, public service providers, and affordable housing providers. Some email recipients attended the public meeting.	Not applicable (no comments received on the advisory emails specifically).	
Public Meeting	Non-targeted/ Broad Community Other (Stakeholders)	A Joint Needs Assessment and Past Performance Review Public Hearing was held by the City of Largo and Pinellas County on 1/30/23, in person at the Pinellas County Development Review Services Conference Room and via the Zoom Meeting platform. 5 in person and 15 virtual attendees.	Summary of comments in Attachment A – Citizen Participation	All comments were considered during development of the Action Plan.	
Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/ Broad Community	Comment period notice was placed on the Community Development Division webpage on May 12, 2023, available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese languages.	Not applicable (no comments received on the webpage notices specifically).	Not applicable (no comments received on the webpage notices specifically).	https://pinellas.gov/community-development-notices/

Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of Comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
Newspaper Ad	Minorities; Non-English Speaking (Vietnamese & Spanish) Non-targeted/ Broad Community Other (Stakeholders)	Notice of comment period ad was published in the Tampa Bay Times (general circulation) on May 14, 2023, in La Gaceta (Spanish language newspaper) and Tre Florida (Vietnamese language newspaper) on May 12, 2023, and in The Weekly Challenger (African American communities) on May 11, 2023.	Not applicable (no comments received on the newspaper ads specifically). Notice to general public, participating cities, partner agencies, and community organizations.	Not applicable (no comments received on the newspaper ads specifically).	
Public comment	Non-targeted/ Broad Community	30-day public comment period was held May 14, 2023, thru June 8, 2023.	Not applicable. No comments received during 30-day comment period.	Not applicable (no comments received during the 30-day comment period).	
Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/ Broad Community	Notice was posted on the Community Development Division webpage for the public hear on 7/18/23 and was placed on the Pinellas County Government Online Calendar in May 2023.	Not applicable (no comments received on the webpage notices specifically).	Not applicable (no comments received on the webpage notices specifically).	https://pinellas.gov/events/
Newspaper Ad	Minorities; Non-English Speaking (Vietnamese & Spanish) Non-targeted/ Broad Community Other (Stakeholders)	Notice of 7/18/23, public hearing ad was published in the in Tampa Bay Times (general circulation); in La Gaceta (Spanish language newspaper) and Tre Florida (Vietnamese language newspaper); and in The Weekly Challenger (African American communities).	Not applicable (no comments received on the newspaper ads specifically). Notice to general public, participating cities, partner agencies, and community organizations.	Not applicable (no comments received on the newspaper ads specifically).	
Public Hearing	Non-targeted/ Broad Community	A Public Hearing was held by the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners on July 11, 2023, to receive comments prior to approval of the 2023-24 Action Plan.	TBD	TBD	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

In 2020, Pinellas County completed the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, a five-year strategic planning document developed with input from community residents, local governments, nonprofits, and other interested groups, identifying the County's priority housing, homeless, special populations, and community development needs. The Annual Action Plan, submitted each of the five years of the Consolidated Plan, identifies specific projects and activities to be undertaken each year to address the needs identified in the Consolidated Plan and further the identified five-year priorities and strategies.

Federal CDBG, HOME and ESG funds are allocated annually to entitlement communities through HUD to carry out housing and community development activities to benefit low- and moderate-income households. The Annual Action Plan is the Pinellas County Consortium's annual application for HOME funds and Pinellas County's application for CDBG and ESG funds. The County anticipates receiving approximately \$5,065,171.84 in Federal formula grant funding, including program income. As of May 2023, the County anticipates having an additional \$45,577.84 in CDBG carryover to be used to fund activities identified in the 23-24 Action Plan. This fourth Annual Action Plan outlines how the County will target these Federal resources to address the County's housing and community development needs during the upcoming fiscal year from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024. The Project Summary table in AP-38, details how the County will adjust project funding based on actual allocations amounts received.

The Pinellas County Consortium, grantee of Federal HOME funding, consists of the jurisdictions of Pinellas County, acting in its capacity as an Urban County, and the City of Largo. The Urban County, grantee of Federal CDBG and ESG funding, consists of all unincorporated areas and nineteen municipalities participating in the County's program. The County is the lead entity for the Consortium. The City of Largo prepares and approves its own Action Plan for CDBG funding.

The Pinellas County Housing and Community Development Department implements the CDBG, HOME and ESG programs. The Community Development Division is the lead agency in development, coordination, submission, and implementation of Pinellas County's Annual Action Plan. The Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners is the entity responsible for approving the application of grant funds for various activities identified in the Consolidated and Annual Action Plans.

(Remainder of Page Intentionally Left Blank)

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 3, Annual Allocation: \$	Expected Amount Available Year 3, Program Income: \$	Expected Amount Available Year 3, Prior Year Resources: \$	Expected Amount Available Year 3, total: \$	Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
CDBG	Public-Federal	Acquisition; Admin and Planning; Economic Development; Housing; Public Improvements; Public Services	\$2,475,188.00	\$45,000.00	\$46,577.84	\$2,566,765.84	\$2,520,188.00	CDBG funds are used to support housing, homeless, non-homeless special needs, and non- housing community development activities, as well as program administration.
HOME	Public-Federal	Acquisition; Homebuyer Assistance; Homeowner Rehab; Multifamily Rental New Construction; Multifamily Rental Rehab; New Construction for Ownership; TBRA	\$1,408,919.00	\$875,000.00	\$0	\$2,283,919.00	\$2,283,919.00	HOME funds are used to support housing activities, as well as program administration.
ESG	Public-Federal	Conversion and Rehab for Transitional Housing; Financial Assistance; Overnight Shelter; Rapid Re-Housing (Rental Assistance); Rental Assistance; Services; Transitional Housing	\$214,487	\$0	\$0	\$214,487	\$214,487	ESG funds are used to support homeless activities, as well as program administration.
Other (SHIP)	Public-State	Acquisition; Admin and Planning; Homebuyer assistance; Homeowner rehab; Housing; Multifamily rental new construction; Multifamily rental rehab; New construction for ownership; Rental assistance; Services	\$5,790,106.00	\$1,600,000.00	\$0	\$7,390,106.00	\$7,390,106.00	State SHIP funds are used to meet the local 25% match requirement for the HOME program and to support housing activities, as well as program administration.
Other (Housing Trust Fund)	Public-Local	Acquisition; Admin and Planning; Homeowner rehab; Housing; Multifamily rental new construction; Multifamily rental rehab; New construction for ownership	\$0	\$325,000	\$0	\$325,000	\$325,000	Local Housing Trust Fund (HTF) funds are used to meet the local 25% match requirement for the HOME program and to support housing activities.

Table 5 – Expected 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

Pinellas County makes every reasonable effort to leverage financial support from other sources for projects receiving federal grant funds. CDBG program applicants must identify project funding from other sources as part of the competitive application process. As part of the project selection process, projects with other non-federal leverage funding receive additional points based on the amount of other non-federal funding contributed to the project. This process encourages applicants to structure project funding to include additional private, state and local resources to leverage federal funds.

With HOME program funds, the Consortium uses HOME funds to provide down payment and closing cost assistance, leveraging private first mortgage funding. HOME program funds are also used in support of affordable housing development projects, leveraging other federal, state, local and private project funding. Leverage funds for affordable housing development are usually in the form of Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, Tax Exempt Bond Financing, State or local funding, and/or private developer contributions.

In addition to HOME funding, Pinellas County uses State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) funding to address affordable housing needs and meet identified affordable housing goals. The twenty-five percent (25%) match requirement for the HOME Program comes principally from SHIP dollars. These are local funds disbursed by the State from a State document stamp tax. Local Housing Trust Funds are also used to match HOME funds. SHIP and HTF activities that are identified as HOME "look-alike" activities are tracked as HOME Match activities. Program income or recaptured funds from these match activities are designated as HOME funds and used for future HOME eligible activities.

Pinellas County will match Emergency Solutions Grant funds using County local general funds allocated to activities that are consistent with the following eligible ESG components: street outreach, emergency shelter, homelessness prevention, rapid re-housing and homeless management information system.

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

The County's Real Estate Management Department distributes a list of properties available for tax deed sale and prosperities escheating to the County government after seven years of non-payment of taxes. Community Development Division staff reviews the list of properties for suitability as affordable housing if sufficient funding exists for acquisition and/or maintenance/holding costs until the property is developed/rehabilitated.

Although publicly owned land is rarely available, the County may lease land to agencies that address County identified needs for providing public services to low- and moderate-income persons, including the homeless and special needs populations, and creating suitable living environments in the seven (7) geographic priority areas, which include five (5) local Target Areas (Tarpon Springs, Greater Ridgecrest, East Lealman, Central Lealman, and High Point) and two (2) general areas (Urban County, Countywide). Currently, the County leases land to three agencies that address these identified needs.

Discussion

As stated, the County utilizes SHIP and HTF funds to meet the local 25% match requirement for the HOME Program. Cooperation between the programs enhances the program's effectiveness by affording more residents

housing opportunities that would not be available to them otherwise. The State requires that 65% of the SHIP allocation be expended on home ownership activities and 75% be expended on construction activities.

Pinellas County will use up to 15% of its annual allocation, plus up to 15% of prior year program income to determine the resources available to fund public service activities for each fiscal year. For fiscal year 23-24, the annual CDBG allocation is \$2,475,188 (15% - \$371,278.20). In April of 2023, at the time of project selection/funding determinations and updated following allocation notice, Pinellas County had received \$27,614.42 in program income for fiscal year 2022-23 (15%, or \$4,142.16). Based on the allocation and prior year program income, Pinellas County can fund up to \$375,420.36 in public service activities and remain in compliance with the public service cap. As detailed in AP-38, Project Summary, Pinellas County has identified four (4) public service activities that will receive a total of \$375,420.36 in CDBG funding.

