No. 24-1849

### To the Mayor and Members of the City Council

June 4, 2024

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# SUBJECT: 2024-2025 ACTION PLAN FOR USE OF FEDERAL HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT FUNDS

The purpose of this Informal Report (IR) is to inform the City Council about the 2024-2025 Action Plan to be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on August 15, 2024. To receive HUD entitlement funds for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) programs, the City must submit an Action Plan to identify proposed use of funds in alignment with the City's 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan.

The Action Plan funding recommendations were approved by the Community Development Council (CDC) at their May 8, 2024 meeting, based on estimated grant amounts. Funding is focused on the following City Council-approved nine (9) priorities and goals:

- Promote Affordable Housing for Renters and Owners
- Housing Preservation and Rehabilitation
- Neighborhood Improvement and Revitalization
- Economic Empowerment and Financial Resilience
- Children and Youth Services
- Aging In Place
- Accessibility Improvements
- Homelessness Prevention and Special Needs Support
- Healthy Living and Wellness

The total amount of grant funding to be received for the 2024-2025 program year is \$13,036,747.00. This includes \$7,056,875.00 in CDBG funds, \$2,813,144.00 in HOME funds, \$614,768.00 in ESG funds, and \$2,651,960.00 in HOPWA funds. An estimated \$50,000.00 each in new program income from the CDBG and HOME programs is also budgeted within this Action Plan. The purpose of these funds is to benefit low-and moderate-income persons in Fort Worth. ESG grant funds are specifically dedicated to services for persons experiencing homelessness. HOPWA grant funds are administered on behalf of persons with HIV/AIDS throughout Tarrant, Johnson, Parker, and Wise counties.

The Community Development Staff works with staff to develop the annual budget for the Action Plan and has recommended the following allocations as summarized on the tables below.

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Agency, Program or Activity	Amount
CDBG Public Service Agencies/Programs	
Housing Channel – Housing Counseling & Education	\$111,000.00
Meals on Wheels – Nutrition Program	\$75,000.00
Sixty and Better – Increasing Access to Basic Needs for Senior Adults	\$50,000.00
AB Christian Learning Center – Out of School Time Program	\$90,000.00
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Tarrant County – Youth Development at Eastside	\$80,000.00
Branch	
Camp Fire First Texas – Teens In Action	\$78,300.00

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Girls Incorporated of Tarrant County	\$100,000.00
Junior Achievement of the Chisholm Trail, Inc. – Cradle to Career Initiative	\$50,000.00
United Community Centers – Holistic Educational Literacy Program	\$90,000.00
Easter Seals North Texas, Inc. – Employment Services	\$60,000.00
Taste Project – Culinary Workforce Development Program	\$25,000.00
The Ladder Alliance – Tarrant County Workforce Development	\$81,731.00
The Women's Center of Tarrant County	\$60,000.00
Your Harvest House, Inc. – Client Aid Services	\$25,000.00
Cancer Care Services – Increasing Health Equity by Decreasing Health Disparities	\$50,000.00
Tarrant Area Food Bank – Home Delivery	\$25,000.00
CDBG Public Services Subtotal	\$1,051,031.00
CDBG Housing Programs/Projects	, ,
REACH/Project Ramp	\$165,000.00
Trinity Habitat for Humanity, Cowtown Brush-Up Paint Program	\$455,000.00
Neighborhood Services Department, Priority Repair Program*	\$2,360,000.00
Rental Rehabilitation (Multifamily, TBD)	\$644,469.00
CDBG Housing Programs/Projects Subtotal	\$3,624,469.00
Grant Administration and Program Delivery	
Neighborhood Services Department, CDBG General Administration	\$1,401,375.00
Neighborhood Services Department, Rehabilitation/Construction Program Delivery	\$800,000.00
Neighborhood Services Department, Homebuyer Assistance Program Delivery	\$180,000.00
CDBG Administration and Program Delivery	\$2,381,375.00
Total, Community Development Block Grant	\$7,056,875.00
*Includes \$50,000.00 in anticipated new CDBG Program Income	

#### HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

Agency, Program, or Activity	Amount
Fort Worth Housing Solutions – Hughes House II	\$1,000,000.00
Columbia at Renaissance Square Phase III, New Construction of Affordable	\$1,000,000.00
Housing	
Housing Channel – Mason Heights	\$414,471.60
Neighborhood Services Department, Homebuyer Assistance Program*	\$122,358.00
Neighborhood Services Department, HOME Grant Administration	\$276,314.40
Total, HOME Investment Partnerships Program	\$2,813,144.00
*Includes \$50,000.00 in anticipated new HOME Program Income	

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#### **EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT**

Agency, Program, or Activity	Amount
Presbyterian Night Shelter, Emergency Shelter Operations	\$127,345.00
Lighthouse for the Homeless, True Worth Place Day Shelter Operations	\$138,851.00
SafeHaven of Tarrant County, SafeSolutions Program	\$75,000.00
Center for Transforming Lives, Rapid Re-Housing	\$75,901.00
The Salvation Army, Homelessness Prevention Program	\$151,563.00
Neighborhood Services Department, ESG Grant Administration	\$46,108.00
Total, Emergency Solutions Grant	\$614,768.00

#### HOUSING OPPORTUNITES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

Agency, Program, or Activity	Amount
Tarrant County Samaritan Housing, Inc.	
Supportive Services	\$575,318.00
Facility-Based Operations	\$183,188.00
Short-Term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility (STRMU) Assistance	\$60,168.00
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$399,709.00
Grant Administration	\$81,617.00
Subtotal, Tarrant County Samaritan Housing	\$1,300,000.00
AIDS Outreach Center	
Supportive Services	\$69,593.00
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$143,835.00
Short-Term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility (STRMU) Assistance	\$92,188.00
Grant Administration	\$21,165.00
Subtotal, AIDS Outreach Center	\$326,781.00
Neighborhood Services Department – HOPWA	
Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Program	\$655,620.00
Supportive Services	\$275,000.00
Permanent Housing Placement	\$15,000.00
Subtotal, Neighborhood Services Department – HOPWA	\$945,620.00
Neighborhood Services Department, HOPWA Grant Administration	\$79,559.00
Total, HOPWA Program	\$2,651,960.00

For the Public Service Agencies (PSA) Request for Proposals (RFP) applications, 36 applications were submitted (CDBG - 28; ESG - 6; HOPWA - 2). Applications were submitted in the following areas: Promote Affordable Housing for Renters and Owners (1) - 3%, Aging In Place (3) - 8%, Accessibility Improvements (1) - 3%, Healthy Living and Wellness (3) - 8%, Economic Empowerment and Financial Resilience (9) - 25%, Children and Youth Services (11) - 31%, and Homelessness Prevention and Special Needs Support (8) - 22%.

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The draft Action Plan was available for HUD's required 30-day public comment period beginning May 15, 2024, with a staff-led public hearing held on May 29, 2024. On June 25, a public hearing will be held regarding the plan along with Council consideration and approval to submit the document to HUD by the August 15 deadline.

For additional information about this topic, please contact Kacey Bess, Interim Director of the Neighborhood Services Department, at 817-392-8187.

David Cooke City Manager

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FORT WORTH, TEXAS