

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Consolidated Plan is carried out through Annual Action Plans, which provide a concise summary of the actions, activities, and the specific federal and non-federal resources that will be used each year to address the priority needs and specific goals identified by the Consolidated Plan. **Grantees report on accomplishments and progress toward Consolidated Plan goals in the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).**

2019 CAPER

Consolidated Annual Performance
Evaluation Report - DRAFT

Bayonne, NJ

CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan. 91.520(a)

This could be an overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that were proposed and executed throughout the program year.

During 2019, Bayonne continued to operate an efficient, compliant CDBG program that is a valued resource for the City's most vulnerable residents.

Much of the program's production was in the high priority categories of public services, including homeless services, public facilities, including non-profit facilities, and public infrastructure. The Coronavirus public health crisis, and associated quarantine, hit Bayonne and all of North Jersey hard. This made it challenging for regular CDBG funded programs and projects to continue in the spring of 2020. Programs closed and projects paused, however Bayonne remained committed to moving forward and as this report is being written, much of the services and projects are back on track.

Led by popular programs that provide child care for lower income households and transportation for seniors, public service programs benefited more than 8,800 residents during the 12 months of the Program Year. More than 1,000 Bayonne residents benefited from improvements to a city park in their neighborhood while more than 1,800 benefitted from CDBG-assisted street improvements. Another 13,000-plus saw improvements made to the public facilities, largely non-profit sites, where they access many of the services that make up the City's support structure.

Residential rehab was completed for three owner-occupied properties during the program year. The City also had four rental units participate in the rehab program. Bayonne has been trying to get that relatively new aspect of the program off the ground but has been hampered by a reluctance on the part of some landlords to become involved with the program and back a lack of follow-through on the part of other property owners. This is great progress considering that the impacts of Coronavirus in the spring of 2020 included putting a pause on all inspection and construction activities.

Lastly, data discussed above is taken from PR-03 reports for individual activities rather than the PR-23 report, which is often inaccurate

Comparison of the proposed versus actual outcomes for each outcome measure submitted with the consolidated plan and

explain, if applicable, why progress was not made toward meeting goals and objectives. 91.520(g)

Categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee’s program year goals.

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Administration	Program Administration	CDBG: \$	Other	Other	5	5	100.00%	1	1	100.00%
Affordable housing	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	0	0		4	4	100.00%
Affordable housing	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	1	36	3,600.00%	6	3	50.00%
Code Enforcement Activities	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care	Household Housing Unit	500	0	0.00%	0	0	0
Economic Development Activities		CDBG: \$	Businesses assisted	Businesses Assisted	20	3	15.00%			
Fair Housing	Fair Housing	CDBG: \$	Other	Other	500	366	73.20%	1	1	100.00%
Homeless Assistance	Homeless	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	0	2000		350	0	0.00%

Homeless Assistance	Homeless	CDBG: \$	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing	Households Assisted	0	0				
Master Plan Preparation	Planning	CDBG: \$	Other	Other	500	0	0.00%			
Non-Profit loan program	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	2000	0	0.00%			
Public Improvements	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	500	40062	8,012.40%	1500	7774	518.27%
Public Service Programs	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	2000	86335	4,316.75%	1090	20049	1,839.36%
Public Service Programs	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter	Persons Assisted	0	0		0	0	
Public Service Programs	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds added	Beds	0	0				

Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date

Assess how the jurisdiction’s use of funds, particularly CDBG, addresses the priorities and specific objectives identified in the plan,

giving special attention to the highest priority activities identified.

In 2019, the bulk of the City's nearly \$2 million in CDBG expenditures went to address high priority needs outlined in the Consolidated Plan. These included public services; public facilities, including non-profit facilities; public infrastructure, including streets, and fair housing services.

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CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted).

91.520(a)

	CDBG
White	11,799
Black or African American	4,179
Asian	608
American Indian or American Native	38
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	10,568
Total	27,192
Hispanic	3,326
Not Hispanic	23,866

Table 2 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds

Narrative

The above data is taken from PR-03 reports for individual activities rather than the PR-23 report, which is often inaccurate. The "Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander" category is actually the total of those identifying themselves as Other multi-racial.

CDBG beneficiaries are comprised of non-white residents at a much higher percentage than the City as a whole. For instance, Bayonne's population is 11.5% African-American per the Census Bureau's 2014-2018 American Community Survey, but 15.7% of CDBG beneficiaries are African-American. The City population under 15% Other Race or Multi-Racial but 39.8% of CDBG beneficiaries identified themselves that way.

CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	3,260,360	1,378,067

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

For 2019, Bayonne received a CDBG Entitlement grant of \$1,533,492. \$99,561.86 of program income came in during the year and there was \$ 1,627,306 of unspent prior year funds at the start of the program year.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
Citywide	77	97	Citywide
Low/mod areas	23	3	Low/mod

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

Spending citywide exceeded the 2019 plan because multiple infrastructure projects were delayed due to COVID-19.