(Remainder of Page Intentionally Left Blank)

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives - 91.420, 91.220(c)(3)&(e)

Goals Summary Information

Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
Public Facility Improvements	2020	2024	Homeless; Non- Homeless Special Needs; Non-Housing Community Development	Countywide	Mental and behavioral health services; Homeless shelters, facilities, and services; Special needs housing, facilities, and services; Public Facilities and Improvements	CDBG: \$1,273,286.94	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 50,364 Persons Assisted
Public Services	2020	2024	Homeless; Non- Homeless Special Needs; Non-Housing Community Development	Greater Ridgecrest, Central Lealman Target Areas; Countywide; Urban County	Homeless shelters, facilities, and services; Public Services	CDBG: \$375,420.36	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 6,590 Persons Assisted
Code Enforcement	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Central and East Lealman Target Areas	Code enforcement/blight removal	CDBG: \$80,750.00	Housing Code Enforcement/ Foreclosed Property Care: 8,901 Household Housing Unit
Neighborhood Improvements	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	East Lealman, Central Lealman, Greater Ridgecrest, High Point, Tarpon Springs Target Areas	Special needs housing, facilities, and services; Public Facilities and Improvements	CDBG: \$333,270.94	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 28,395 Persons Assisted
Preservation of Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing; Public Housing	East Lealman, Central Lealman, Greater Ridgecrest, High Point, Tarpon Springs Target Areas, Countywide; Urban County	Preservation/production of affordable housing; Special needs housing, facilities, and services	HOME: \$942,517.41 SHIP: \$2,550,047.70 HTF: \$146,250.00	Rental Units Rehabilitated: 35 Household Housing Units Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 15 Household Housing Units

Production of Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing; Public Housing	East Lealman, Central Lealman, Greater Ridgecrest, High Point, Tarpon Springs Target Areas, Countywide; Urban County	Preservation/production of affordable housing; Special needs housing, facilities, and services	HOME: \$1,053,009.69 SHIP: \$2,550,047.70 HTF: \$146,250.00	Rental Units Constructed: 21 Household Housing Units Homeowner Housing Added: 10 Household Housing Units
Homeownership Opportunities	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	East Lealman, Central Lealman, Greater Ridgecrest, High Point, Tarpon Springs Target Areas, Urban County	Preservation/production of affordable housing; Housing assistance,	HOME: \$60,000.00 SHIP: \$1,631,000.00	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 29 Households Assisted Public Service Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 350 Households Assisted
Rental Assistance	2020	2024	Affordable Housing; Homeless	East Lealman, Central Lealman, Greater Ridgecrest, High Point, Tarpon Springs Target Areas, Urban County	Housing Assistance	ESG: \$103,022.31	Homelessness Prevention: 15 Persons Assisted
Shelter and Housing for Homeless	2020	2024	Homeless	Countywide	Homeless shelters, facilities, and services	ESG: \$95,378.17	Other: 10,000 Persons Assisted
Emergency/ Disaster Response	2020	2024	Other: Disaster Response	Countywide	Preservation/production of affordable housing, Housing assistance, Mental and behavioral health services, Homeless shelters, facilities, and services, Special needs housing, facilities, and services, public facilities and improvements, Public services, Code enforcement/ blight removal, Economic development; Program Administration	N/A	N/A
Administration	2020	2024	Other: Administration	Countywide	Program Administration	CDBG: \$504,037.60 HOME: \$228,391.90 ESG: \$16,086.52 SHIP: \$659,010.60 HTF: \$32,500.00	Other: 0 Other

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

Sort Order	1
Goal Name	Public Facility Improvements
Goal Description	Provide funding for the acquisition, design/engineering and/or construction/rehabilitation of facilities that benefit low- to moderate-income, homeless, and/or special needs populations.
Sort Order	2
Goal Name	Public Service
Goal Description	Provide funding for operating expenses of public services that benefit low- and moderate-income, homeless, and/or special needs populations.
Sort Order	3
Goal Name	Code Enforcement
Goal Description	Provide funding for the payment of salaries and overhead costs directly related to the enforcement of local codes in deteriorating or deteriorated areas in Target Areas.
Sort Order	4
Goal Name	Economic Development
Goal Description	Provide activities that create economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons or within low- and moderate-income areas.
Sort Order	5
Goal Name	Neighborhood Improvements
Goal Description	Provide funding for public facility improvements, physical improvements, and comprehensive neighborhood planning activities in Target Areas and HUD designated Low-Mod Areas to improve the quality of life and health of neighborhood residents.
Sort Order	6
Goal Name	Preservation of Housing
Goal Description	Provide funding for the acquisition and/or rehabilitation/preservation of housing affordable to low- and moderate-income residents.
Sort Order	7
Goal Name	Production of Housing
Goal Description	Provide funding for the acquisition, development, and/or construction of new housing units affordable to low- and moderate-income residents.
Sort Order	8
Goal Name	Homeownership Opportunities
Goal Description	Provide funding for direct assistance to prospective low- and moderate-income homebuyers, including down payment and closing cost assistance, credit counseling, and/or homeownership education/training.
Sort Order	9
Goal Name	Rental Assistance
Goal Description	Provide funding for rental assistance and security/utility deposits for income-eligible individuals/households or rapid rehousing for individuals/households at-risk of or already experiencing homelessness.
Sort Order	10
Goal Name	Shelter and Housing for Homeless
Goal Description	Provide funding for the acquisition, construction, and/or rehabilitation of shelter facilities and housing for the homeless.
Sort Order	11
Goal Name	Emergency/Disaster Response
Goal Description	Provide assistance prior to, during and after a community emergency and/or disaster event to prepare for and/or mitigate loss, protect during an event, and aid with recovery.
Sort Order	12
Goal Name	Administration
Goal Description	General planning and administration costs associated with administering Federal CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds; State SHIP funds; and other local funding sources, including but not limited to Housing Trust Funds (HTF).

Table 7 – Goal Descriptions

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 91.215(b)

It is estimated that the County will provide a total of 125 units of affordable housing to extremely low-, low-, and moderate-income households. HOME funds will be used to provide affordable housing to a total of 18 low- and moderate-income households. ESG funds will be used to provide affordable housing to a total of 15 extremely low-income households. State SHIP and local HTF funds will be used to provide affordable housing to a total of 92 households with the majority of the units for low- and moderate-income households. Funding will provide down payment/closing cost assistance, preserve the existing housing stock through acquisition/rehabilitation/modernization/replacement of owner or renter housing, and produce new housing stock through acquisition and/or construction of new owner or renter housing.

AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)

Introduction

Pinellas County has identified the following programs as a result of the priority needs identified in the Consolidated Plan. The activities being recommended in each of the programs for initial funding have been evaluated for eligibility, readiness to proceed, leveraged funds, and capacity of the entity carrying out the activity. Additionally, should funds become available from unanticipated program income or activities coming in under budget, the County has identified alternate activities or may add additional activities to the identified priority programs.

#	Project Name
1	Target Area Improvement Program (SL-3)
2	Public Facilities Program (SL-1)
3	Public Infrastructure Program (SL-3)
4	Public Services Program (SL-1)
5	Homeless and Homelessness Prevention Services Program (DH-2)
6	Housing Preservation Program (DH-1)
7	Housing Production Program (DH-1)
8	Homeownership Promotion Program (DH-2)
9	Economic Development Program
10	Disaster Response Program (SL-1; SL-3; DH-1)
11	Administration

Table 8 – Project Information

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

In making allocation recommendations, several factors were considered: activities must comply with CDBG national objectives; must address a priority identified in the Consolidated Strategic Plan; and must provide decent housing, a suitable living environment, or expand economic opportunities principally for low- and moderate-income persons. Pinellas County allocates investments geographically within its jurisdiction by utilizing a target area concept. Redevelopment and revitalization funds continue to be directed to the County's targeted areas and provide support for redevelopment activities in cooperating cities. All areas are either principally low- and moderate-income as determined through the most up to date HUD provided Low- and

Moderate-Income Summary Data or slum/blight areas as designated by the local governments. This target area concept does not preclude the possibility that there will be projects selected that may operate countywide, or otherwise outside of one of the identified target areas.

Housing programs are available throughout the County, with a focus on areas with a concentration of older housing, as well as on special targeted areas. The Housing and Community Development Department encourages mixed-income developments.

The primary obstacle to meeting underserved needs is the limited resources available to address the identified priorities. The County is not able to fund all project proposals received during the application cycle. In addition, some of the obstacles to meeting underserved needs are as follows:

1. Lack of supply of affordable housing for extremely low-, low-, moderate- and middle-income families. Housing costs continue to rise. Pinellas County continue to experience increased rents and purchase prices. Although the median sales price of single-family homes increased only 2.3% over the past 12 months, the median sales price of \$445,000 is well outside the affordability range of a household with an income at the median family income. Average rents are not affordable, and households are barely able to afford rent making it difficult to afford necessities such as food, clothing, medical care or transportation. Pinellas County is built out and lacks developable land for construction of new affordable rental housing.
2. Local governmental policies, such as building codes, subdivision standards, and impact fees, are enacted to protect and further the general welfare of the public. However, a complex regulatory environment can have the unintended effect of creating barriers to housing affordability by increasing per unit costs associated with housing development.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

<u>Project Name:</u>	<u>Target Area Improvement Program (SL-3)</u>
<u>Target Area:</u>	Central Lealman Target Area; East Lealman Target Area; Greater Ridgecrest Target Area; High Point Target Area; Tarpon Springs Target Area; Urban County
<u>Goals Supported:</u>	Neighborhood Improvements; Public Facility Improvements
<u>Needs Addressed:</u>	Special needs housing, facilities, and services; Public Facilities and Improvements
<u>Funding:</u>	CDBG: \$333,270.94
<u>Description:</u>	Concentrated investment for public facility improvements, physical improvements and comprehensive planning activities in locally designated target areas and HUD Low/Mod Areas that will impact neighborhood stabilization, revitalization and improve the quality of life/health in order to achieve local objectives and desired outcomes. Some activities may be phased over multiple fiscal years and will be considered continuation projects. In addition to FY23-24 funding identified below, projects may receive additional funds from prior years uncommitted funds or unanticipated program income. National Objective: LMA/LMC; Eligibility Citation(s): 570.201(a)(c)(d)(i) Objective: Suitable Living Environment; Outcome: Sustainability; National Objective, Objective, and Outcome are the same for all activities in Target Area Improvement Program. All activities funded through this program will fall under one of the identified Eligibility Citations.

<u>Target Date:</u>	9/30/2024
<u>Beneficiaries:</u>	28,395 low- to moderate-income people will benefit from activities proposed under the Target Area Improvement Program.
<u>Location Description:</u>	<p>Activities funded under the Target Area Improvement Program are located in County designated Local Target Areas or HUD designated Low/Mod Areas. Additionally, these specific activities located in Target Areas will be funded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confidential Location • 111 W Lime Street, Tarpon Springs • 4017 56th Avenue N, St. Petersburg • 1801 119th Street N, Largo
<u>Planned Activities:</u>	<p>Activities planned under the Target Area Improvement Program include the following. In addition to FY23-24 funding, any project may receive additional funds available from uncommitted prior year funding or unanticipated program income.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Boys & Girls Club Tarpon Springs Facility Rehabilitation</u> - Funding for resurfacing/sod of outdoor sports field, installation of irrigation, well and pump. • <u>CASA Facility Rehabilitation</u> - Funding for kitchen improvements including cabinetry replace in 2 kitchens. • <u>Florida Dream Center Facility Rehabilitation</u> - Funding for upgrades to ceiling tiles and electrical modifications. • <u>Target Area Community Enhancement Program</u> - Community activities that enhance community appearance, neighborhood health and safety, address neighborhood deficiencies, promote a social interaction and a greater sense of community, including, but not limited to, community cleanups, community outreach, community events, community services and community facility improvements. • <u>Target Area Land Acquisition/Site Development</u> - Acquisition and site development activities including, but not limited to, zoning approvals, platting, site work, legal, design, consulting, surveys, geotechnical studies and investigations, utility engineering and environmental assessments, utility/ infrastructure installation, street lighting, other costs associated with property maintenance and site development; acquisition of signage easements and construction/installation of neighborhood signage. • <u>YMCA of the Suncoast Greater Ridgecrest Facility Rehabilitation</u> - Funding for lobby and pass-through room renovations. • <u>Target Area Improvement Program Activity Delivery</u> - Staff and overhead costs directly related to carrying out activities under the Target Area Improvement Program.
<u>Project Name:</u>	<u>Public Facilities Program (SL-1)</u>
<u>Target Area:</u>	Countywide
<u>Goals Supported:</u>	Public Facility Improvements
<u>Needs Addressed:</u>	Special needs housing, facilities, and services; Public facilities and improvements; Homeless shelters, facilities, and services
<u>Funding:</u>	CDBG: \$1,273,286.94
<u>Description:</u>	Funding new or existing facilities that provide services to meet the needs of low- and moderate-income or special needs populations. Some activities may be phased over multiple fiscal years and will be considered continuation projects. In addition to 23-24

funding identified below, any project may receive additional funds available from uncommitted prior year funding or unanticipated program income. National Objective: LMC; Eligibility Citation(s): 570.201(a)(c)(d)(i) Objective: Suitable Living Environment; Outcome: Availability/Accessibility; National Objective, Objective, and Outcome are the same for all activities funded through the Public Facility Improvement Program. All activities funded through this program will fall under one of the above-identified Eligibility Citations.

