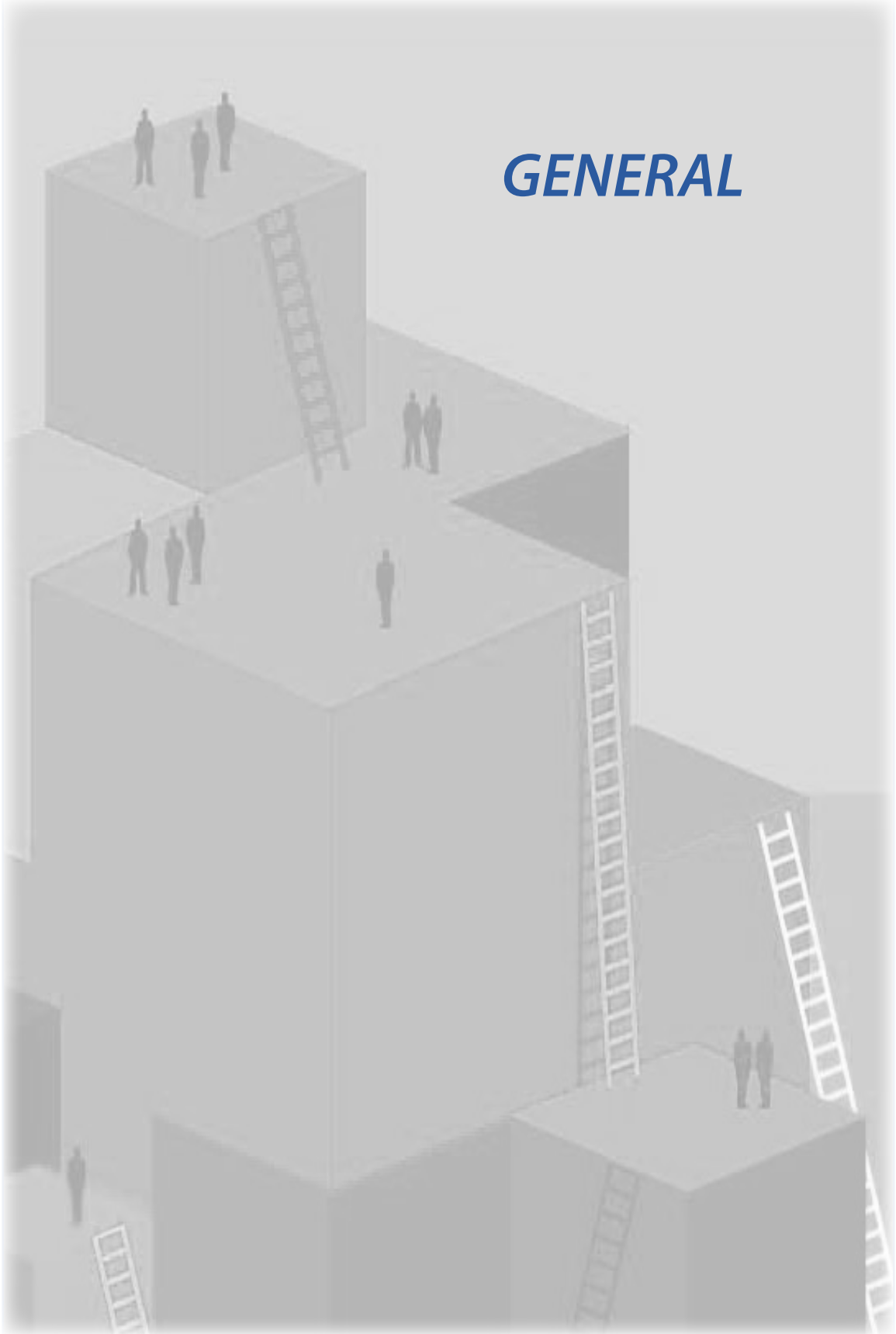


GENERAL



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INTRODUCTION

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

- The *2008-2012 Consolidated Plan* coordinates all elements of community development (housing, neighborhood development, economic development, and human services) into a unified approach for community development actions. The plan establishes needs, resources, priorities, and proposed activities to be undertaken with respect to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), along with other Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs. The components of the Five-Year *2008-2012 Consolidated Plan* include consultation and citizen participation, community needs, and goals and strategies. The last component of the Five Year Consolidated Plan is an **annual Action Plan listing activities to be undertaken, consistent with the strategies, to address the identified community needs**. The following is the Action Plan for 2010, the third year of the *2008-2012 Consolidated Plan*.

2010 Action Plan

- The *2010 Action Plan* identifies the specific activities the City will undertake to address priority needs and local objectives during the 2010 program year (January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010). It describes the eligible programs, projects, and activities to be undertaken with available funds during the 2010 program year, and their relationship to the priority needs. The Action Plan is submitted annually.
- The proposed *2010 Action Plan* was made available to the public for examination and comment for a period of 30 days.
- For the purpose of this document, the definitions listed below will be used. For narrative discussion, the document will refer to the following populations as low-income:
 - Extremely Low-Income: 30% of median income and below
 - Very Low-Income: 31-50% of median income
 - Low-Income: 51-80% of median income

The federal government publishes the median income annually for each area of the country. For reference, 2009 annual incomes considered low-income for a family of four in Bellingham/Whatcom County are as follows:

- Extremely Low-Income: \$19,300
- Very Low-Income: \$32,200
- Low-Income \$51,500

The following pages describe proposed programs, projects, and activities that will be undertaken, given the resources available in the proposed budget. The Action Plan for 2010 will address the housing priority populations and community development priority activities with anticipated program income and funds received during the coming program year under CDBG, HOME, and the Capital Grant. This *Action Plan* is consistent with the statutory goals outlined in the strategies and the priority needs listed in the *2008-2012 Consolidated Plan*.

COMPONENTS OF THE ACTION PLAN

Although HUD does not prescribe a specific format, the *Action Plan* must contain certain components. HUD has created an optional tool, Consolidated Plan Management Process (CPMP), to assist formula grantees in meeting the requirements of the *Five Year Consolidated Plan* and annual *Action Plans*. Beginning in 2008, the City of Bellingham converted from a locally developed format used in prior years to the CPMP for the development of the *2008-2012 Consolidated Plan* with annual Action Plans. The components of the CPMP Action Plan include narrative responses to specific questions that must be responded to in order to be compliant with the Consolidated Planning Regulations.

The questions and responses provide information about:

- How the Plan process is managed including citizen participation, the institutional structure to carry out the plan and monitoring.
- Description of specific housing objectives including public housing, homeless and special needs and annual actions that will be undertaken.
- Description of community development and antipoverty strategies and annual actions that will be undertaken.

The needs, goals and strategies that are associated with this annual *Action Plan* are covered in a separate document, the *Five Years (2008-2012) Strategic Plan*.

Available resources for the *2010 Action Plan* term includes funding from CDBG, HOME, Program Income, Revolving Loan Fund, and the City of Bellingham General Fund. The Community Development Division is organized into several different sections to oversee the various activities assigned to the Division. Included in this *Action Plan* is a breakout of the various activities described in the *2010 Action Plan* that have been assigned to the various sections of the Community Develop-

ment Division. Exhibit A, Resolution, contains a Budget Summary which shows this breakout for all CDBG and HOME funds expected to be available in 2010. It also includes a list of proposed human services to be funded in 2010. Exhibit B, Activity Summary, details the new CDBG and HOME funds expected to be received in 2010 as categorized in the Community Development Division. The titles for individual action items show the 2010 CDBG and HOME funds. The narratives below the titles include all the funds for the activity including prior year carry over funds.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Executive Summary is required. Include the objectives and outcomes identified in the plan and an evaluation of past performance.

Program Year 3 Action Plan Executive Summary:

OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

As noted above, the activities that are described in the *2010 Action Plan* are designed to meet CDBG objectives which include the provision of decent housing, creating suitable living environments and expanding economic opportunities and the HOME objectives of expanding the supply of decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing, with the primary focus on rental housing for low-income persons, leveraging private sector participation and expanding the capacity of non-profit housing providers.