Leveraging

Explain how federal funds leveraged additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements were satisfied, as well as how any publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that were used to address the needs identified in the plan.

Bayonne leverages federal funding through its own local resources and encourages service providers to seek private funding for social services as well. With the exception of housing rehab, CDBG funds do not serve as the sole source of funding for any activity. All of the social service providers have various streams of funding available to them and in many cases the funding received from the CDBG program represents a small portion of their overall budget.

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CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

Evaluation of the jurisdiction's progress in providing affordable housing, including the number and types of families served, the number of extremely low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and middle-income persons served.

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	10	8
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Total	10	8

Table 5 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	0	0
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	0	0
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	10	7
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	0	0
Total	10	7

Table 6 – Number of Households Supported

Discuss the difference between goals and outcomes and problems encountered in meeting these goals.

Residential rehab was completed for 3 owner-occupied properties and 4 rental units during the program year, for a total of 7 rehabbed units. This is just under Bayonne's goal of 10 household units due to project delays caused by Coronavirus-related restrictions.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

The City will continue to offer the program for rental properties but expectations have been dampened. Owner-occupied residential rehabs are expected to be a part of future plans as well and numbers are expected to pick up as long as Coronavirus-related restrictions don't happen again.

Include the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income persons served by each activity where information on income by family size is required to determine the eligibility of the activity.

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	1	0
Low-income	3	0
Moderate-income	3	0
Total	7	0

Table 7 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

Being adjacent to New York City, Bayonne has a very high cost of home ownership. It is not surprising, then, that homeowners with extremely low incomes are rare and that none of them took part in the program in 2019.

CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)

Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:

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

Outreach to the homeless occurs on both a formal and informal basis at shelters, food pantries and other service providers, many of which receive support from the City's CDBG program, including the Wallace Temple food pantry. As front-line providers of services, some of which go to homeless individuals, non-profit staff accumulate insight into the homeless population's needs and challenges. That staff, in turn, help formulate the City's CDBG plans and help implement those plans.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City's housing and community development programs are administered by the Department of Community Development, working with a number of other City agencies and not-for-profit service providers. The Bayonne Family Community Center (YMCA), the Bayonne Economic Opportunity Foundation and other organizations, including Catholic Community Services and the Palisades Emergency Residence, provide emergency assistance and referral services to homeless individuals.

Both the City and the Bayonne Housing Authority coordinate their efforts and activities to ensure adequate and efficient service in the areas of public housing and housing assistance. The Bayonne Housing Authority manages the public housing units and Section 8 program on a day-to-day basis.

A number of other agencies, organizations and programs are consulted with respect to providing services and assistance to the City's low and moderate income residents. The Hudson County Board of Social Services and the Department of Human Services provide counseling programs for homeless persons and emergency assistance.

The Comprehensive Emergency Assistance System (CEAS) Committee coordinates homeless strategies and programs countywide. Though these entities and the CEAS in particular, work well together, there are opportunities for improved coordination and communication. All agencies involved in these efforts are seeking new ways to better serve their target populations and the general public.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after 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); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

The City's homelessness strategy is a multi-pronged approach that emphasizes homelessness prevention, immediate assistance and rapid re-housing; support for persons and families as they transition to economic and housing stability; and efforts to prevent those persons from returning to homelessness.

Prevention activities undertaken during the 2019 Program Year included rehab, which allows residents to remain in their homes, as well as counseling and information services to head off foreclosures.

On a broader scale, the City is active in countywide planning and implementation to head off homelessness for those most at risk, including populations being discharged from public institutions and systems.

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

The City's homelessness strategy is a multi-pronged approach that emphasizes homelessness prevention, immediate assistance and rapid re-housing; support for persons and families as they transition to economic and housing stability; and efforts to prevent those persons from returning to homelessness.

The City supports the transition to permanent housing by participating in the County Continuum of Care and other joint efforts at addressing homelessness, transition and permanency.

CR-30 - Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j)

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

While there were no activities funded in the 2019 Action Plan to address the needs of public housing, both the City and the Bayonne Housing Authority coordinate their efforts and activities to ensure adequate and efficient service in the areas of public housing and housing assistance.

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

The Bayonne Housing Authority has residents councils in place at each public housing complex. Through them, residents have input into management and operations.

The Housing Authority provides homeownership information to interested residents.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

The Bayonne Housing Authority is not a troubled PHA.

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CR-35 - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j)

Actions taken 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. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)

The City has identified a number of barriers to affordable housing, including the deteriorated condition of some housing units, environmental problems and the high cost of remediating them, and low income levels that make affordability a major concern. The City is attempting to address these issues through community and economic planning initiatives, as well as by providing financial assistance to developers and homebuyers.

Actions taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

Generally, the primary obstacle to meeting underserved needs is a lack of funds. There are many needs in all of the areas - public facilities, public services, infra-structure, and economic development and municipal resources go only so far. This is especially true this year, with the coronavirus-related needs increasing substantially in spring 2020. This increase in need came at a time when required quarantine and social distancing norms have delayed and complicated work from getting done.