Target Date: 9/30/2024

Beneficiaries: 50,364 low- to moderate-income people, including the homeless and those with special needs, will benefit from activities funded under the Public Facility Improvement Program.

Location Description: Activities funded under the Public Facilities Program are located and serve residents countywide. These specific activity locations will be funded:

- 1437 S Belcher Road, Clearwater
- 1260 Engman Street, Clearwater
- 1113 Fairburn Avenue, Clearwater
- 3190 75th Street N, St. Petersburg;
- 11254 58th Street N, Pinellas Park
- 4801 78th Avenue N, Pinellas Park
- 2510 Central Avenue, St. Petersburg

Planned Activities: Activities planned under the Public Facility Improvement Program include the following. In addition to FY23-24 funding identified below, any project may receive additional funds available from uncommitted prior year funding or unanticipated program income.

- Directions for Living Facility Rehabilitation - Funding for HVAC replacement and test and balance services.
- Homeless Empowerment Program Facility Rehabilitation - Funding for replacement of roof, siding, windows, exterior doors and flooring at HEP's multi-purpose building.
- Homeless Empowerment Program Facility Rehabilitation - Funding for replacement of flooring at HEP's service center.
- PARC - Bert Muller Facility Rehabilitation - Phase 3 - Funding for Phase 3 of a bathroom renovation project, including ADA upgrades.
- PARC - Bert Muller Facility Rehabilitation - Funding for the replacement of obsolete fire alarm system for ADA compliance.
- PEMHS Facility Rehabilitation - Funding for construction of a new Children's Crisis Stabilization Unit.
- Van Gogh's Palette Facility Rehabilitation - Funding for roof replacement and installation of solar panels at Vincent House.
- WestCare Facility Rehabilitation - Funding for HVAC replacement and installation an exterior security lighting and security camera system at Mustard Seed.
- Public Facility Program Activity Delivery - Staff and overhead costs directly related to carrying out activities under the Public Facility Improvement Program.

Alternate activities have been selected, subject to funding availability and project readiness:

- Directions for Living Facility Rehabilitation - Funding for flooring replacement.

- Tampa Bay Neighborhood Housing Services Facility Rehabilitation - Funding for the installation of solar panels.

<u>Project Name:</u>	<u>Public Infrastructure Program (SL-3)</u>
<u>Target Area:</u>	Urban County; Countywide
<u>Goals Supported:</u>	Elimination of Slum and Blight
<u>Needs Addressed:</u>	Code enforcement/blight removal
<u>Funding:</u>	CDBG: \$0
<u>Description:</u>	Funding projects that address the prevention and elimination of slum and blight within the urban county or areas countywide where land may be cleared for future development. In addition to 23-24 funding identified below, any project may receive additional funds available from uncommitted prior year funding or unanticipated program income. National Objective: SBA/SBS; Eligibility Citation: 570.201(c)(d) Objective: Suitable Living Environment; Outcome: Sustainability; National Objective, Eligibility Citation, Objective, and Outcome are the same for all activities funded through the Public Infrastructure Program.
<u>Target Date:</u>	9/30/2024
<u>Beneficiaries:</u>	0 slum/blight housing units will be demolished, and/or lots will be cleared.
<u>Location Description:</u>	Demolition/Clearance locations to be determined when slum/blight housing unit is identified.
<u>Planned Activities:</u>	No new activities are planned under the Public Infrastructure Program include the following. Activities will continue to be provided through funding identified in prior program years. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Demolition and Clearance</u> - Demolition of deteriorated structures/improvements or clearance of land. • <u>Public Infrastructure Activity Delivery</u> - Staff and overhead costs directly related to carrying out activities under the Public Infrastructure Improvement Program.

<u>Project Name:</u>	<u>Public Services Program (SL-1)</u>
<u>Target Area:</u>	Greater Ridgecrest Area; Urban County
<u>Goals Supported:</u>	Public Services
<u>Needs Addressed:</u>	Public Services; Homeless shelters, facilities, and services
<u>Funding:</u>	CDBG: \$375,420.36
<u>Description:</u>	Funds will be provided, with a maximum 15% limitation, to provide salaries and operational services to entities that provide services to meet the needs of low- and moderate-income families. In addition to 23-24 funding identified below, any project may receive additional funds available from unanticipated program income. National Objective(s): LMC/LMA; Eligibility Citation: 570.201(e); Objective: Suitable Living Environment; Outcome: Availability/Accessibility; Eligibility Citation, Objective, and Outcome are the same for all activities funded through the Public Services Program. All activities funded through this program will fall under one of the above identified National Objectives.
<u>Target Date:</u>	9/30/2024
<u>Beneficiaries:</u>	6,590 low- to moderate-income people, including the homeless and those with special needs, will benefit from activities funded under the Public Services Program.
<u>Location Description:</u>	Scattered sights in the urban county. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1801 119th St. N., Largo

Planned Activities: Activities planned under the Public Services Program include the following. Projects identified below may receive additional funds available from unanticipated program income.

- Community Law Program Operations - Funding for operating expenses including rent, utilities, salaries and fringe benefits, professional services, administrative costs and supplies for providing legal services to residents facing or at risk of eviction.
- Bay Area Legal Services Operations - Funding for operating expenses including rent, utilities, salaries and fringe benefits, professional services, administrative costs and supplies for providing legal services to residents facing or at risk of eviction.
- Target Area Community Enhancement Program - Community clean-up activities in target areas that enhance community appearance, neighborhood health and safety, address neighborhood deficiencies.
- YMCA of the Suncoast Omni Center Operations - Funding for operating expenses including utilities, program materials, janitorial supplies and service, aquatic chemicals, and a portion of base operational personnel costs at the County-owned Omni Center in the Greater Ridgecrest Target Area.

Project Name: **Homeless and Homelessness Prevention Services Program**

Target Area: Urban County; Countywide

Goals Supported: Rental Assistance; Administration

Needs Addressed: Housing assistance; Program administration

Funding: CDBG: \$214,487.00

Description: Program facilitates providing essential services to shelter residents; rapidly rehousing homeless individuals and families and preventing families and individuals from becoming homeless by funding eligible activities within the following Emergency Solutions Grant Program components: Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter; Homelessness Prevention; Rapid Re-Housing and Data Collection. National Objective: LMC Eligibility Citation(s): 576.102, 576.103, 576.105, 576.106, 576.107, 576.108, 576.109 Objective: Decent Housing; Outcome: Affordability; National Objective, Objective, and Outcome are the same for all activities funded through the Homeless and Homelessness Prevention Services Program. All activities funded through this program will fall under one of the above-identified Eligibility Citations.

Target Date: 9/30/2024

Beneficiaries: 15 persons will benefit from homeless prevention activities, such as rental assistance and rapid re-housing, and HMIS entry 10,000 persons - other

Location Description: Scattered sights in the urban county.

Planned Activities: Activities planned under the Homeless and Homelessness Prevention Services Program include the following:

- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program Components - Funding of ESG program homelessness prevention component including rental assistance assisting with provision of stabilizing permanent housing by providing short/medium-term financial assistance, including rent payments and security/utility deposits, to individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless.
- Homeless and Homelessness Prevention Data Collection (HMIS) - Staff costs related to the collection and entry of project-level beneficiary data into the Homeless Management Information System.
- Homeless Leadership Alliance Operations - Funding for operating expenses for the

Pinellas Homeless Management Information System including salaries and fringe benefits and administrative costs.

Project includes 7.5%, or \$16,086.52, for general planning and administration of ESG funds.

<u>Project Name:</u>	<u>Housing Preservation Program (DH-1)</u>
<u>Target Area:</u>	Greater Ridgecrest Target Area; Central Lealman Target Area; East Lealman Target Area; Tarpon Springs Target Area; High Point Target Area; Countywide; Urban County
<u>Goals Supported:</u>	Preservation of Housing; Code Enforcement
<u>Needs Addressed:</u>	Preservation/production of affordable housing; Code enforcement/blight removal
<u>Funding:</u>	CDBG: \$80,750.00; HOME: \$942,517.41; SHIP: \$2,550,047.70; HTF: \$146,250.00
<u>Description:</u>	Program facilitates the preservation of affordable homeowner and rental units through rehabilitation and/or acquisition. Applications are provided on a first-come, first-qualified, first-served basis and funding selections are based on eligibility of households served and financial feasibility. Private funds available through local lending institutions may be leveraged by Federal funds. If insufficient applications are received during FY23-24, funds may be reprogrammed to other projects without amending this Action Plan. In addition to 23-24 funding identified below, any project may receive additional funds available from uncommitted prior year funding or unanticipated program income. CDBG National Objective: LMA; CDBG Eligibility Citation: 570.201 (k)(m) CDBG Objective: Suitable Living Environment CDBG Outcome: Sustainability HOME Eligibility Citation(s): 92.206(a)(c)(d)&(f); HOME Objective: Decent Housing HOME Outcome: Availability/Accessibility. All activities funded through this program will fall under one of the above identified National Objectives, Eligibility Citations, Objectives, and Outcomes.
<u>Target Date:</u>	9/30/2024
<u>Beneficiaries:</u>	8,901 low- to moderate-income households (4,155 housing units) will benefit from activities funded under the Housing Preservation Program. 15 Owner housing rehabilitated 35 Rental housing rehabilitated
<u>Location Description:</u>	Code enforcement activities will be focused in County Target Areas; Preservation of owner and renter households located countywide.
<u>Planned Activities:</u>	Activities planned under the Housing Preservation Program include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>City of Largo Housing Preservation Programs</u> - Preservation of homeowner and/or rental housing, including permanent supportive housing for special needs populations, through acquisition and/or rehabilitation in the City of Largo.• <u>Housing Preservation Programs</u> - Preservation of homeowner and/or rental housing, including permanent supportive housing for special needs populations, through acquisition and/or rehabilitation.• <u>Target Area Code Enforcement</u> - Code enforcement activities in designated LMI Areas and Target Areas.• <u>Housing Preservation Activity Delivery</u> - Staff and overhead costs directly related to carrying out activities under the Housing Preservation Program.