HUD established a performance measurement system, new in 2007, requiring that all funded activities address one of the objective categories (decent housing, suitable living environment and economic opportunities) and one of the following outcomes: Availability/Accessibility, Affordability, Sustainability.

The *2010 Action Plan* describes proposed projects and activities to be undertaken to implement the CDBG and HOME objectives categories and outcomes noted above. The *2010 Action Plan* gives a projection of resources from CDBG and HOME funds.

Following the CPMP tool format and order, the Action Plan presents information in the "General" section on the Plan development process, citizen participation, monitoring of activities and lead-based paint. Lead-based paint activities will include providing information to citizens and contractors and using grants to activity address the lead-based paint hazards in homes. Other sections in the Action Plan include "Housing", "Homeless", "Community Development" and "Non-Homeless Special Needs".

The "Housing" section includes specific CDBG and HOME funded affordable housing activities, the needs of public housing, barriers to affordable housing and a description of HOME program criteria. Some of the 2010 activities described in the Housing section include the provision of tenant based rental assistance funding, down-payment assistance for first time homebuyers, the housing rehabilitation program and proposed multi-family rehabilitation projects. Fair Housing activities and planning, zoning and permit activities to address affordable housing are described in the Barriers. The "Homeless" section includes Special Homeless Prevention

activities of providing funding for the community's Homeless Services Center and hiring a consultant to assist with applications for the Supportive Housing Program and Shelter plus Care grants.

The "Community Development" section describes human service agency funding, neighborhood revitalization, and economic development activities. In the "Non-Homeless Special Needs" section, a project to provide transitional residential services to people with co-occurring disorders is described.

The Budget Summary and Activity Budget sections currently under development will contain a budget page and a breakout of the planned activities of Community Development (Planning and Management, Human Services, Housing, and Special Projects).

PROGRESS IN MEETING GOALS

The City reports progress annually in addressing the priority needs of housing and non-housing community development needs identified in the *2008-2012 Consolidated Plan* in the annual Action Plans. While 2010 is the third year of the *2008-2012 Consolidated Plan*, the second year 2009 activities are still ongoing and progress will not be reported until after the end of the 2009. Progress reported in this Action Plan will cover the activities of the completed *2008 Action Plan* (January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008).

A detailed breakdown report of uses and performance for 2008 activities is contained in the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) which was published in March of 2009. It is available at the City's Planning and Community Development Department or on the City's web page - <http://www.cob.org/services/neighborhoods/community-planning/consolidated-plan.aspx>. A similar CAPER will be produced in March of 2010 reporting on the activities of 2009 and it too will be available on the City's website.

Housing for Low-Income - A summary of the actions taken in 2008 include:

Housing for Low-Income: In addressing the priority housing needs of low-income households:

- The City has provided \$199,000 in HOME funds and \$58,691 in CDBG funds in down payment assistance funding to Kulshan Community Land Trust (KCLT) to assist 9 low-income households in the purchase of homes. There were 4 additional households that had been pre-qualified and were seeking homes to purchase under this KCLT program.

- In addition to the down payment assistance, the City has disbursed \$97,495 in final payments to close out the KCLT new construction project called Matthei Place. The Matthei Place created 14 units of homeownership housing affordable to low- and moderate income households.
- The City and the Bellingham Housing Authority have completed and recorded loan documents to fund \$474,144 in (prior year) HOME funds for the development construction on the 51 unit Walton Housing Project Phase I. Funds were disbursed on 2008 construction costs. The project will serve low and moderate income households.
- The City and the Bellingham Housing Authority have completed and recorded loan documents to fund \$200,000 in (prior year) HOME funds for development construction on the 25 unit Meadow Wood Townhomes II project. HOME funds in the amount of \$53,502 were disbursed in 2008. It is expected that the project will complete and all funds will be disbursed by spring of 2009. The project will serve low and moderate income households.
- The City's Home Rehabilitation Program has disbursed \$261,145 in CDBG and \$12,047 in private funds for rehabilitation construction costs on 23 housing units occupied by low/moderate income households. In addition, over \$30,022 has been expended for hazardous conditions abatement (lead-based paint, asbestos, mold).
- The City has disbursed \$22,522 in CDBG funds for roof and seismic repairs to the YWCA facility which provides transitional and emergency housing for women.

Fair Housing: The *2008-2012 Five-year Consolidated Plan* contains Fair Housing goals associated with raising community awareness of Fair Housing laws and of prohibited discrimination against protected classes. In 2008 the City entered into a contract with the Fair Housing Center of Washington to do local testing for reasonable accommodation, sent letters on reasonable accommodation to 30 property management companies and rental property owners, provided packets on predatory lending to the Kulshan Community Land Trust first time homebuyer program and solicited property owners/managers for the annual Fair Housing Convention.

Barriers to Affordable Housing: The 2008 Action Plan contained the goal of accomplishing 12 actions to remove or mitigate barriers to housing resulting from zoning, subdivision, land use requirements, licensing, permits, impact or transportation fees and utility extensions. During the past year, 10 actions have been undertaken toward meeting this Consolidated Plan goal.

Lead-Based Paint: A goal of distributing materials on lead-based paint to 275 clients, contractors or human service agencies was established in the 2008-2012 Consolidate Plan. In 2008 information on lead-based paint was distributed to clients and contractors of the City's Home Rehabilitation Program. In addition, approximately 150 brochures on lead-based paint hazards have been distributed to the parents of children attending the Birchwood Elementary School. The City has also funded a grant program to address lead-based paint found in the homes being rehabilitated under the City's Home Rehabilitation Program.

Homeless: In addressing the needs of the homeless, in 2008, the City has disbursed \$81,360 to the Opportunity Council for tenant based rental assistance in support of their homeless housing program. In addition, the City has also provided acquisition or development funding to the Bellingham Housing Authority (BHA) or Limited Liability Corporation (LLC), of which BHA is the managing member for multi-family housing projects that contain set-asides for transitional housing units serving the homeless. See descriptions in Housing for Low-Income above.

Community Development Non-housing Needs - A summary of the actions taken since January 2008 include:

Economic Development: The *2008-2012 Consolidated Plan* established a goal of developing area wide plans guiding economic development to create living wage jobs for low-income households. Major planning efforts have been undertaken and continue for the City Center, and New Whatcom Waterfront areas. City Council has adopted the Old Town Neighborhood Plan. Projects that contribute to local development efforts in 2008 include the completion of streetscape improvements to Champion Street and the implementation of streetscape improvements to Bay and Holly Streets. Construction is also underway on the new Children's Museum and the renovations to Mount Baker Theatre. In addition, the City contracted with WWU Small Business Development Center, Whatcom Economic Development Council and others to provide economic development services.

Human Services: The *2008-2012 Consolidated Plan* established the goal of enhancing the delivery of effective supportive services. In 2008, the City initiated 31 contracts totaling \$506,373 in CDBG and general funds to human service agencies to assist low-income households. The City has processed a request and committed \$30,000 in CDBG funds to the non-profit agency Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services for ADA and other critical improvements to their facility to enhance the delivery of services to victims of domestic violence.

Neighborhood Revitalization: The economic development activities, referenced above, contribute to safe, comfortable and thriving neighborhoods and encourage civic pride with connections between neighborhoods and resources. In addition, CDBG and the Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) funding were committed and/or disbursed in 2008 on projects to improve low-income neighborhoods. These projects include the Franklin Park Improvement Project, Whatcom Creek Trail improvements, Old Village Trail Improvements and Birchwood Park site acquisition.



Old Village Trail



Whatcom Creek Trail

Non-Homeless Special Needs: The City has processed a request and has committed and disbursed \$137,289 in CDBG funds to Brigid Collins Family Support Center so they could acquire the building they have been providing services in support of healthy development of families and the prevention of child abuse. The acquisition reduces their facilities costs and makes more funds available for services.



Brigid Collins



PERFORMANCE OUTCOME MEASUREMENT

U. S. Department of Housing & Urban Development expects Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) grantees to use performance measurement systems to address productivity and program impact. Beginning in 2006, HUD implemented a refined performance measurement system. The five components of the performance measuring system are Goals, Inputs, Activities, Outputs and Outcomes.