During the 2019 Program Year, the City, through both staff and consultants, continued its practice of constantly looking for additional funding sources to address the unmet needs identified in our community. Bayonne succeeded in attracting state, federal, regional and private funding for improvements and services that aide the community at large and lower income neighborhoods and residents in particular.

The development of more and better jobs for low and moderate income persons would help reduce the scale or scope of needs as well. In this vein, the City undertakes economic development projects to attract and retain employers and works with local and regional job training entities to enhance residents' work skills.

Actions taken to reduce lead-based paint hazards. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

During Program Year 2019, the City continued to make progress in evaluating and reducing lead based paint hazards. As a member of the Hudson County HOME Consortium, the City worked with County staff and continued to incorporate cooperative efforts in the program design to test for lead-based paint. The Community Development Office continued to contract with McCabe Environmental Services, LLC. to perform (1) lead based paint risk assessments on effected properties being rehabilitated with CDBG funds and (2) follow-up with final clearance reports.

Actions taken to reduce the number of poverty-level families. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City has historically taken advantage of all programs that provide assistance to persons living below the poverty level and looks to place potential job applicants in entry level positions with various businesses that receive financial assistance from CDBG under the Urban Enterprise Zone Program.

Providing services such as the senior transportation program can also help reduce expenses for those at risk of slipping into poverty.

Actions taken to develop institutional structure. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City Council, through the Department of Community Development, has the ultimate responsibility in assuring that the priority needs of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan are met.

The Department provides the funding and technical assistance to the non-profit housing developers and service providers, and City agencies and authorities for projects that meet the needs documented in the plan. The City's housing and community development programs are administered by the Department of Community Development, working with a number of other City agencies, county offices, and not-for-profit service providers. The City is also a member of the Hudson County Consortium.

Both the City and the Bayonne Housing Authority coordinate their efforts and activities to ensure adequate and efficient service in the areas of public housing and housing assistance. The Housing Authority manages the Section 8 program.

Actions taken to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

As a common partner with so many of the public and private housing and social service providers, the Bayonne Community Development Program has been a natural conduit for communication and interaction among these entities and filled that role again in 2019.

The CD Program will continue to serve in that capacity while respecting the autonomy and uniqueness of each partner.

Identify actions taken to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in the jurisdictions analysis of impediments to fair housing choice. 91.520(a)

During 2019, Bayonne invested more than \$60,000 in CDBG funds into Fair Housing services that provided information, referrals, advocacy and counseling to hundreds of Bayonne residents. This step was taken to address the impediment of insufficient knowledge of and assistance with fair housing rights and responsibilities.

CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

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

The City's Community Development Program standards and procedures for compliance monitoring are designed to ensure that:

- 1) objectives of the National Affordable Housing Act are met,
- 2) program activities are progressing in compliance with the specifications and schedule for each program, and
- 3) recipients are in compliance with other applicable laws, implementing regulations, and with the requirements to affirmatively further fair housing and minimize displacement of low-income households.

The CD Program continued to carry out monitoring activities and internal audits to ensure that it complies with all CDBG program requirements. The Program has followed the procedures and requirements published by HUD. The City worked closely with particular entities in the execution and monitoring of the programs described in the Action Plan.

Action Plan activities were monitored through the use of checklists and forms to facilitate uniform monitoring.

Fiscal monitoring included review and approval of budgets, compliance with Grant Agreements, approval of vouchers and reviews of fiscal reports and sub-recipient audits.

Monitoring of sub-recipients occurred through regular telephone and on-site monitoring visits.

Minority Business Outreach: The City encourages participation by minority-owned businesses in CDBG assisted activities and maintains records concerning the participation of minority-owned businesses to assess the results of its efforts and to complete the semiannual "Minority Business Enterprise Report" to HUD. Qualified minority contractor are encouraged to bid on properties participating in the Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Comprehensive Planning Requirements - To ensure compliance with the comprehensive planning requirements of the Consolidated Plan process, the Community Development Program reviews the process on an ongoing basis. The review ensures compliance with federal requirements concerning citizen participation and consistency of actions taken with those specified in the "Citizen Participation Plan." Records documenting actions taken are maintained for each program year.

Citizen Participation Plan 91.105(d); 91.115(d)

Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports.

Bayonne placed the CAPER document on public display for a period the required 15 days, from September 14, 2020 through September 28, 2020. Copies were placed in the Community Development Office at the Municipal Building, a fully accessible facility. The public was notified of the public comment period by an advertisement which appeared in the local publication, *The Jersey Journal* on September 14, 2020. A copy of the advertisement is provided with this report. No comments from the public were received.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.

Ongoing assessments of community needs and ongoing successes of the City's CDBG program in addressing those needs suggest that no significant changes are needed in the program's objectives. The program will continue to seek efficient, effective means to provide housing, facilities and services to our most vulnerable residents. The City will continue to seek community partners capable of assisting in those efforts.

While always aware of opportunities to improve, the City believes that the overall direction and implementation of its CDBG program meet both the requirements of the federal government and the needs of our local residents.

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

No

[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.