<u>Project Name:</u>	<u>Housing Production Program (DH-1)</u>
<u>Target Area:</u>	Greater Ridgecrest Target Area; Central Lealman Target Area; East Lealman Target Area; Tarpon Springs Target Area; High Point Target Area; Countywide; Urban County
<u>Goals Supported:</u>	Production of Housing

<u>Needs Addressed:</u>	Preservation/production of affordable housing; Special needs housing, facilities, and services
<u>Funding:</u>	HOME: \$1,053,009.69; SHIP: \$2,550,047.70; HTF: \$146,250.00
<u>Description:</u>	Program facilitates the construction of single-family and multifamily affordable housing units. Applications are provided on a first-come, first-qualified, first-serve basis and funding selections are based on eligibility of households served and financial feasibility. Private funds available through local lending institutions may be leveraged by Federal funds. Includes CHDO set-aside funding requirements. If insufficient applications are received during FY23-24, funds may be reprogrammed to other projects without amending this Action Plan. In addition to 23-24 funding identified below, any project may receive additional funds available from uncommitted prior year funding or unanticipated program income. CDBG National Objective: LMH; CDBG Eligibility Citation: 570.201(a) CDBG Objective: Decent Housing; CDBG Outcome: Availability/Accessibility; HOME Eligibility Citation(s): 92.206(a)(c)(d)&(f); HOME Objective: Decent Housing; HOME Outcome: Availability/Accessibility. All activities funded through this program will fall under one of the above identified National Objectives, Eligibility Citations, Objectives, and Outcomes.
<u>Target Date:</u>	9/30/2024
<u>Beneficiaries:</u>	31 low- to moderate-income owner and renter households will benefit from activities funded under the Housing Production Program. (10 Owner housing units constructed and 21 Rental housing units constructed)
<u>Location Description:</u>	Production of homeowner and renter households located countywide.
<u>Planned Activities:</u>	Activities planned under the Housing Production Program include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>City of Largo Housing Production Program</u> - Production of new affordable owner and/or rental housing, including permanent supportive housing for special needs populations, through acquisition and/or new construction in the City of Largo. • <u>Housing Production Program</u> - Production of new affordable owner and/or rental housing, including permanent supportive housing for special needs populations, through acquisition and/or new construction. • <u>Housing Production Activity Delivery</u> - Staff and overhead costs directly related to carrying out activities under the Housing Production Program.
<u>Project Name:</u>	<u>Disaster Response Recovery (SL-1; SL-3; DH-1)</u>
<u>Target Area:</u>	Countywide
<u>Goals Supported:</u>	Emergency/Disaster Response
<u>Needs Addressed:</u>	Preservation/production of affordable housing; Housing assistance; Mental and behavioral health services; Homeless shelters, facilities, and services; Special needs housing, facilities, and services; Public facilities and improvements; Public services; Code enforcement/blight removal; Economic development; Administration
<u>Funding:</u>	\$0
<u>Description:</u>	Program facilitates disaster response and recovery activities following major disasters and emergencies. Funding may be used to cover a broad range of recovery activities to help the County recover from natural disasters and emergencies. Funding may be used for activities necessary for disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, and economic revitalization in impacted and distressed areas. Activities will benefit eligible families with housing needs, agencies providing public services, businesses with economic development or revitalization needs and local

	planning and infrastructure needs. Uncommitted current or prior year funds or unanticipated program income may be used to fund disaster response activities.
<u>Target Date:</u>	9/30/2024
<u>Beneficiaries:</u>	Uncommitted current or prior year funds or unanticipated program income may be used to fund disaster response activities.
<u>Location Description:</u>	Countywide
<u>Planned Activities:</u>	Funding may be used for a broad range of recovery activities to help the County recover from natural disasters and emergencies. Funding may be used for activities necessary for disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, and economic revitalization in impacted and distressed areas. Activities will benefit eligible families with housing needs, agencies providing public services, businesses with economic development or revitalization needs and local planning and infrastructure needs.
<u>Project Name:</u>	<u>Administration</u>
<u>Target Area:</u>	Countywide
<u>Goals Supported:</u>	Administration
<u>Needs Addressed:</u>	Program administration
<u>Funding:</u>	CDBG: \$504,037.60; HOME: \$228,391.90; SHIP: \$659,010.60; HTF: \$32,500
<u>Description:</u>	General planning and administration costs for Federal CDBG and HOME programs, State SHIP programs and Local Housing Trust Fund programs. Due to system limitations, ESG administration is identified under the Homeless and Homelessness Prevention Services Program.
<u>Target Date:</u>	9/30/2024
<u>Beneficiaries:</u>	N/A
<u>Location Description:</u>	N/A
<u>Planned Activities:</u>	General planning and administration costs for Federal CDBG and HOME programs, State SHIP programs, and Local Housing Trust Fund programs.

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

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

Redevelopment and revitalization funds will continue to be directed to five (5) County targeted areas, in addition to Countywide and Urban County. Targeted areas consist of low- and moderate-income concentration areas (51% or more of the population in the designated area has incomes at or below 80% of Area Median Income) determined through HUD generated Low- and Moderate-Income Summary Data. The five (5) target areas are Central Lealman Target Area (65% Low/Mod), East Lealman Target Area (65% Low/Mod), High Point Target Area (57% Low/Mod), Greater Ridgecrest Target Area (55% Low/Mod), and Tarpon Springs Target Area (81% Low/Mod).

Due to system limitations, actual percentage of geographic distribution cannot be entered into the table. The final percentages for geographic distribution are: 80.9% Countywide; 14.8% Urban County; 0.0% Tarpon Springs TA; 3.6% Greater Ridgecrest TA; 0.0% High Point TA; 0.4% Central Lealman TA; and 0.4% East Lealman TA.

Some target areas are also areas of minority concentration. The Tarpon Springs Target Area has a predominately low- and moderate-income population (81%) with significant African American and Hispanic populations (33% and 26%, respectively). These populations are most concentrated in Census Tract 274.02, Block Group 1 (88% African American) and Block Group 5 (43% Hispanic) based on 2014-2018 ACS data.

The High Point Target Area has a low- and moderate-income population of 57%. The area is quite large, with an estimated population of approximately 10,000. According to 2014-2018 ACS data, the area is also relatively diverse, with higher concentrations of African American, Asian, and Hispanic populations (21%, 5%, and 27%, respectively), when compared to Pinellas County overall. The poverty rate in the High Point Target Area is 29% of individuals and 19% of households.

The Greater Ridgecrest Target Area has a low- and moderate-income population of 55%, as calculated based on the CDP boundary. The CDP boundary intersects portions of two Census Tracts: 252.07 (Block Group 2) and 253.07 (Block Groups 2 and 3). According to 2014-2018 ACS data, the area has higher concentrations of African American and Hispanic populations (32%, and 9%, respectively), when compared to Pinellas County overall. These concentrations are highest between 119th Street N and the Pinellas Trail (46% and 14%, respectively). The poverty rate in the Greater Ridgecrest Target Area is 22% of individuals and 20% of households, calculated for the combined block groups.

Additionally, funds will continue to be used to provide support for redevelopment activities in cooperating cities with slum/blight areas as designated by the local government.

Housing programs are available countywide, with the exception of homeownership opportunities programs that are available in the Urban County, with a focus on areas with a concentration of older housing, as well as on special targeted areas. The Department encourages mixed-income developments. For activities involving homeless or special needs, the emphasis continues to be cooperation with other entitlement communities in the County to ensure that those in need within all areas of the County are served (while ensuring that the project sponsor or sub-grantee is serving Urban County residents).

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Countywide	79.7%
Urban County	15.4%
Central Lealman Target Area	0.6%
East Lealman Target Area	0.6%
Greater Ridgecrest Target Area	3.2%
High Point Target Area	0.0%
Tarpon Springs Target Area	0.5%

Table 9 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The CDBG program requires that each CDBG-funded activity must either principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons, aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight or meet a community development need having a particular urgency. With respect to activities that benefit all the residents of a given area, at least 51% of the area's residents must be low- and moderate-income. Some CDBG assisted activities, such as parks,

neighborhoods, facilities, community centers and streets, serve an identified geographic area. These activities generally meet the low- and moderate-income principal benefit requirement if 51% of the residents in the activity's service area are low- and moderate-income. However, some communities have fewer areas in which 51% of the residents are low- and moderate-income. For these grantees, the CDBG law authorizes an exception criterion in order for such grantees to be able to undertake area benefit activities. Pinellas County is designated as an "Exception Grantee" by HUD. In order for a Census Block Group to qualify as a low- and moderate-income area, a Block Group in the County must contain 50.00% or more low/mod population.

Pinellas County allocates investments geographically within its jurisdiction by utilizing a target area concept. Target areas are established by meeting at least one of the following criteria:

1. At least 50% of the households in the area must have incomes at 80% or less of the HUD Median Family Income (MFI) for the Tampa-St. Petersburg MSA, adjusted by household size, or
2. There must be a substantial number of deteriorating or dilapidated buildings or infrastructure needs throughout the area, or
3. Generally, the current conditions of a target area meet the slum and blight definition of a locally designated Community Redevelopment Area (CRA), as defined in the Florida Statutes, Chapter 163, Part III, the "Act".

The list of Pinellas County CRAs within the Consortium includes those in Dunedin, Gulfport, Largo, Lealman, Oldsmar, Pinellas Park, Safety Harbor and Tarpon Springs. Each CRA was established pursuant to the criteria established in F.S.; Chapter 163 with extensive analysis of existing conditions, studies completed utilizing census data, along with local databases such as comprehensive plans, redevelopment implementation plans, capital improvement plans, and consultations with City and County personnel. The Consortium will continue to allocate its housing funds throughout the Consortium. ESG funding will be allocated to projects located outside the City of St. Petersburg. Both the City of Largo and Pinellas County (Urban County) will allocate their Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds within their respective low- income/redevelopment areas. They may also contribute to homeless and special needs projects outside the municipality boundaries.

Discussion

The Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners' strategic vision is to improve the quality of life for Pinellas County residents and aims to have local municipalities, engaged citizens, and the County working together to better align resources, to revitalize and redevelop communities, and protect our natural resources.