Determining appropriate measurements for “outcomes” is critical to the performance measurement system. Developing “outcome” measurements is complex because CDBG and HOME funds can be used for a variety of activities with differing funding priorities from year to year. The amount of CDBG and HOME funds received by the City is small relative to the large amount of housing, human service and economic development activities in the City and Whatcom County.

Three broad **Objectives**, consistent with the needs and strategies of the Consolidated Plan, are established for activities funded with CDBG and/or HOME that focus on low- and moderate-income households:

- Create suitable living environments
- Provide decent, affordable housing
- Create economic opportunities

For each of the three broad Objectives, there are three possible common **Outcomes** which describe change, i.e., “what type of change or result is sought?”

- **Availability/Accessibility.** Activities funded with CDBG and/or HOME that make services, infrastructure, housing, or shelter available or accessible to low- and moderate-income people, including persons with disabilities. In this category, accessibility does not refer only to physical barriers, but also to making the affordable basics of daily living available and accessible to low- and moderate-income people.
- **Affordability.** Activities funded with CDBG and/or HOME that provide affordability in a variety of ways in the lives of low- and moderate-income people. It can include the creation or maintenance of affordable housing, basic infrastructure hookups, or services such as transportation or day care.
- **Sustainability - Promoting Livable or Viable Communities.** Projects funded with CDBG and/or HOME where the activity or activities are aimed at improving communities or neighborhoods, helping to make them livable or viable by providing benefit to persons of low- and moderate-income or by removing or eliminating slum or blighted areas, through multiple activities or services that sustain communities or neighborhoods.

Progress toward outcomes is measured with **output Indicators**. Examples of output measurements include the number of:

- households assisted
- community wide assistance activities
- persons served (in shelters or public services)
- rental housing units produced
- housing units rehabilitated
- years of affordability
- homeowners assisted or homeownership units created
- jobs created or retained
- dollars of investment leveraged.

Objectives are combined with Outcomes to produce an Outcome Statement. Outcomes are the “benefits” relating to a change in conditions, status, attitudes,

knowledge or behavior that result from the funded programs. The Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) and the ongoing reporting to the federal Integrated Data and Information System (IDIS) are the means for reporting. Because many activities are multi-year (i.e. construction projects), the outcomes will be measured over five-year periods with progress noted each year. The “Outcomes” portion of the measuring system will be reported each year in the CAPER.

The strategies identified in the *Strategic Plan* section of the *2008-2012 Consolidated Plan* and the actions identified in this Action Plan have been developed in consideration of the described performance measuring system.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. Describe the geographic areas of the jurisdiction (including areas of low income families and/or racial/minority concentration) in which assistance will be directed during the next year. Where appropriate, the jurisdiction should estimate the percentage of funds the jurisdiction plans to dedicate to target areas.
2. Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA) (91.215(a)(1)) during the next year and the rationale for assigning the priorities.
3. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs.
4. Identify the federal, state, and local resources expected to be made available to address the needs identified in the plan. Federal resources should include Section 8 funds made available to the jurisdiction, Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, and competitive McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act funds expected to be available to address priority needs and specific objectives identified in the strategic plan.

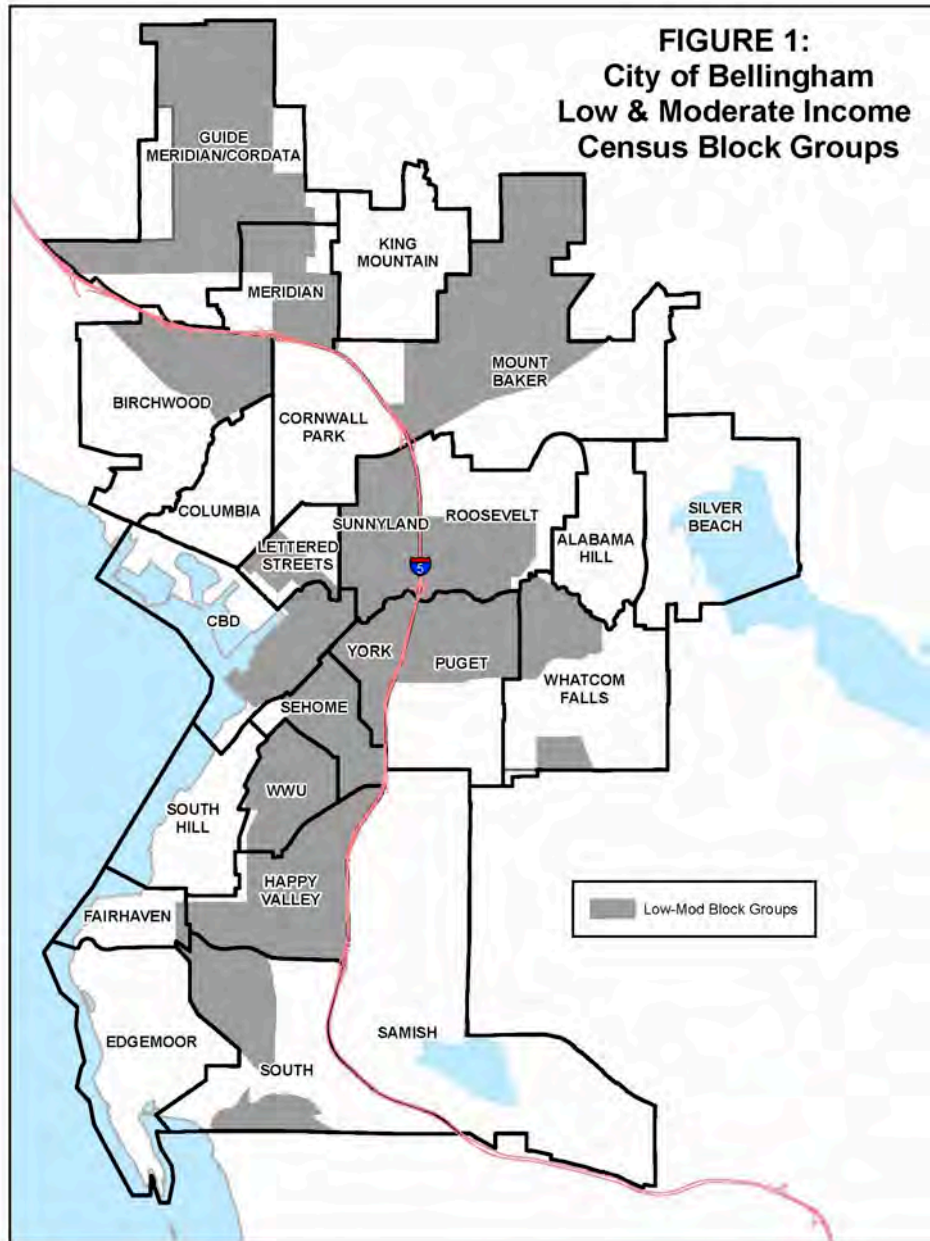
Response to questions:

There are fifteen Census Block Groups in Bellingham that have been identified by HUD as being occupied by residents of which 51% or more have incomes at or below 80% of the area median. These block groups are known as CDBG Census Block Groups. The City targets CDBG funds to projects that are most likely to provide benefits for residents of these CDBG Census Block Groups. Each area can benefit from projects to improve recreation, housing, safety, and services.

Figure 1 is a map of the CDBG Census Block Groups. These target Block Groups include all or portions of neighborhoods of York, Lettered Streets, Sunnyland, CBD, Sehome, WWU, Happy Valley, South, Roosevelt, Puget, Whatcom Falls, Birchwood, Meridian, Guide Meridian and Mt. Baker.

CDBG or HOME funded programs or projects, such as the Housing Rehabilitation Program, that serve low- or moderate-income households and that verify the income of residents/beneficiaries are funded on a citywide basis. The 2000 Census indicated that approximately 12% of the Bellingham households were non-white and approximately 5% of the households were Hispanic. Census indicated areas of higher minority concentration tend to be in the older neighborhoods surrounding the city center – all of these neighborhoods are CDBG Target Neighborhoods. The Central Business District which has some of the highest concentration of minority residents in Bellingham is a priority for funding multi-family projects under the Housing Development Fund.