In order to achieve this vision, the County analyzed the factors that contribute to systemic poverty in an effort to determine the needs of the community. This analysis, titled Economic Impact of Poverty Report, highlights seven factors that contribute to the cycle of poverty and drive the costs for combating poverty. The data identified five at-risk communities within the County. The five communities include East Tarpon Springs, North Greenwood, Highpoint, Lealman Corridor, and South St. Petersburg. Three of the five communities include areas that are County targeted areas: Tarpon Springs, Highpoint, and the Lealman Corridor. All five communities suffer from the same seven factors: insufficient transportation, access to food, access to health care, poorer health, lower educational attainment, increased crime rates, higher unemployment, and inadequate and insufficient housing. In May 2012, the Board unanimously adopted the findings in the Economic Impact of Poverty Report, prioritized funding and services for the five at-risk zones, and instructed County Departments to begin to work with community partners to implement the Healthy Communities Initiative.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing - 91.420, 91.220(g)

Introduction

Providing access to affordable housing for all residents continues to be a high priority for Pinellas County. Affordable housing will be provided through the use of Federal CDBG, HOME, ESG, State SHIP funds, local Housing Trust Funds, and Penny IV funds. Priorities include the acquisition, construction and/or rehabilitation of new and/or existing owner, rental, homeless and special needs housing, providing short-term rental assistance to homeless or at-risk individuals and households, and providing down payment and closing cost assistance for low- and moderate-income households.

One Year Goals for Households to be Supported	Number
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	125
Special-Needs	0
Total	125

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

One Year Goals for Households Supported Through	Number
Rental Assistance	15
The Production of New Units	31
Rehab of Existing Units	50
Acquisition of Existing Units	29
Total	125

Table 11 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

In 2023-24, providing affordable housing will specifically be addressed by:

- Providing down payment/closing cost assistance to 1 low- to moderate-income homebuyer using HOME funds. State SHIP funds will also be used to provide assistance to 28 additional households. Housing Counseling and Education will be supported with \$131,000 in SHIP funding and aims to assist 350 low- to moderate-income households.
- Preservation of the existing housing stock through acquisition and/or rehabilitation, preserving 9 units of owner or renter housing for low- to moderate-income households using HOME funds. State SHIP and local HTF and Penny IV funds will also be utilized to preserve 41 additional units.
- Production of new affordable housing through acquisition and/or rehabilitation, production of 5 units of new renter housing for low- to moderate-income households using HOME funds. State SHIP and local HTF funds will also be utilized to produce 26 additional units.
- Providing rental assistance and rapid rehousing to 15 low-income persons for homeless prevention and HMIS entry using ESG funds.

Approximately \$2 million in HOME funds will be used for single-family and multi-family residential acquisition, rehabilitation and construction, down-payment assistance, and purchase and rehabilitation for homebuyers. The State of Florida provides local entitlement jurisdictions with funds for housing under the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program. The State requires that 65% of the allocation be expended on homeownership activities and 75% be expended on rehabilitation or construction activities. The anticipated SHIP funds available for fiscal year 2023-24 is approximately \$7.3 million in allocation and program income. These funds will be used for homeowner rehabilitation activities, down payment assistance, rental rehabilitation and new construction, and housing services. Program income in the amount of \$325,000 generated through the Local Housing Trust Fund will be expended on single-family and multi-family residential acquisition, rehabilitation, and construction activities. Private funds available through local lending institutions will be leveraged by Federal funds. Down payment assistance programs will leverage private money from individuals and families saving for down payments and closing costs and will also leverage private lender's mortgage financing in the purchase of homes. In new construction projects, investor and private lending institutions' funds will be leveraged by Federal funds. Federal funds will also leverage the use of private homeowner and investor-owned funds to accomplish rehabilitation.

Federal housing funds leverage local resources such as donated homes and land, relief from certain impact fees and regulations, as well as encourage private investment from developers and lending institutions.

AP-60 Public Housing - 91.420, 91.220(h)

Introduction

Public Housing Authorities in Florida are created as independent organizations under Florida Statutes. Thus, the County interfaces with the local housing authorities on activities as requested by them, and the County has contributed toward safe and sound public housing, as well as the provision of recreational and other social accommodations. The County's policy, however, is not to substitute CDBG funds for funds that are available to the Housing Authority through other Federal programs.

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

Although there are no new activities planned with public housing authorities for the 2023-24, the County will continue the partnership with the housing authorities while completing existing projects.

Pinellas County worked with the Pinellas County Housing Authority (PCHA) as they've created a master plan for redevelopment of the Rainbow Village site, located in the Greater Ridgcrest Area. The County has committed up to \$1M in CDBG and has approved Penny for Pinellas funding for Heritage Oaks, replacing 48 units at Rainbow Village with 80 new units of senior housing. Additionally, the County has provided \$1.7M in SHIP funding to PCHA for the construction of Valor Preserve, a 64-unit affordable rental housing development project with a veterans preference.

PCHA continues to provide supportive and youth services to the residents and voucher holders on our programs. Scholarship assistance is available to those who are enrolled at St. Petersburg College (SPC) for those striving to reach self-sufficiency. PCHA continues to maintain the property making the necessary repairs, etc. to ensure they are providing safe, sanitary and decent housing.

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

Each Family Self-Sufficiency Program (FSS) participant signs a Contract of Participation (COP) and creates a maximum five (5) year Individual Training and Service Plan (ITSP) that includes employment goals and identifies training or education needs. During the term of the COP, PCHA establishes an interest-bearing escrow account. The FSS escrow account offers the family the opportunity to save for the future. The amount of the escrow account reflects what would normally be an increase in the rent due to an increase in the family's earned income. As the participant earns more income and pays higher rent amounts, the escrow account increases. If the family meets its goals within five years and remains free of cash assistance for a period of one year, they will receive the funds in their escrow account.

Single Family Housing in the Ridgecrest Area: Renovation of the single-family home donated by Pinellas County is underway. The end goal of this renovation project is to sell the home to a first-time homebuyer currently residing in public housing or participating in the HCV program.

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

Housing Authority performance for all housing authorities in Pinellas County is checked through HUD's Public and Indian Housing Information Center (PIC). The Pinellas County Housing Authority, Clearwater Housing Authority, and St. Petersburg Housing Authority, identified as Combined Program Types, continue to be designated as High Performers. The Tarpon Springs Housing Authority and Dunedin Housing Authority identified as Low-Rent Program types are not assessed a designation. However, both housing authorities are active and identified in HUD's Public and Indian Housing Information Center.

Discussion

Housing authorities in Pinellas County are experiencing a loss of 100% HUD funded public housing and are moving towards affordable mixed-income new construction units, but still experiencing a net loss of units. In addition to the current funded projects and a potential joint project with the Pinellas County Housing Authority, funds may also be utilized to provide additional resources for preservation of existing units or acquisition of new units through the on-going housing application process and funding will be based on financial feasibility. Ongoing communication with the Pinellas County Housing Authority, Dunedin Housing Authority and the Tarpon Springs Housing Authority will continue in order to identify opportunities to further address preservation of existing affordable housing units.

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities - 91.420, 91.220(i)

Introduction

In February 2012, the Pinellas County Coalition for the Homeless, Inc. and the Homeless Leadership Network merged into the Homeless Leadership Board. In January 2020, the HLB changed its name to the Homeless Leadership Alliance (HLA) of Pinellas and is a nonprofit 501(c)(3). The Homeless Leadership Alliance of Pinellas serves as the Pinellas Continuum of Care Lead Agency, Collaborative Applicant and HMIS Lead Agency. The HLA provides supplemental services, coordination and funding management to carry out the policy goals of the Continuum of Care.

The mission of the Homeless Leadership Alliance is to provide leadership in the planning, development and alignment of community advocacy, resources and strategies to prevent, divert and end homelessness in Pinellas County.

The new Homeless Leadership Alliance was created by an Interlocal Agreement between Pinellas County; the cities of Clearwater, Largo, Pinellas Park, St. Petersburg, and Tarpon Springs; the School Board of Pinellas County; the Pinellas-Pasco Public Defender's Office; and the Juvenile Welfare Board/Children's Services Board. The HLA administers the Pinellas Homeless Management Information System (PHMIS). The Board is responsible for setting and implementing policies for the homeless services system; planning, implementing, and advocating for design and critical activities of the Pinellas system of services; monitoring and reporting on system and provider performance towards adopted goals/outcomes (including the 2-1-1); designing, tracking, and reporting outcomes to ensure effective use of resources to ensure homeless persons gain stable housing; performing lead agency responsibilities for Federal and State homeless funding; administering Federal, State, and local public and private funding for homeless services; providing strategic alignment of funding to best meet the needs; coordinating between Interlocal Agreement entities; and advocating for effective homeless/at-risk services at the Federal, State, and local levels.

The Homeless Leadership Alliance identified families/children and chronic homeless (individuals, families) as the top priorities for housing in the strategic plan and is redirecting resources to them. Major cities, Pinellas County, the Juvenile Welfare Board, and others are setting the same priorities and are working together to create more housing. The Homeless Leadership Alliance adopted strategies to stop individuals and families from becoming chronically homeless by getting them into permanent housing more quickly. The Homeless Leadership Alliance continues to work with other Florida CoCs to get the Florida Legislature to consistently fund the State Sadowski Housing Trust Fund for very low-income housing.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

The HLA partners with the Juvenile Welfare Board's Children's Services Council and 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares on the Family Services Initiative (FSI) that works with families with needs. The goal of the Family Services Initiative is to prevent homelessness while working on longer term issues and to have one place for families to make initial contact for help. FSI is publicized widely as the place for homeless and at-risk families to go for help. Homeless and at-risk families call 2-1-1 and are directed to specific triage staff for short assessment.

Additionally, outreach to the homeless is done by three full-time and two half-time Street Outreach Teams who cover major parts of the county five days a week. The Street Outreach Teams are the center of the Continuum of Care's efforts to find and engage street homeless, in place, since late 2006. Each Street Outreach Team is composed of one law enforcement officer and one case manager. Additionally, Street Outreach individuals focus on finding unaccompanied youth. The Veterans Administration funds Veterans Outreach persons.

All the outreach personnel meet bi-monthly to discuss problems, identify increases/decreases in specific populations, problem-solve, and meet with providers of emergency mats and beds. Law enforcement staff members train their police departments on working with street homeless persons. Once a street homeless individual or couple seeks assistance, they are encouraged to go to Safe Harbor, the County's emergency homeless shelter and jail diversion program designed to be a safe haven for the homeless, where they are assigned a case manager for assessment and referral to services, etc. Unaccompanied youth are referred to Family Resources and other youth programs to get them off the street. Street Outreach Teams also process individuals for entrance to Pinellas Hope, another homeless shelter operated by Catholic Charities.

Through the Human Services Department, Pinellas County provides approximately \$10 Million in local funding for programs that serve homeless populations. Funding is provided to supportive housing programs; inebriate receiving facilities; emergency shelters for beds and services for homeless individuals, families, youth, pregnant women, and victims of domestic violence; homeless street outreach for engagement and case management; healthcare for the homeless; and rapid re-housing and homeless diversion/prevention.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Pinellas County one-year goals will support emergency and transitional housing needs by providing ESG and CDBG funding for several public facility improvement and public service projects including the Homeless and Homelessness Prevention Services Program. This program facilitates providing essential services to shelter residents; rapidly re-housing homeless individuals and families and preventing families and individuals from becoming homeless by funding eligible activities within the following Emergency Solutions Grant Program components: Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter; Homelessness Prevention; Rapid Re- Housing and Data Collection. The County plans to commit \$101,522.31 to this program for PY23. The County plans to commit \$128,424.00 in CDBG funds to two emergency shelter facility improvement projects and \$232,540.00 in CDBG funds to two facility improvement projects for homeless services providers.

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

From FY15 through FY21, Emergency Solutions Grant funds were primarily used for homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing activities. Pinellas County will spend a minimum of 40% of ESG funds on prevention or re-housing activities, serving individuals and families through the Community Housing Assistance Program.

Pinellas County Human Services Department coordinates with the Juvenile Welfare Board (JWB) Family Service Initiative, which provides a range of prevention assistance to families/children (may include very- short term shelter and case management to remain in/secure new housing). Pinellas County is providing homeless initiatives funding in support of emergency shelters and street outreach, funding health services for the homeless through the Mobile Medical Unit and Safe Harbor Clinic and funding to the Homeless Leadership Alliance. Additionally, the County has established and funds a Rapid-Re-Housing Program.

The Continuum of Care is exploring strategies and potential initiatives to shorten the period of time families are experiencing homelessness. The Pinellas County Human Services Department's Family Housing Assistance Program (FHAP) addresses the housing needs of homeless and families with children.

The Continuum of Care administers HMIS to formally monitor returns to homelessness from permanent housing programs (Rapid Re-Housing, Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), Permanent Housing (PH)). This process will be the monitoring base of the System Quality Improvement Committee performance outcome monitoring/evaluation system used to set goals and measure performance for the Continuum. HMIS staff meets monthly to review performance and identify a baseline for returns to homelessness from permanent housing. Continual monitoring/tracking of families/individuals who return to homelessness will evaluate the measures taken to reduce the chance of return. The most critical steps now for the Continuum to assist families/individuals are enrollment in cash/non-cash mainstream resources prior to exit and ongoing case management/contact with the person/family; this is in place for many PH/PSH programs but not for family rapid re-housing.

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

Pinellas County one-year goals will support helping low-income individuals and families avoid homelessness by providing ESG funds for the Homelessness Prevention Program. The County will use a portion of its fiscal year 23-24 ESG funds to provide short-term rental assistance for families that are at risk of becoming homeless. Additional prevention activities include outreach (affordable housing and fair housing rights), pre-purchase and post-purchase counseling, housing services, and eviction/foreclosure prevention.

The County will continue to monitor the availability of additional Federal funds that may become available to address homeless and homeless prevention activities. Pinellas County will coordinate these activities with other jurisdictions within the County to ensure that eligible recipients are not moving needlessly in order to access the funding.

Pinellas County stakeholders including the Pinellas County Human Services Department, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Public Defender's Office, Juvenile Welfare Board and the communities mental and behavioral healthcare providers came together to initiate a behavioral health high-utilizer program. The program features an integrated systems approach to target high utilizers of Pinellas County's public Baker Act facility and the County jail. As a part of the program, a Treatment Team assesses each participant using LOCUS (Behavioral Health assessment) and SPDAT (Housing and Case Management assessment) and designs individual treatment plans that will include regular team engagement and counseling. Case Manager(s) link the participants to needed services as identified by the assessments and provide follow-up to ensure services were received. The program incorporates engagement, housing, and intensive treatment to stabilize participants and help them live independently or supported (e.g., permanent supportive housing) in the community. Participants are also linked to entitlements and benefits they could potentially qualify for. The overarching benefits of the program are to end the costly cycle of recidivism in our jails, hospitals and baker act facilities. It allows funds to be redirected to serve more residents with the most effective, less costly services of behavioral health prevention and early intervention.

Discussion

The Consortium is a member of the Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Alliance, formerly the Pinellas County Coalition for the Homeless, through the County's Human Services Department. The staffs of the Homeless Leadership Alliance, the County's Human Services Department and the Community Development Division meet every other month to coordinate on issues of mutual concern and benefit. The Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Alliance prepares and updates the County's Continuum of Care. The Homeless Leadership Network, now a part of the Homeless Leadership Alliance, made up of elected officials and community leaders, drafted Opening Doors of Opportunity: A 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness in Pinellas County, to establish the groundwork for guiding Pinellas County in their efforts to end homelessness. In June of 2015, Opening Doors was amended to reaffirm the strategies that continue to prove effective in preventing and ending homelessness. The 2015 Amendment encompasses much of the original Plan, but with some additions and clarifications that further strengthen its value as a living blueprint for action. The Consortium supports the Homeless Leadership Alliance and the priorities established in this plan match those of the Continuum of Care and the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness.

The County, through the Human Services Department, also provides funding through its Homeless Initiatives Funding, for operating expenses and services for homeless shelters.

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

Introduction

Pinellas County continues to work to eliminate barriers that limit the preservation and/or production of affordable ownership and rental housing for residents in the County. Based on Needs Assessment data, Pinellas County has a shortage of both affordable ownership and rental housing. The current purchase prices of homes in the County have increased 2.3% in the last year, with a median purchase price of \$445,000, and are not affordable to low- and moderate-income households. Rent prices remain high, out of the reach of low- and moderate-income residents. In 2022, data from the National Low- Income Housing Coalition, identified Florida has the twelfth highest housing wage in the country. In Pinellas County, it takes a household income of \$53,880 to afford a two-bedroom rental unit at Fair Market Value, \$1,347 per month. According to the 2021 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate, over 40% of Pinellas households have annual household incomes of less than \$50,000, well below the median household income of \$61,947 and below the \$53,880 needed to afford a two-bedroom apartment in Pinellas County. Countywide, according to the 2020 American Community Survey, 58% of renters pay rents that exceed \$1,000 per month, which is the affordable rent for households at 50% of Area Median Income. Twenty-six percent (77,026 households) of owner-occupied housing units pay more than 30% of their income household income towards monthly housing costs. Fifty-four percent (67,427 households) of renter occupied housing units pay more than 30% of their household income towards monthly housing costs.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

Several factors impede development of affordable housing in the County. Government review processes have prolonged development timelines resulting in increased per unit housing development costs. Impact fees, charged to defray the cost of constructing and maintaining water, sewer and transportation systems, can increase the costs of single and multifamily developments. Zoning and Land Use Codes can restrict unit density, impacting the supply of affordable housing. These policies, although enacted to protect general public welfare, hinder affordable housing development. Over the next year, Pinellas County will continue to focus on the preservation of existing housing and production of new affordable units. Acquisition and rehabilitation of existing affordable units that are in the foreclosure process or in jeopardy of losing affordability subsidies will continue.

Barrier: Government Review Processes and Fees/Construction costs. To help ameliorate these barriers, the County will continue to support the established Affordable Housing Incentive Program to provide private sector builders and developers with regulatory and financial incentives to produce affordable housing.

Incentives include an expedited permitting process, impact and review fee waivers, allowance of increased density levels, reduction of parking and setback requirements, and use of an established process to consider, before adoption, proposed land development code changes that may have a significant impact on the cost of housing. These incentives are periodically reviewed in conjunction with the State of Florida statutory requirements of the State's SHIP Affordable Housing funds. An Affordable Housing Advisory Committee involved

with the planning and implementation of affordable housing reviews established policies and procedures, ordinances, land development regulations and triennially submit a report to the State.

Barrier: Cost of Land. To help ameliorate these barriers, Pinellas County, through the Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County, utilizes community land trusts to enable land costs to be diminished in the development equation, making the end product more affordable. Additionally, through the Affordable Housing Incentive Program, the County can donate publicly owned land to nonprofits to be used for affordable housing. Funding is used to purchase and assemble land that would be suitable for creation of affordable workforce housing and mixed-use developments. These properties are located anywhere in the County and remain under County ownership in the Community Land Trust Program. The land is leased to employers, residents and/or developers. Lease revenue, payments in lieu of taxes, or other similar means would be used to continually replenish the fund and perpetuate the assembly program.

Barrier: Tenant/Purchaser Issues. The County will continue its efforts to educate citizens about barriers that can be eliminated, such as poor credit. This will be done through staff educational efforts, as well as through agencies that provide credit counseling.

Discussion

Funding allocations for FY23-24 increased slightly for HOME and CDBG allocations and for State affordable housing funds. However, the cost of housing in the County continues to rise at with owner and rental housing rising to levels that are unaffordable to low- and moderate-income households. The most significant barrier continues to be the lack of financial resources available to address affordable housing needs in the County.

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

Introduction

Listed below are the actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs, foster and maintain affordable housing, reduce lead-based paint hazards, reduce the number of poverty-level families, develop institutional structure, and enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The largest obstacle that Pinellas County faces is the lack of necessary funding for affordable housing. The County continues to lose affordable housing units as affordability requirements expire; however, the limited funding that is available restricts the ability to respond to preserving the units. There continues to be a need for affordable housing within the Consortium. The County will continue to work with non-profits to identify additional funding for purchase and purchase/rehabilitation of existing affordable units.

Pinellas County has very limited undeveloped land available to create additional affordable units within the Consortium. In 2007, the County authorized the Housing Finance Authority to utilize land trusts to help facilitate the long-term preservation of affordable housing projects in Pinellas County. Pinellas County dedicated \$15 Million of Penny for Pinellas revenue, known as Penny III, from a one-cent sales tax for providing affordable housing within the County. The County had an existing Interlocal Agreement with the Housing Finance Authority

of Pinellas County for administration of the County's Community Housing Program. In June of 2015, the Interlocal Agreement was amended to include acquisition and land assembly.

Penny III funding is provided to acquire land suitable for creation of affordable workforce housing and mixed-use developments, to be held in a Land Trust and utilized for affordable housing. Developments selected for the funding could be located anywhere in the County; however, the land must remain under County ownership in the Community Land Trust Program. The land is leased to owners and/or developers. Lease revenue, payments in lieu of taxes, or other similar means is used to continually replenish the fund and perpetuate the assembly program. Approximately \$13.2M in Penny III funding has been provided for eleven (11) projects that will produce 527 units of affordable housing. The \$13.2M has leveraged approximately \$79.9M of private financing.

Pinellas County committed \$80 Million of the Countywide Affordable Housing and Economic Development Capital Project Funds ("Penny IV Funds") to be utilized to support the development and preservation of affordable housing and to facilitate economic development and high-quality growth of the local economy through strategic investments in capital projects.

Penny IV Funds are provided through an extension of the Infrastructure Sales Surtax, a voter-approved 1.0% sales tax that is dedicated to infrastructure improvement projects in Pinellas County. The approved ballot language included "land acquisition for affordable housing" and "capital projects to support economic development" as permissible uses of funds. For FY2023 the County anticipates utilizing Penny IV funding on affordable housing programs. All assisted units will benefit households at or below 80% of AMI, with forty percent (40%) of the assisted units benefitting households at or below 60% of AMI. To date, four projects have been recommended for conditional approval by the Board.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

Fostering and maintaining affordable housing that may be lost from the assisted housing inventory is a high priority for the County. The County has established three priority programs that will address affordable housing needs in FY 23-24, the Housing Preservation, Housing Production, and Homeownership Promotion Programs. Specifically, the County will use CDBG, HOME, and other funding to:

- Provide down payment/closing cost assistance to 1 low- to moderate-income homebuyer using HOME funds. State SHIP funds will also be used to provide assistance to 28 additional households. Housing Counseling and Education will be supported with \$131,000 in SHIP funding and aims to assist 350 low- to moderate-income households.
- Preserve the existing housing stock through acquisition and/or rehabilitation, preserving 9 units of owner or renter housing for low- to moderate-income households using HOME funds. State SHIP and local HTF and Penny IV funds will also be utilized to preserve 41 additional units.
- Produce new affordable housing through acquisition and/or rehabilitation, production of 5 units of new renter housing for low- to moderate-income households using HOME funds. State SHIP and local HTF funds will also be utilized to produce 26 additional units.
- Provide rental assistance and rapid rehousing to 15 low-income persons for homeless prevention and HMIS entry using ESG funds.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The Florida Department of Health (DoH) is the primary agency for addressing lead poisoning in the County. Budgetary constraints have limited lead screening and case management activities; however, the DoH still responds to reported cases of lead poisoning as determined by local pediatricians and health care providers.