Figure 1 – Bellingham Low & Moderate Income Census Block Groups



In addition to allocation of resources on a geographic basis, the allocation priorities for human needs are also identified in the *2008-2012 Consolidated Plan* with priority one being homeless and those at risk of being homeless, priority two being low-income families and individuals and priority three being low-income families and individuals with special needs. Non-housing community development needs priorities are basic human service support, neighborhood revitalization and economic development.

The geographic distributions of CDBG funds for qualified direct benefit activities will be City-wide when the incomes of households can be individually verified to meet eligibility requirements and City-wide when the beneficiaries of the funded activity meet criteria for limited clientele activities. Those activities having an area wide benefit will only be undertaken when the benefits of the activity accrue to residents of a CDBG Target Block Group where 51% of the households are at 80% of the area median income or less – see map of target areas on Figure 1.

In addition to the utilizing CDBG and HOME funding to address chronic homelessness, identified in this 2010 Action Plan under the “Homeless” and “Non-Housing – Human Services” sections, the City will support planning efforts and activities identified in the updated Whatcom County 10 Year Plan Homeless Housing Plan located at <http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/health/wchac/index.jsp>).

Using the maximum CDBG funding allowed for public (human) services under HUD regulations, combined with allocations of general funds, will be one of the means of addressing the obstacles to meeting underserved needs. The Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB) oversees the biennial allocation of these funds based on community needs and priorities.

Activities in the 2010 Action Plan are funded with the 2010 CDBG and HOME allocations, carryover funding, and program income. The amount of funds expected to be available for new activities and to complete ongoing committed activities includes:

CDBG	\$ 900,000
HOME	\$ 686,000
CDBG Program Income/Carryover	\$ 362,234
HOME Program Income/Carryover	\$ 118,967
Section 108 Loan Program*	\$ 4,500,000

*At the time of this publication, it is unknown if Congress will provide Section 108 funding in 2010.

Program Income includes anticipated 2010 income and prior year income retained in revolving loan fund accounts. Carryover amounts include prior year awards committed to projects but not yet disbursed and uncommitted accounts.

In addition to the CDBG and HOME resources, the Bellingham Housing Authority will have Section 8 Assistance of approximately \$9.751 million available to serve low-income households. Developers of housing projects serving low-income households, such as the Bellingham Housing Authority and Catholic Community Services, are expected to apply to the Washington State Housing Finance Commission for Low-Income Housing Tax Credits. Agencies serving homeless individuals and families will apply for approximately \$1,011,276 million funding assistance under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Programs.

The City of Bellingham is supportive of efforts by other organizations to obtain funding for projects contributing to Housing and Community Development objectives. In addition to verbal and written support, the City is prepared, within its staffing capacity, to assist other organizations that apply for, access, or develop new resources. Some City of Bellingham general funds will be made available for human services funding.

The City of Bellingham, the Bellingham Housing Authority (BHA), and a variety of human service and housing agencies pursue a diverse list of private, local, state, and federal resources to fund their delivery of services to low-income households in need, and their neighborhood improvement and economic development activities. Among others, the City of Bellingham is particularly supportive of applications to these programs:

- Public Housing Comprehensive Grant
- HUD Grants for Public Housing
- Tax Exempt Bonds
- Taxable Bonds
- Low-Income Housing Tax Credits
- FHLB Affordable Housing Program
- WA State Housing Finance Commission Programs
- WA State Housing Trust Fund Programs
- WA State Housing Assistance Program
- Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Programs/Supportive Housing Program
- Washington Comm. Reinvestment Assoc.
- Washington Community Dev. Fund
- St. Luke's Foundation
- United Way
- Whatcom Community Foundation
- Emergency Shelter Grant
- Public Housing Comprehensive Grant
- HOPWA
- Funding provided under SHB 2060/2163/1359
- Safe Havens
- Section 202 Elderly
- Section 811 Handicapped
- Historic Preservation Tax Credits
- Moderate Rehabilitation SRO
- Rental Vouchers
- Rental Certificates
- Public Housing MROP
- Public Housing CIAP
- New Markets Tax Credits Program
- EPA Brownfield Demonstration Grant
- Washington State Dept. of Ecology,
- Remedial Action Matching Grant
- HUD Brownfield Grants
- 2008 Housing Act funding
- ARRA (Recovery) Funding
- Section 108 Funding

Discretionary grants from the federal and state governments for housing, community development, and social services are pursued when and if they become available. Public/private partnerships, where additional funding resources are brought to bear, are sought out and encouraged. These relationships and funding arrangements are difficult, if not impossible, to predict in advance.

MANAGING THE PROCESS

1. Identify the lead agency, entity, and agencies responsible for administering programs covered by the consolidated plan.
2. Identify the significant aspects of the process by which the plan was developed, and the agencies, groups, organizations, and others who participated in the process.
3. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to enhance coordination between public and private housing, health, and social service agencies.

Response to questions:

The City's Planning & Community Development Department is the lead agency responsible for preparing Bellingham's Consolidated Plan. Bellingham's Mayor has designated the Planning & Community Development Department, Community Development Division (CD) responsible for the planning, development, and implementation of its CDBG and HOME Programs.

Key public and non-profit agencies that administer programs covered by this Action Plan include:

American Red Cross, Mt. Baker Chapter
Appliance Depot
Arc of Whatcom County
Assistance League of Bellingham
Bellingham Childcare and Learning Center
Bellingham Food Bank
Bellingham Housing Authority
Bellingham Technical College
Big Brothers Big Sisters
Brigid Collins Family Support Center
Catholic Community Services
City of Bellingham Park and Recreation Department
City of Bellingham Public Works Department
Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services
Evergreen AIDS Foundation
Intercommunity Mercy Housing
Interfaith Community Health Center/Interfaith Housing
Kulshan Community Land Trust
LAW Advocates
Lydia Place
Mother Baby Center
Northwest Youth Services

Old Town Christian Ministries
Opportunity Council
Sean Humphrey House
Whatcom County Council on Aging
Whatcom County Health Department
Whatcom Literacy Council
Whatcom Volunteer Center
Womencare Shelter
YWCA

Consultation with public and private agencies is essential to the success of community-based comprehensive planning. Before submitting the Action Plan, staff consults with public and private agencies that provide assisted housing, health services, and social and fair housing services -- especially those focusing on services to children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, and homeless persons.

Staff also consults with the Washington Department of Community, Trade & Economic Development (CTED) and the Bellingham Housing Authority (BHA) to assure that the Action Plan is inclusive and addresses statutory purposes.

A top priority of consultation is to help form effective actions that address the needs with the resources available to serve chronically homeless persons. Staff solicits input from public and private agencies that provide assisted housing, health service, and social services. Staff receives input from the Whatcom County Coalition for the Homeless (WCCH). The WCCH is composed of a broad group of Whatcom County human service agencies, government, school districts, and other community service members, and holds monthly meetings, updates the Whatcom County Continuum of Care Plan, and organizes the annual Homeless Persons Count.

The City consults with health and child welfare agencies and the Whatcom County Health Department to examine and address existing data related to lead-based paint hazards and poisonings. Health department data is utilized to locate housing units where children have been identified as lead poisoned. The Opportunity Council, Bellingham's local Community Action Agency, provides lead-based paint assessments and services and is also consulted on an ongoing basis regarding issues of lead-based paint hazards.

The City notifies adjacent units of local government, to the extent practicable, of the priority non-housing community development needs, and submits the final Consolidated Plan to the county and State. City staff also consults and serves on the boards of adjacent units of general local government, including local government agencies with wide-spread planning responsibilities such as the Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee (which oversees locally generated funding

for homeless housing and services), the Whatcom Coalition for Healthy Communities and the Whatcom Economic Development Council.

City staff consults with local human service agencies regarding the non-housing needs of children, elderly persons, persons with disabilities, homeless persons, and other populations of need. City staff coordinates with other lead agencies, including the United Way of Whatcom County and to determine the priority needs and funding gaps in developing the basis for allocation of CDBG and City general funds. The annual Homeless Housing and Human Services Inventory developed for the Supportive Housing Program grant is also used and contains information about available services and gaps.