The DoH performs epidemiological investigations to assure appropriate follow-up care is initiated, to prevent new cases, and to gather data to target future interventions. For children identified with high blood lead levels, a lead assessment of the home is recommended. A specialist performs inspections and risk assessments at no charge for families with children having elevated Blood Lead Levels (BLL), family day care homes, and day care centers. DoH also works to identify lead-based paint hazards in the environment.

The DoH, using revenue from Lead Poisoning Prevention Screening and Education Act provided physicians with information on how to report lead poisoning cases to the DoH, including reporting forms and educational materials for their patients; visited seventeen locations performing blood lead screenings; provided lead poisoning information and educational materials to parents and children during outreach events; provided information and educational materials to the parents of children with elevated blood lead levels and offered these parents an environmental health investigation; provided information and educational literature to Healthy Start staff, community partners, and members of the public; and made media appearances on English and Spanish language local news channels.

The Community Development Division follows procedures as specified in applicable regulations and, specifically, those detailed in Title X of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992. Staff provides all required notifications to owners and occupants and inspect for defective paint surfaces of pre- 1978 properties. Any defective paint conditions found are included in the scope of work and treatment provided to the defective areas. All Department policies and procedures meet the concepts and requirements of Title X. Staff members with architectural or Risk Assessor training/experience orders and reviews paint inspections, risk assessments and clearance testing of suspect properties done by licensed testing professionals. Utilization of trained and certified lead professionals assures that lead hazard control and abatement work is done safely and effectively.

In every program where Federal funds are expended on a housing unit, the County incorporates the current procedures for hazard reduction or LBP abatement guidelines as defined in 24 CFR Part 35. The purpose of the regulation is to protect young children from lead-based paint hazards in housing that is receiving assistance from the Federal government or is being acquired or disposed of by the government. All houses built prior to 1978, purchased by the County for housing rehabilitation and stabilization are subject to the Lead-Safe Housing Rule Checklist, and associated guidance to assure compliance with the Lead-Safe Housing Rule.

Recent budget difficulties have eliminated and limited some of the efforts to expand screening programs and environmental investigations. Early identification through blood lead screening, testing and case follow-up of lead poisoning reduces the risk that children will suffer permanent damage. Going forward, more public and private funding efforts will be necessary to expand lead-based programs and initiatives and reduce the burden of lead poisoning in Pinellas County.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The County, to the extent allowed by the level of funding and economic conditions (housing market, job opportunity rate, health care systems, the willingness of the target populations to utilize the preferred assistance, etc.) acts to reduce the housing costs and fund services that could assist individuals to stabilize their

lives and increase their job skills and marketability. By funding the maximum number of programs possible with the available resources, the County assists many agency programs that contribute to the reduction of the number of persons living below the poverty level.

The Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners' strategic vision is to improve the quality of life for Pinellas County residents and aims to have local municipalities, engaged citizens, and the County working together to better align resources, to revitalize and redevelop communities, and protect our natural resources.

The 2013 Economic Impact of Poverty Report highlighted seven factors that contribute to the cycle of poverty and drive the costs for combating poverty. The data identified five at-risk communities within the County. Three of the five communities include areas that are County targeted areas: Tarpon Springs, Highpoint, and the Lealman Corridor. All five communities suffer from the same seven factors: insufficient transportation, access to food, access to health care, poorer health, lower educational attainment, increased crime rates, higher unemployment, and inadequate and insufficient housing. The County will prioritize funding and services for the three target at-risk areas. The County plans to update the report in 2024.

Pinellas County committed \$80 Million of the Countywide Affordable Housing and Economic Development Capital Project Funds ("Penny IV Funds") to be utilized to support the development and preservation of affordable housing and to facilitate economic development and high-quality growth of the local economy through strategic investments in capital projects.

Penny IV Funds are provided through an extension of the Infrastructure Sales Surtax, a voter-approved 1.0% sales tax that is dedicated to infrastructure improvement projects in Pinellas County. The approved ballot language included "land acquisition for affordable housing" and "capital projects to support economic development" as permissible uses of funds. For FY23-24 the County will continue to utilize Penny funding for affordable housing programs. All assisted units will benefit households at or below 80% of AMI, with forty percent (40%) of the assisted units benefitting households at or below 60% of AMI.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

Non-profit agencies receiving CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding will primarily carry out the activities established in the Consolidated Plan in conjunction with the Community Development Division. Community Development is charged with executing the County's housing and community development programs that are aligned with the Pinellas County Consolidated Plan. A host of other public and private organizations contribute to this effort through the provision of financial and organizational resources that are coordinated with the CDBG, HOME, and ESG funding for projects.

These include neighborhood associations, the Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas, the Homeless Leadership Alliance, the Pinellas Planning Council, the Metropolitan Planning Organization, Pinellas County Health Department, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, the Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing, University of South Florida, the Office of Human Rights, the Pinellas County Departments of Planning, Justice and Consumer Services, Building, Development and Review Services, Economic Development, Public Works, Utilities and various other non-profit, faith-based and community-based service providers and advocates.

The Pinellas County Housing Authority (PCHA) and the Tarpon Springs Housing Authority develop and maintain public housing within the Consortium with a five-member board of commissioners governing each Authority. The County has no direct ability to exercise any oversight responsibility. Pinellas County and the Housing

Authorities do work closely to address the housing needs of the community, such as providing financing for preservation of existing affordable housing units.

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

Key agencies that are involved in the implementation of the Plan as well as additional resources that may be available are described below.

The HLA, the Administrative Forum, and the Low-Income Housing Committee works with funding agencies and community providers to develop a human service system that provides seamless, high-quality care based on the best use of available resources.

Public Sector

The Community Development Division of the Planning Department administers community development and affordable housing programs, including programs that assist target income residents and serves as lead agency for CDBG and ESG funds for the County and Urban County and HOME funds for the Pinellas County Consortium.

The County's Human Services Department operates the welfare programs for the County.

Pinellas County Health Department offers a variety of services and programs to residents such as childcare licensing, childhood lead poisoning, family planning, Florida KidCare, Healthy Start, HIV/AIDs programs, WIC and women's health, among others.

Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County assists families and individuals with homeownership opportunities and increasing the number of affordable rental units available to residents.

Forward Pinellas' Long-Range Transportation Plan serves as a guide for making decisions regarding the future of Pinellas County's transportation system through the year 2035.

Pinellas County and Tarpon Springs Housing Authorities administer Housing Choice (Section 8) Voucher Programs and Family Self-Sufficiency Programs.

Supportive services are provided by Children's and Family Services, the Health Department, Agency for Persons with Disabilities, Departments of Elder Affairs, Veterans' Affairs, Juvenile Justice, and the Agency for Workforce Innovation. Funding is inadequate for the needs they are expected to meet.

A host of non-profit agencies that serve target income households within the County. A coordinated effort is necessary to facilitate service provisions to varying groups throughout the County. As members of the Consortium, Cooperating Cities will be instrumental in accomplishing identified goals and activities.

Private Sector

The private sector is an important collaborator in the services and programs associated with the Consolidated Plan bringing additional resources and expertise that can be used to supplement existing services or fill gaps in the system. Lenders, affordable housing developers, business and economic development organizations, and private service providers offer a variety of assistance to residents such as health care, small business assistance, residential mortgage programs, commercial lending and assisted housing, among others.

Discussion

The County is committed to continuing its participation and coordination with Federal, State, municipal and local agencies, as well as with the private and non-profit sector, to serve the needs of target income individuals and families in the County. In particular, the County will continue to work in close coordination with County departments regarding infrastructure improvements and the provision of services.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction

Pinellas County plans to use twenty percent (20%) of the total available CDBG funds for planning and administrative costs. The County plans to use ninety-five percent (95%) of the remaining CDBG funds on activities that will assist low- and moderate-income families either individually or on an area basis. The County will calculate the overall low- and moderate-income benefit on a one-year timeframe.

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

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

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

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities: \$0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan: 100.00%

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)
Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(2)

1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is as follows:

No other forms of investment are anticipated during the 2022-23 fiscal year.

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

To ensure HOME affordability period requirements are met, the County, including subrecipients and consortium members, applies recapture provisions when HOME funds are used for direct homebuyer subsidy activities. Subrecipient agreements include requirements ensuring recapture provisions are followed.

Principal Residency

A homebuyer receiving HOME purchase assistance must reside in the home as his/her principal residence for the duration of the period of affordability.

Period of Affordability

The recapture provisions are in effect for a period of affordability. This period is based on the amount of direct HOME subsidy to the buyer (recapture), as follows:

Amount of HOME funds-direct subsidy to buyer (recapture) / Period of Affordability

Under \$15,000 / 5 years

\$15,000 to \$40,000 / 10 years

Over \$40,000 / 15 years

Triggering Recapture

If, during the period of affordability, an owner voluntarily or involuntarily transfers his/her property (e.g., through a sale or foreclosure), the applicable recapture provisions go into effect.

HOME Direct Homebuyer Subsidy / Recapture Provisions

The amount subject to recapture is the direct HOME subsidy. The direct HOME subsidy includes the funds that enabled the homebuyer to purchase the unit: down payment and closing cost assistance, and assistance to fill the gap between the fair market value of the property and the sales price affordable to the buyer. If the unit is sold during the affordability period, the full mortgage amount becomes due and payable. In instances where net proceeds are not sufficient to recapture the entire direct HOME subsidy, recapture of all available proceeds shall be deemed to satisfy the recapture requirements. The net proceeds of a sale are the sales price minus non-HOME loan repayments and any closing costs. This amount represents the maximum amount the County may recapture under its Recapture Policy.

In order to enforce the recapture of HOME funds, the HOME recipient will be required to execute a mortgage in the amount of the HOME subsidy that is recorded as a lien against the property. The term of the mortgage will meet or exceed the minimum affordability period. In addition, the County will execute a Homebuyer Agreement with each assisted buyer to address residency requirement terms of the recapture provision, and remedies for non-compliance.