City staff work closely with the Bellingham Housing Authority (BHA) concerning public housing needs and planned programs and activities, to help provide consistency between the Bellingham Housing Authority Agency Plan, the Consolidated Plan, and how the City will help address the needs of public housing. The Director of the Bellingham Housing Authority sits on the City's Community Development Advisory Board. The City has no troubled PHA but, if necessary, it would provide financial or other assistance if needed to improve its operations and remove such designation. The City also helps to ensure that activities regarding local drug elimination, neighborhood improvements programs, and resident programs and services funded under the BHA program and those funded under a program covered by the Consolidated Plan, are fully coordinated to achieve comprehensive community development goals.

The City will pursue various activities outlined in the *2008-2012 Consolidated Plan* to eliminate gaps and strengthen, coordinate, and integrate the Community Development Division with public housing agencies and other private/public agencies.

Staff will continue to participate in collaborations established through the Continuum of Care. This system coordinates the resources of government agencies, nonprofit organizations, housing developers, social service providers, neighborhood groups, and the business community to address the specific needs of the homeless population. Staff will work with agencies that have HUD Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance grants to coordinate the receipt of renewal grants. The City will participate with Whatcom County and the Small Cities of Whatcom County in the allocation and distribution of funds provided under SHB 2060, 2163, and 1359.

Community Development will work with various private and public agencies and institutions when developing the economic development component of Bellingham's Comprehensive Plan. Those agencies and institutions include Western Washington University, Bellingham/ Whatcom Economic Development Council, Bellingham Chamber of Commerce, Whatcom County, and the Port of Bellingham.

The City of Bellingham will encourage and facilitate joint applications for resources and programs among housing and service entities, and will continue to work with agencies such as the Bellingham Housing Authority, Opportunity Council, and Catholic Community Services to eliminate gaps in housing.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

1. Provide a summary of the citizen participation process.
2. Provide a summary of citizen comments or views on the plan.
3. Provide a summary of efforts made to broaden public participation in the development of the consolidated plan, including outreach to minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities.
4. Provide a written explanation of comments not accepted and the reasons why these comments were not accepted.

Response to questions:

In accordance with Title I of the 1974 Housing and Community Development Act and its subsequent amendments, the City, as a recipient of CDBG funds, provides for active participation by all citizens who are affected by the CDBG funded activities. In agreement with HOME Investment Partnerships Program regulations, 24 CFR 92, the City submits a housing strategy that includes citizen participation.

The Section outlines the City's responsibility to provide opportunities for active citizen involvement. Citizen participation in CDBG and HOME activities may range from needs assessments and strategic planning to project selection and all phases of implementation and evaluation.

POINTS OF ACCESS TO CITIZEN INPUT

The City gathers citizen input on community issues such as housing, transportation, social services, population growth planning, capital facilities, and economic development in two formats:

- Ongoing input on City programs and service needs
- Specific input on the Action Plan

Ongoing Input

Ongoing input is gathered on City programs and service needs through the following sources:

- United Way Statement of Need
- Downtown Renaissance Network
- Downtown Development Action Group and City Center Master Plan

- 24 Neighborhood Associations and the Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission
- Whatcom County Coalition for the Homeless
- Bellingham Whatcom County Housing Advisory Board
- Whatcom Coalition for Healthy Communities / Prosperity Summit
- Loan Review Boards for the City Home Improvement Program, Rental Rehabilitation Program, Housing Development Program, and Commercial and HUD 108 Loan Program
- Domestic Violence Commission
- Whatcom Transportation Authority
- Whatcom County Council of Governments
- Health advisory boards: Public Health, Mental Health, Substance Abuse, Developmental Disabilities, and Community Health Partnership
- Growth management meetings
- City staff membership on non-profit and agency boards
- Citizen advisory committees and commissions

Specific Input

Citizens are actively involved in decision-making by attending meetings and serving on various boards and commissions representing both neighborhood and city-wide interests. Information about each board or commission is located in the Mayor's office and on the City website. Citizens interested in being considered for an appointment submit a letter of interest to the Mayor, which is kept on file pending a vacancy. Other boards on human service issues (such as health, substance abuse, and domestic violence) actively recruit citizens to provide input and guidance on related policy and projects. Specific comments on the Action Plan is obtained through the following sources:

Community Development Advisory Board: CDAB advises the City Council, the Mayor, the Planning Commission, and various City departments to formulate policies and plans, and to identify potential CDBG and HOME-funded projects. A primary role of the CDAB is to ensure citizen participation in all phases of the CDBG and HOME programs in accordance with federal regulations. All CDAB meetings are open to the public. With 15 members appointed by the Mayor to three-year terms, the CDAB represents a broad range of community interests including housing, financing, low-income advocacy, disabled, minorities, and each of the six City Council Wards. This representation assures Board input on the use of CDBG and HOME funds. No member may be employed by the City, and no member is compensated for work on the board. CDAB held a public hearing on September 3, 2009 to introduce the draft 2010 draft Action Plan and receive testimony from citizens regarding the plan. On October 8, 2009, CDAB held a second public hearing to receive additional testimony from citizens, and to close the comment period.

City Council: As the elected policy and appropriations body, the City Council is an especially important representative of the public. Council members are invited to all meetings and receive periodic reports on CDBG funded activities. The Council must authorize the use of grant funds for specific purposes.

Other Governmental Agencies: During the public comment period notices announcing the availability of the Action Plan are sent to the Whatcom County Executive, the County Council, Whatcom County Health and Human Services, the Department of Community Trade and Economic Development, and the State Department of Social and Health Services.

Participation of Residents in Public and Assisted Housing Developments: In consultation of the Bellingham Housing Authority (BHA) the City seeks comment on proposed activities from residents of public and assisted housing developments and other low-income residents of targeted revitalization areas in which housing developments are located.

The Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans are developed through a public process and are consistent with HUD strategic goals, as well as local goals and objectives which are identified in the Bellingham Housing Authority Agency Plan. Information about Action Plan activities that relate to housing developments is provided to the BHA so that it can be made available at the annual public hearing for the Public Housing Authority (PHA) Plan. The BHA receives copies of the draft Action Plan to be made available to public housing residents and Resident Advisory Board (RAB) for comment.

COMMENT ON THE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN AND AMENDMENTS

The City makes the Citizen Participation Plan accessible to the public, and provides opportunity to comment on this and any substantial amendments. Upon request, the Citizen Participation Plan is formatted for persons with disabilities and non-English speaking citizens.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE ACTION PLAN

The City considers the views of all citizens, public agencies, and other interested groups in preparing the final Action Plan. Comments and views received in writing or orally at the public hearings – as well as those not accepted, and the reasons therefore -- are summarized and included in the final Action Plan.

Before adopting the Action Plan, the City makes available to citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties information that includes the expected amount of assistance (including grant funds and program income) and the range of activities that may be undertaken, including the estimated amount that will benefit persons of low-and moderate-income.

The proposed draft Action Plan, including the Citizen Participation Plan, was available to the public for review and comment beginning September 3, 2009 and ending October 8, 2009. Within five business days notice, special accommodations will be provided for persons with disabilities, and for non-English speaking persons. Refer inquiries to the Block Grant Programs Manager, Planning & Community Development, (360) 778-8385 (voice) or (360) 778-8382 (TTY), or email dcahill@cob.org.

Copies of the Plan were available during this period at the Planning and Community Development Department, City Hall, 210 Lottie Street, Bellingham, Washington 98225. The draft Action Plan was posted as a PDF on the City's web site, and copies were also available at the reference desk in the Bellingham Main Branch and Fairhaven Public Libraries. The draft and adopted Consolidated Plan and Action Plan, any substantial amendments, and the CAPER are all available to the public, and upon request can be made accessible to persons with disabilities.

Human service agencies and other government and quasi-governmental agencies received a letter and email notification of the availability of the draft Action Plan and were asked for corrections and/or updates.