Noncompliance

During the affordability period, the County monitors homeowner's compliance with the principal residency requirement. An owner is noncompliant with HOME requirements if (1) he/she does not reside in the unit as principal residence due to vacating or renting out the unit to another household, or (2) if the recapture provisions are not satisfied. In the event of noncompliance, the owner is subject to repay outstanding HOME funds based on the total amount of direct subsidy to the buyer minus any principal HOME loan repayments.

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

Pinellas County records land use restrictions on all units acquired with HOME funds. During the process of property ownership transfers, the County's restriction is identified in title commitments. If an owner voluntarily or involuntarily transfers his/her property (e.g., through a sale or foreclosure) during the period of affordability, the applicable recapture provisions go into effect. Additionally, properties acquired with HOME funds are required to include the County as an additional insured on homeowner insurance policies. The County proactively monitors the receipt of insurance policies to insure the property ownership has not changed.

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

Pinellas County does not use HOME funds to refinance existing debt.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)

In FY 2023-24, Pinellas County will use Emergency Solutions Grant funding to address the following ESG eligible components: homelessness prevention and HMIS. The County will provide funding to the Homeless Leadership Alliance for the CoC's HMIS operations and will administer a Community Housing Assistance Program (CHAP) to provide homelessness prevention activities; and contribute data into HMIS. Coordination among emergency shelter providers, essential services providers, homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing assistance providers, and other homeless assistance providers will maximize the use of the ESG funding and ensure that there is a centralized effort to reach families in need. ESG funds will also be used to fund operations at an emergency shelter. The Written Standards for the Provision of ESG are attached.

2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.

The Coordinated Entry System (CES) in Pinellas County is a system-wide process designed to serve homeless individuals and families. Pinellas County uses a multi-access approach for CES, to include a centralized phone hotline, geography specific points of access, and coordinated outreach to street locations. Each access point will employ the same assessment and referral process through the local HMIS. Access staff will assess for diversion first, then screen for consumer need including prevention services. Access staff will conduct data entry, provide referrals, and potentially program admission (if applicable and appropriate). Vulnerability Index and Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tools (VI- SPDAT) are used by outreach teams and access

staff to determine the most appropriate housing path. The VI-SPDAT assessment will be entered directly from the field eliminating the use of paper and to prevent data entry errors. The VI-SPDAT score will populate to a Housing Priority List that will be managed by the CoC lead who will make referrals to appropriate housing.

3. Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).

Annually, Pinellas County opens a competitive application cycle to accept public facility, public infrastructure and public service applications from any organization that serves CDBG and ESG eligible clientele. Applications are reviewed for eligibility, scored, and ranked to determine a priority funding order. Once projects are prioritized, staff determines the appropriate funding source for each project.

Projects are funded from the appropriate funding source until all funds have been allocated. Emergency shelter activities identified for funding will receive up to a maximum of sixty percent (60%) of the total ESG grant. A minimum of forty percent (40%) of ESG funding will be allocated to homelessness prevention and/or rapid re-housing programs.

4. If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.

The County is unable to meet the requirement of 576.405 (a) as the Board is made up of elected officials. However, through coordination efforts with the local Continuum of Care provider, the Homeless Leadership Alliance, we will receive input from homeless or previously homeless individuals, as they are part of the Continuum process. Throughout the development of a homeless and homelessness prevention program, input was provided by the Continuum in the establishment of the policies.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

Consortium member agencies are part of the development and implementation of the Pinellas Coordinated Assessment process; ESG subcontractors will use the process for selecting families to enroll in their programs. All ESG participant data is entered in HMIS and the reports are used to track/report on ESG performance. Consortium member agency staffs are part of the System Quality Improvement Committee working to set performance outcome goals and overseeing measurement and reports.

The County evaluates ESG prevention activities by continuously monitoring the agencies selected to administer the CHAP program to ensure that CHAP program and ESG guidelines are being followed. In addition, before reimbursement can be made verification will be required including certification of homelessness, lease documents, and income calculations, as well as cancelled checks and invoices.

Specific performance agreements are executed each fiscal year with the selected agencies that require quarterly reimbursement requests and timely expenditure of funds. Agencies receiving funding under other components of the ESG program are contractually obligated to either provide the County with, or enter into the HMIS system, data on all people served and all assistance provided with ESG funding.

Discussion

The Continuum of Care is exploring strategies to shorten the period of time families are experiencing homelessness. According to the 'Strategic Homelessness Action Plan for the Pinellas County Area', there is a critical lack of housing units and services for families with children.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Citizen Participation

Attachment B – Authorizing Resolution

Attachment C – Proposed Projects

Attachment D – Local Target Areas

Attachment E – Public Notices

Attachment F – Written Standards for ESG

Attachment G – SF 424(s) and Certifications

Attachment A – Citizen Participation

Summary of Public Comments to be included after comment period with final Draft.

Attachment B – Authorizing Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 23-_____

APPROVAL OF PINELLAS COUNTY'S 2023-2024 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT; AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT THE ANNUAL ACTION PLAN TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD); AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CHAIRMAN, OR DESIGNEE, TO SIGN AND THE CLERK TO ATTEST APPLICATIONS, CERTIFICATIONS, AND HUD GRANT AGREEMENTS; AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CHAIRMAN, OR DESIGNEE, TO SIGN REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS AND AUTHORITY TO USE GRANT FUNDS; AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CHAIRMAN, OR DESIGNEE, TO SIGN AND THE CLERK TO ATTEST SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE AND LAND USE RESTRICTION AGREEMENTS, INCLUDING AMENDMENTS; AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE HOUSING PROGRAM SECURITY INSTRUMENTS, AGENCY AGREEMENTS AND LAND USE RESTRICTION AGREEMENTS, INCLUDING AMENDMENTS; AUTHORIZATION FOR THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR, OR DESIGNEE, TO SERVE AS LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE HUD ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW ONLINE SYSTEM; AUTHORIZATION FOR THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR, OR DESIGNEE, TO SIGN AND FILE NECESSARY FORMS, REPORTS, AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ANNUAL ACTION PLAN; AND AUTHORIZATION FOR THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON NEEDS AND PERFORMANCE IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2023 TO INITIATE THE 2023-2024 ACTION PLAN PROCESS.

WHEREAS, affordable housing and community development activities are an area of need in Pinellas County and are established program objectives of the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, Pinellas County's long-term community development goal is to develop livable communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunities, principally for persons of low- and moderate-income, and to aid in the prevention and elimination of slum and blight; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program, and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program provide local governments with flexible financial assistance to meet the needs of low- and moderate- income people and aid in the elimination of slum and blight; and

WHEREAS, Pinellas County and the City of Largo have formed a partnership (the “Consortium”) under the HOME Program to address affordable housing issues for low- and moderate-income households, with Pinellas County as the lead agency for the Consortium; and

WHEREAS, the Pinellas County Consortium’s FY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan identifies objectives and priorities for housing, community revitalization, homeless, and persons with special needs to be addressed over the next five years; and

WHEREAS, Pinellas County’s 2023-2024 Annual Action Plan is a One-Year Plan specifying how Pinellas County will utilize CDBG and ESG funds and how the Consortium will utilize HOME funds in the third year to address priorities identified in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Action Plan was developed through a process which included input from citizens and agencies through community meetings, public hearings, and a competitive application process; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for Pinellas County to execute Specific Performance Agreements and Land Use Restriction Agreements with grant recipients to carry out community development projects and activities identified for funding in Pinellas County’s Annual Action Plan and to specify grant recipient’s financial and regulatory obligations; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary, at times, for Pinellas County to amend Specific Performance Agreements and Land Use Restriction Agreements resulting from project cost increases, changes in project scopes, project delays, availability of unanticipated funds, and/or other causes; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for Pinellas County to execute Agency Agreements, Land Use Restriction Agreements and other security instruments consistent with affordable housing program procedures to produce and preserve affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, HUD regulations require that site specific environmental reviews be performed for each project prior to submitting a Request for Release of Funds; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to hold a public hearing in the first quarter of 2024 at the beginning of the FY 2023-2024 Annual Action Plan process for identifying needs and reviewing past performance; and

WHEREAS, this public hearing is for information-gathering purposes only and can be held by the Housing and Community Development Department on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA, in its regular session duly assembled this 11th day of July 2023, does hereby approve the Pinellas County Annual Action Plan for FY 2023-2024 in the approximate amount anticipated to be allocated to Pinellas County by HUD of \$5,018,594.00, including anticipated program income, and authorizes submittal to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairman, or designee, be authorized to sign the Action Plan applications, certifications, grant agreements and the Clerk to attest.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairman, or designee, be authorized to sign Request for Release of Funds and Authority to Use Grant Funds forms pursuant to these grants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that either the Chairman or, pursuant to Section 2-62, Pinellas County Code, the County Administrator, or their designee, be authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest Specific Performance Agreements and Land Use Restriction Agreements, and amendments thereto, pursuant to these grants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that notwithstanding Section 2-62, Pinellas County Code, the Chairman or the County Administrator, or their designee, be authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest amendments to Specific Performance Agreements and Land Use Restriction Agreements, increasing the amount of the grant award to subrecipients, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 or fifty percent (50%) of the grant award, whichever is greater.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator, or their designee, be authorized to execute Housing Program Security Instruments, Agency Agreements, and Land Use Restriction Agreements, and amendments thereto, pursuant to these grants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Housing and Community Development Department Director, or designee, be authorized to serve as local administrator for the HUD Environmental Review Online System.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Housing and Community Development Department Director, or designee, be authorized to sign and file necessary reports, forms, and other documents related to the administration and operation of the CDBG, ESG, and HOME Programs, including the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report. The Housing and Community Development Department Director or designee shall also have authority to authorize actions and execute

documentation necessary in administering mortgage and mortgage notes associated with any of the federal grants referenced herein, including but not limited to authorizing and executing mortgage modifications, accelerations, reinstatements, and assignments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Housing and Community Development Department be authorized to hold a public hearing in the first quarter of 2024 on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners to review community development and housing program performance and assess community needs.

Commissioner_____ offered the foregoing resolution and hereby moved its adoption, which was seconded by Commissioner_____ and upon roll call, the vote was:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT AND NOT VOTING:

Attachment C – 2023-2024 Funding Recommendations

See section AP-38 Projects for list of projects.

Funding recommendation table to be included after comment period with final Draft

Attachment D – Local Target Areas

Target Area Name	Census Tract(s)	Block Group(s)
Central Lealman Target Area	00247.01	All
	00247.02	All
	00247.03	All
East Lealman Target Area	00246.01	All
	00246.02	All
Greater Highpoint Target Area	00245.10	All
	00245.14	All
Greater Ridgecrest Target Area	00252.07	2
	00253.07	2 and 3
Tarpon Springs Target Area	00274.02	1, 2 and 5

Note: The previous Dansville Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA) and Ridgecrest NRSA are both located within the Ridgecrest Census Designated Place (CDP), which remains a low- and moderate-income area and is now the Greater Ridgecrest Target Area.

Attachment E – Public Notices

To be included after comment period with final Draft

Attachment F – Written Standards for the Provision of ESG

To be included after comment period with final Draft

Attachment G – SF-424(s) and Certifications

To be included after comment period with final Draft