ANTI-DISPLACEMENT AND RELOCATION PLAN

The City has adopted a plan to minimize displacement and relocation that may occur as a result of activities proposed in the Action Plan. Resolution #59-91 adopted on 12/3/91 by the City Council, establishes a plan to mitigate the loss of low- and moderate-income housing, requires the City to make public specific information about any proposal to use housing and community development funds for activities that will result in the loss of such units. All replacement housing must be provided within three years. Several strategies to minimize the displacement of persons from their homes have been set forth. Citizens can comment on the City's Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan during Consolidated Plan public hearings, and during the public comment period.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSOLIDATED PLAN

Citizens are notified and have the opportunity to review all substantial amendments to the Citizen Participation Plan or Consolidated Plan prior to their submission to HUD. Following a 10-day advance notice published in the non-legal sec-

tion of The Bellingham Herald, substantial amendments are made available to the public for examination and comment at the Planning & Community Development Department, City Hall, 210 Lottie Street, Bellingham, Washington 98225, for a 30-day period prior to their adoption. Substantial changes to the Consolidated Plan are defined as:

- changes in the citizen participation process
- changes in allocation priorities or in the method of distribution of funds
- change in use of CDBG or HOME funds from one eligible activity to another; or
- initiation of an activity, using funds from any program covered by the Action Plan (including program income), not previously described in the Action Plan.

Copies of the draft Amendment to the Action Plan are available during this 30 day period at the Planning and Community Development Department, City Hall, 210 Lottie Street, Bellingham, Washington 98225. The draft Amendments to the Action Plan are posted as a PDF on the City's website, and copies are also available at the reference desk in the Bellingham Main Branch and Fairhaven Public Libraries. Human service agencies and other government and quasi-governmental agencies received e-mail notification of the availability of any draft Amendment to the Action Plan and are asked for comments, corrections and/or updates.

PERFORMANCE REPORTS

Notice is given to citizens so that they may have the opportunity to comment on performance reports related to Consolidated Plan activities. The Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) is available for examination and comment for 15 days prior to submission to HUD. Notification of performance report availability is provided in the non-legal section of The Bellingham Herald. All written and oral comments received during the 15-day comment period are considered in preparing the final performance report, which includes a summary of comments.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

The City holds at least two public hearings per year (at two different stages of the program year) to obtain citizen views and to respond to proposals and questions at all stages of the community development program and Consolidated Plan process. The hearings address housing and community development needs, development of proposed activities, and review of program performance. At least one of these meetings is held prior to the proposed Consolidated Plan publication. Public hearings are held at times convenient to potential and actual beneficiaries in locations

that meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility standards. Special accommodations can be provided upon request. When significant numbers of non-English speaking residents are expected to participate in the public hearing, the City provides for appropriate translation services. Contact Planning & Community Development, (360) 778-8300 (voice) or (360) 778-8382 (TTY), or email slander-son@cob.org.

All public hearings are advertised in the non-legal section of The Bellingham Herald 10 days prior to the hearing. Public hearings mark the opening and closing of the public comment period and are held at City Hall.

Citizens may give oral comment at the time of the hearing. The views of all citizens, public agencies, and other interested groups are considered in preparing the final Action Plan. Oral and written comments received during the public comment period and at the public hearing are summarized and included in the final submission to HUD. All comments or views not accepted or not incorporated, and the reasons therefore, are also summarized.

2009 Hearing Schedule:

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 9/03/09 | Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB) public hearing opens the 30-day comment period for the draft Consolidated Plan. |
| 10/8/09 | CDAB closes the 30-day public comment at public meeting. Citizens may use this final opportunity to make comments on the proposed plan. CDAB recommends the Consolidated Plan to City Council. |
| 10/19/09 | City Council approves Consolidated Plan, which includes a summary of citizen comments. |

Citizens are invited at public hearings to comment on all aspects of the plan and process, including the Citizen Participation Plan, as well as any projects proposed for funding. Citizens are invited to direct comments about the Citizen Participation Plan to the Director of the Planning & Community Development Department or to the Chairperson of the Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB).

NOTIFICATIONS

The City provides adequate and timely notification to citizens so they can attend local meetings and public forums. Notifications of public hearings are published in the non-legal section of The Bellingham Herald 10 days prior to the meetings.

All notices and agendas of public meetings and hearings include the City's Equal Opportunity statement, which outlines the procedure for those individuals requiring

special accommodations. The City's voice and TDD phone numbers are provided on all notices.

Citizens are also informed of the availability of the draft and final Consolidated Plan and performance reports through notices posted throughout Bellingham at public libraries, City Hall, community centers, and on the City website. Notification is also given to all 24 Neighborhood Associations through the City's monthly neighborhood newsletter and the Mayor's Monthly Neighborhood Advisory Commission meetings.

Notification is given to homeless housing and human service providers at the monthly Whatcom Coalition for the Homeless meetings. Human service providers that request to be included on CDBG mailing lists are also mailed notices about the availability of the draft and final Consolidated Plan. Notification is sent to 40 human service agencies advising of the availability of the draft Consolidated Plan and requesting input on changes, deletions or additions. In addition, e-mail notices requesting comments are sent to staff at Whatcom County, The Whatcom County Small Cities Representative and the Lummi and Nooksack nations.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS TO THE PUBLIC

The City makes copies of the draft and final Consolidated Plan available to the public at the following locations:

- Bellingham Public Library (210 Central Avenue)
- Fairhaven Public Library (1117 12th Street)
- City of Bellingham
Planning & Community Development Department
210 Lottie Street, Bellingham WA 98225 or
www.cob.org/pcd/cd/index.htm

ACCESS TO RECORDS AND INFORMATION

Upon request, the public is provided with reasonable and timely access to information and records relating to the Consolidated Plan and the City's use of assistance under the programs. Citizens and citizen groups have access to City records for at least five years through the standard public disclosure process.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Technical assistance is provided to low-and moderate-income groups and individuals so they may participate fully in developing proposals under the *Consolidated*

Plan. This assistance may be provided by City staff or other individuals acceptable to the City and citizen groups.

City staff encourages a high level of neighborhood participation in the planning of CDBG-funded neighborhood improvement projects and helps neighborhood groups develop feasible projects. Technical assistance is provided to project area residents to assist them in organizing and operating organizations to carry out and monitor CDBG-funded activities.

SUBMITTING VIEWS, COMPLAINTS, AND APPEALS

The preferred first step for anyone dissatisfied with the Consolidated Plan or the process is to discuss it with staff members and their direct supervisors. Often a lack of communication is at the root of misunderstandings. An open discussion reminds the staff they must constantly work to keep the public informed about all CDBG and HOME activities. Written response to written complaints will be provided within 15 working days.

The next step in pursuing a complaint is to present it to the CDAB, which has responsibility for directing the citizen participation process and recommends corrective measures to the Mayor. Any recommendation for CDAB, which is questioned by citizens as to the process or decision, should be discussed with the Board. A meeting time can be set by contacting the CDAB chairperson.

In the event that a citizen is dissatisfied with the action taken by CDAB the final local contact should be the Mayor. Citizens may also voice their concerns to the City Council during their regular meetings.

If local attempts to resolve the disagreement fail, actions of the City that are in violation of the HUD regulations can be appealed directly to the Bellingham Area Representative at the Seattle Area Office of HUD at (206) 220-5150. Copies of the regulations and the name, address, and phone number of the current Area Representative will be made available on request.

Comments on the Consolidated Plan process and regarding the City's past performance on CDBG programs are also invited. Citizens are encouraged to submit comments on the Consolidated Plan and process to:

David Cahill		Tom Stanley
Block Grant Programs Manager		CDAB Chairperson
City of Bellingham	or	c/o city of Bellingham
210 Lottie Street		210 Lottie Street
Bellingham, Washington 98225		Bellingham, Washington 98225

EFFORTS TO BROADEN PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Participation in developing the Consolidated Plan allows citizens to gain a broader understanding of community needs, and helps them understand how they can take action to improve their neighborhoods. The intent is to involve citizens affected by the process, both as taxpayers and as those who may potentially benefit or be adversely affected by proposed uses of CDBG and HOME funds.

The City especially encourages input from persons with disabilities and from moderate-, low-, very low-, and extremely low-income residents, particularly those living in slum and blighted areas and in places where CDBG funds are proposed. Input from residents of predominantly low-and moderate-income neighborhoods regarding the use of housing and community development funds is encouraged. Notification is given to all 24 Neighborhood Associations through the City's monthly neighborhood newsletter and the Mayor's Monthly Neighborhood Advisory Commission meetings. Minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities are encouraged to participate and comment through notifications sent to 40 human service agencies. The 15 member CDAB includes a position representing minority populations.

The proposed draft and final Consolidated Plan – which includes the Citizen Participation Plan and any substantial amendments proposed after the adoption of the final plan – and the Consolidated Plan Annual Performance Report (CAPER) are published by the City so that affected citizens have sufficient opportunity to comment. Participation of local and regional institutions and other organizations such as businesses, development companies, and community and faith-based organizations is also encouraged in developing the Consolidated Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Summary of Public Comments on the 2010 Action Plan

(30 Days Public Comment Period, 9/3/09 – 10/8/09)

Comments by letter: None

Comments received by e-mail: None

Testimony from public hearings: None

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INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE

1. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to develop institutional structure.

Response to questions:

Bellingham's Mayor has designated the Planning & Community Development Department, Community Development Division (CD) responsible for the planning, development, and implementation of its CDBG and HOME Programs.

The network of institutions through which the City of Bellingham carries out its Consolidated Plan activities is broad-based. The various organizations making up this institutional structure are highly competent, motivated, and effective.

Through staff participation on Boards of Directors and community coalitions, CD coordinates with the BHA and the non-profit community for the delivery of services to public housing residents. Technical assistance and a teamwork approach facilitates the joint development of affordable housing to low- and moderate-income households within the city limits.

The specific forums for this interaction include:

- Representation by the BHA on the City's Community Development Advisory Board (CDAB)
- City staff representation on the Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee
- City representation on the BHA Family Self-Sufficiency Advisory Board
- City representation on the FEMA Advisory Board
- City staff plays key role in the Whatcom Waterfront Action Program
- City staff participation in development of Whatcom Council of Nonprofits
- Broad participation in Bellingham/Whatcom County Coalition for the Homeless (City of Bellingham, BHA, Whatcom County, faith community, veterans, non-profits, schools districts, etc.)

The BHA, Kulshan Community Land Trust, Catholic Community Services and non-profits, with City support, continue to submit applications to the Washington State Office of Community Development's Housing Assistance Program/Affordable Housing Program/Federal Home Loan Bank Affordable Housing Program and the Washington State Housing Finance Commission Tax Exempt Bond and Tax Credit Programs.

Coordinated efforts among agencies are part of the Continuum of Care model, in which the City plays a key role.

The City will pursue various activities outlined in the Consolidated Plan to eliminate gaps, strengthen, coordinate, and integrate CD with public housing agencies, assisted housing providers and human service agencies, and other private and public agencies.

Staff will work closely with human service providers to determine the most beneficial approach in providing community education, capacity building, and developing methods to maximize agency efficiency.

Staff will continue to participate in collaborations established through the Continuum of Care planning group and the Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee. These two collaborative systems coordinate the resources of government agencies, non-profit organizations, housing developers, social service providers, neighborhood groups, and the business community in addressing the specific needs of homeless populations. Staff will work with agencies, including the Homeless Services Center, which received HUD Supportive Housing Program grants to coordinate the receipt of renewal grants.

CD will work with various private and public agencies and institutions when developing the economic development component of the Comprehensive Plan. A few of those agencies and institutions include Western Washington University, Bellingham Whatcom Economic Development Council, Bellingham Chamber of Commerce, Whatcom County, and the Port of Bellingham.

The City will encourage and facilitate joint applications for resources and programs among housing and service entities, and will continue to work with the BHA and local non-profit agencies to eliminate gaps in the system. The City will also work closely with the Opportunity Council on addressing lead-based paint issues of the community.

Beginning in early 2007, the City of Bellingham and Whatcom County sponsored a joint Countywide Housing Affordability Taskforce (CHAT) with the mission to develop and present action strategies and programs to the Councils to address the anticipated need for 11,000 additional housing units by the year 2022 that are affordable to households earning 80% or less of the county median income. The CHAT Report was presented to City and County Councils in 2008. While many of the recommendations have been put on hold pending improvements in City revenues, staff will continue work to implement actions identified by Council and to coordinate those actions with Whatcom County.

The City of Bellingham and the Bellingham Housing Authority (BHA) came to the understanding a long time ago that in order to best serve Bellingham's low and

moderate and special needs residents, cooperation and support between the two agencies is essential. Examples of this close relationship include:

- The BHA Executive Director serving on the City's Community Development Advisory Board to assure close coordination for funding housing and special needs services.
- City staff assisting BHA when their Five Year and Annual Capital Plans improvements and developments are developed. Likewise, BHA staff also assists the City in the development of the 5 Year and Annual Consolidated Plans.
- Close cooperation and funding assistance from the City to BHA on BHA projects that develop local subsidized rental housing units for occupancy by low, moderate or special needs residents.
- Support also includes coordination of Police support for the elderly and public housing units.
- The City and BHA have worked together under the State of Washington's Housing Cooperation Laws to provide zoning and other waivers or support for BHA's projects that serve low- and moderate-income households.

There has been no demolition or disposition of public housing developments and none is expected.

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MONITORING

1. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to monitor its housing and community development projects and ensure long-term compliance with program requirements and comprehensive planning requirements.

Response to question:

The City's CDBG and HOME programs are audited by HUD and the State under the Single Audit Act on an as need basis based on risk assessments. This audit verifies that the City meets all statutory requirements and that information reported is correct and complete.

The Community Development Division is responsible for monitoring CDBG and HOME program housing and community development projects and sub-recipients. Allocated CDBG and HOME funds are provided to projects or sub-recipients through contracts that list the goods, service or capital work to be done. The contract lists CDBG, HOME and local requirements for the performance of the goods, service or work and the terms of payment. Prior to issuing any payment for contracts under the various programs, staff verifies that the goods, service or capital work has been provided and that the various program requirements have been met. The Community Development Division of the City began in 2007 to contract with a private firm to do monitoring of contracts funded by CDBG, HOME and general funds. Sub-recipients are monitored every two years on site depending on the results of a risk assessment in order to ensure all regulatory requirements are met and that the information reported is complete and accurate. Sub-recipients are also monitored monthly from written reports submitted by the sub-recipient to the City. Monitoring of the CDBG and HOME program activities is consistent with program regulations. Monitoring consists of both desk and on-site reviews.

The City is only required to monitor projects and programs it funds from money received directly from HUD. Grants or loans awarded directly to other entities by HUD or other Federal or non-Federal agencies are not typically monitored by the City.

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LEAD-BASED PAINT (LBP)

1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to evaluate and reduce the number of housing units containing lead-based paint hazards in order to increase the inventory of lead-safe housing available to extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families, and how the plan for the reduction of lead-based hazards is related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards.

Response to question:

GOAL 1 - Over five years, distribute materials on lead-based paint hazards to 275 clients, contractors, and human service agencies.

Strategy 1 - Educate clients and construction and rehabilitation professionals about lead-based paint hazards and provide resources available for assessment and abatement.

LBP Action 1 - Provide Lead-Based Paint Information to Contractors

Provide lead-based paint information to 25 contractors yearly (re-modelers, window replacement contractors, and painters). The City works with many contractors through its Home Rehabilitation Program. This provides an opportunity to educate those contractors on lead-based paint so they may detect and properly handle it should they come into contact with it while working. The City will also work closely with the Opportunity Council in outreach and providing information about lead-based paint to homeowners, contractors and landlords. mb

Description and Timeframe:

Distribution of educational materials directly meets the goal. Complete by 12/31/10.

Performance Measures: Administrative

Responsible Agency: City of Bellingham

Location: Within Bellingham city limits

Funding: CDBG staff

LBP Action 2 - Distribute Lead-Based Paint Pamphlet to Home Rehabilitation Applicants

Distribute the pamphlet Lead-Based Paint, a Threat to Your Children to all Home Rehabilitation Program applicants. This provides an opportunity to

educate many low- and moderate-income households about the dangers of lead-based paint, which may be present in their homes. This pamphlet is also available in Spanish. mb

Description and Timeframe:

Distribution of educational materials directly meets the goal. Ongoing.

Performance Measures: Informational

Responsible Agency: City of Bellingham

Location: Within Bellingham city limits

Funding: CDBG staff

LBP Action 3 - Distribute Lead Poisoning Pamphlet to Kindergarten and Elementary Schools

Through collaboration with the Bellingham School District and/or local Parent Teacher Association (PTA), distribute the pamphlet Lead Poisoning and Your Children to the parents of children in the age group (attending kindergarten and elementary schools) most at-risk from lead-based paint hazards in Bellingham. Emphasizing distribution towards those schools serving low- and moderate-income neighborhoods will reach many households about the dangers of lead-based paint, which may be present in their homes. mb

Description and Timeframe:

Distribution of educational materials directly meets the goal. Approximately 150 pamphlets and a cover letter from the City are to be made available to Larrabee Elementary School for distribution to the parents of the elementary aged school children. Complete by 12/31/10.

Performance Measures: Informational

Responsible Agency: City of Bellingham

Location: Within Bellingham city limits

Funding: CDBG

LBP Action 4 - Maintain and Make Available “The Lead Listing”

Maintain and make available “The Lead Listing”, a current list from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), of certified risk assessors, lead-based paint inspectors, workers, sampling technicians, and accredited laboratories for use by local agencies and citizens. The City will also maintain a copy of that list to use as a reference for rehabilitation activities funded by the City’s Home Rehabilitation Program. mb

Description and Timeframe:

The use of accredited lead-based paint professionals will help ensure lead-based paint detection and reduction activities funded by the City's Home Rehabilitation Program are performed in compliance with current state and federal laws. The Lead Listing is monitored on a monthly basis and a current list is printed and kept as a reference. Ongoing.

Performance Measures: Administrative

Responsible Agency: City of Bellingham

Location: Within Bellingham city limits

Funding: CDBG staff

GOAL 2 - Assure that all information distributed on lead-based paint is in compliance with current state and federal laws.

Strategy 1 - Keep updated on state and federal law requirements.

LBP Action 1 - Review Local Lead-Based Paint Policy and Procedures

Review the local lead-based paint policy and procedures applicable to CDBG and HOME construction projects undertaken by the City, or by sub-recipients funded with CDBG or HOME through the City, for consistency with any new federal regulations. Implement the new policy and procedures on funded projects and disseminate the policy and procedure information to sub-recipients and contractors. mb

Description and Timeframe:

Revision and dissemination of the local policy and procedures will facilitate compliance with state and federal laws by the City, sub-recipients and contractors. Monitor EPA and state websites on a monthly basis to keep up-to-date with any changes or proposed changes to the federal or state laws relating to lead-based paint. Attend any trainings or workshops that are available locally. Action ongoing from prior years.

Performance Measures: Administrative

Responsible Agency: City of Bellingham

Location: Within Bellingham city limits

Funding: CDBG staff

LBP Action 2 - Post and Maintain Lead-Based Paint Information on City's Website

Maintain a section on the City's website describing lead-based paint hazards, laws regarding the hazards, and information about mitigating hazards, including links to assistance. Include information about the hazards and means to mitigate the risks. mb

Description and Timeframe:

Dissemination of the information on hazards and procedures for mitigation directly meets the goal. Complete by 12/31/10.

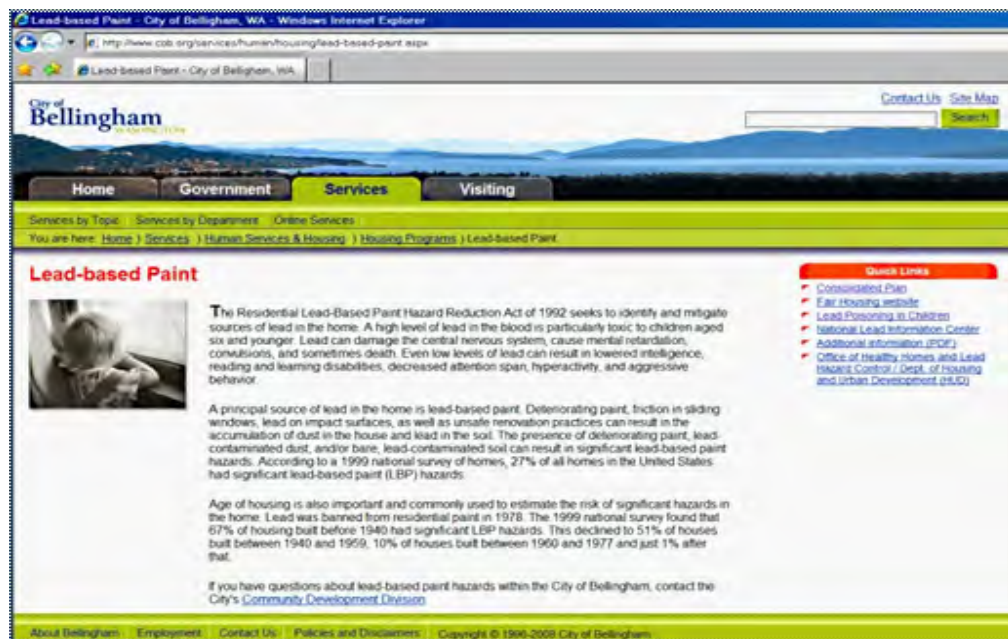
Performance Measures: Administrative

Responsible Agency: City of Bellingham

Location: Within Bellingham city limits

Funding: CDBG staff

Figure 2 - City of Bellingham Website – Lead-Based Paint



<http://www.cob.org/services/human/housing/lead-based-paint.aspx>

GOAL 3 - Increase the number of trained and certified inspectors and contractors within the community in order to adequately address the lead-based paint hazards.

Strategy 1 - Through collaboration with local, state, and federal agencies, provide technical assistance and funding for local training in lead-based paint procedures.

LBP Action 1 - Provide Technical Assistance to Non-Profit Agencies Regarding Lead Hazards

Provide technical assistance to non-profit agencies engaged in, or with, the capacity to provide lead-based paint hazard training, such as helping non-profit agencies research and obtain funds and other training resources for area inspectors and contractors. mb

Description and Timeframe:

Providing technical assistance will lead to an increase in the number of inspectors and contractors available in the community to address lead-based paint hazards. No funding is available for training at this time. The state Office of Lead-Based Paint may have funding available through that agency. Ongoing.

Performance Measures: Administrative

Responsible Agency: City of Bellingham

Location: Within Bellingham city limits

Funding: CDBG staff

LBP Action 2 - Provide Grants for Lead-Based Hazard Evaluations for Home Rehabilitation Program - \$49,993

Provide funding in the form of grants to pay for lead-based paint inspections, risk assessments, testing and clearance testing to determine the feasibility of providing low- or no-interest home rehabilitation loans to low- or moderate-income homeowners seeking assistance through the City's Home Rehabilitation Program. (See the Housing Section - Specific Housing Objectives under Housing for Low-Income - Goal 3, Strategy 1, Action 2). mb

Description and Timeframe:

Will lead to an increase in the use of inspectors and contractors in order to adequately address lead-based paint hazards faced by low-income homeowners, and addresses lead-based paint hazards. The City will also work closely in delivering lead-based paint services with the Opportunity

Council which recently entered into a contract with the State of Washington to participate in the State's HUD-funded Lead Hazard Control Grant. The inspections will be performed by The Opportunity Council. It is estimated that 10-15 inspections will be needed annually.



Home Rehabilitation on House with Lead-Based Paint



Performance Measures:

Objectives(s): Providing Decent Affordable Housing

Outcome(s): Affordability

Indicator:

- Number: 9 households
- Income levels of persons or households: 80% or less
- Amount of money leveraged: \$150,000

Responsible Agency: City of Bellingham

Location: Within Bellingham city limits

Funding: \$49,993 CDBG - from HRP Revolving Loan Fund. (Some funds may carry over to 2011) – (See the Housing Section-Specific Housing Objectives under Housing for Low-Income - Goal 3, Strategy 1, Action 2)

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