

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-051

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A REQUEST FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) ASSISTANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 UNDER TITLE I OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974, AS AMENDED, INCLUDING THE PY2022 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND FILING OF THE PY2022 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN, INCLUDING RELATED CERTIFICATIONS, AND UPON AWARDING OF THE GRANT, AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, under provisions of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (which title is hereinafter referred to as the "Act") and the regulations promulgated there under (24 CFR Parts 58 and 570, hereinafter referred to as the "Regulations"), the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") is authorized to make grants to units of general local government to help finance community development programs (as that term is defined in the Act and Regulations); and

WHEREAS, the Secretary has notified the City of Kent of its eligibility to apply for HUD/CDBG funds in the amount of \$311,337 for Program Year 2022; and

WHEREAS, the City proposes to apply for such a grant for Program Year 2022 and has, in that connection and as required by and pursuant to the Act and Regulations, prepared its PY2022 Annual Action Plan marked Exhibit "A" and on file in the City Council office, which contains local objectives, identification of housing, homeless and non-housing community development priorities, a description of activities to be undertaken, a local community development budget, and certifications in the form of assurances; and

WHEREAS, this Council has duly reviewed and considered the PY2022 Annual Action Plan, as well as the comments and recommendations of the public and City administrative and planning officials.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Kent, Portage County, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. This Council hereby finds and determines that the PY2022 Action Plan gives maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low-to-moderate income persons or aids in the elimination or prevention of slum and blight and the PY2022 Action Plan includes those activities to be undertaken by the City with the funds provided for the 2022 Program Year that meet the housing and community development needs and objectives allowed by the Act and Regulations and identified in the City's 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan.

SECTION 2. That the City Manager, being the chief executive officer of the City as that term is defined in the Act and Regulations, is hereby designated as the authorized representative of the City to act in connection with the grant request and to provide such additional documentation or certifications as may be required by the Secretary or by other responsible agencies.

SECTION 3. That this Council hereby finds and determines that the City, in preparing its PY2022 Annual Action Plan, has complied with the applicable requirements of the Act and Regulations, and this Council hereby approves the PY2022 Annual Action Plan, together with all related documentation for submission to the Secretary.

SECTION 4. That this Council hereby directs that the City in carrying out the Program shall continue to comply with applicable requirements of the Act and Regulations and of other applicable laws, including, among others, requirements with respect to civil rights and anti-discrimination, citizen participation, relocation and land acquisition, environmental protection, cost accounting and administration, federal labor standards, flood control, conflicts of interest, political activity of employees, access to books and records and the requirements of giving maximum feasible priority to activities which will benefit low and moderate-income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight, and this Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to execute and file with the Secretary certifications in such forms as the Secretary may prescribe, which will provide assurances concerning the foregoing matters, and concerning such other

matters as may be required by the Secretary in connection with carrying out the Community Development and Housing Program.

SECTION 5. That this Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to consent to assume the status of a responsible federal official under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, insofar as the provisions of such act apply to the Secretary's responsibilities for environmental review, decision making and action to be assumed and carried out by the City Manager and authorizes the City Manager to consent on behalf of the City to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts for the purpose of carrying out the program. The City Manager is authorized to execute and file requests for release of funds and related certifications and prepare and file such other documents and take such other actions in connection with the environmental review process as may be required by the Act, the Regulations, particularly the regulations contained in 24 CFR Part 58, and by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

SECTION 6. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council, and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 7. That this ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the residents of this City, for which reason and other reasons manifest to this Council this ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force immediately after passage.

PASSED: May 18, 2022

Date

EFFECTIVE: June 17, 2022

Date

ATTEST: Amy Wilkens

Amy Wilkens
Clerk of Council

Fiala

Jerry T. Fiala
Mayor and President of Council

I, AMY WILKENS, CLERK OF COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF KENT, COUNTY OF PORTAGE, AND STATE OF OHIO, AND IN WHOSE CUSTODY THE ORIGINAL FILES AND RECORDS OF SAID COUNCIL ARE REQUIRED TO BE KEPT BY THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF OHIO, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF ORDINANCE No. 2022-051, ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENT ON May 18, 2022.

(SEAL)

Amy Wilkens
AMY WILKENS
CLERK OF COUNCIL

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The Program Year (PY) 2022 marks the third year of the City of Kent's 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan period. The PY2022 Annual Action Plan identifies the specific programs and projects the City plans to implement with its PY2022 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) funding in the third year of its five-year Consolidated Plan period. The selected projects will assist the City in its efforts to address the five year goals the City established for addressing identified needs in the community, including housing needs, homeless issues, and community development initiatives. The PY2022 Action Plan also includes the commitment of available revolving loan funds (RLF) to provide the City with additional resources to assist with addressing identified housing needs.

The City of Kent received notification from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) of its PY2022 CDBG funding allocation amount, which is \$xxxxx. In response to a publically issued RFP, a total of seven (7) project proposals were received this year seeking CDBG funding assistance and the total amount of funding requested was \$306,000. The City has committed a portion of its CDBG funding to all seven (7) of the project proposals it received and also committed funds to fair housing and program administration.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

The City of Kent identified the following specific funding objectives in its 2020 - 2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan:

OBJECTIVE #1: Targeted Infrastructure Improvements in Low- to Moderate-Income Residential Areas: Promote a suitable living environment by allocating CDBG resources to support infrastructure and public facility improvement activities that will assist with addressing the problem of aging and insufficient infrastructure in residential areas that have high concentrations of low- to moderate-income households.

OBJECTIVE #2: Offer Housing Programs to Provide Safe and Decent Housing for Low- to Moderate-Income Households: Promote safe and decent housing for low- to-moderate-income households throughout the City by providing owner-occupied housing rehabilitation and an energy efficiency repair program that ensures basic housing needs are met. Citywide, the percentage of households that are classified as low- to moderate-income is 61.6%. The City's housing stock is older, with 52.4% of the owner-occupied units constructed prior to 1969. Many of these older residential units have structural deficiencies which need to be corrected in order to ensure safe and decent housing.

OBJECTIVE #3: Provide Appropriate Supportive Services for Low- to Moderate-Income Persons: Provide assistance to nonprofit organizations that provide needed programs, public facilities, and supportive services for low- to moderate-income persons living in the community. The City maintains a strong working relationship with the nonprofit organizations operating in the Kent community and has used CDBG funds to support many needed programs.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

The City's most recent Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for PY2020 was completed and submitted to HUD in October 2021. The PY2020 CAPER reported on performance for the program year August 1, 2020 through July 30, 2021. PY2020 was year two (2) of the five-year 2020-2024 Consolidated Planning period. The PY2021 CAPER will be submitted in October 2022.

During the 2015 – 2019 Five Year Consolidated Strategic Plan, the City completed energy efficiency improvements to thirty-nine (39) low- to moderate-income owner occupied housing units in the City of Kent; provided rehabilitation assistance for eleven (11) low- to moderate-income owner-occupied City of Kent Residents; provided homeless shelter services to four hundred eighty (480) homeless individuals; provided micro-enterprise assistance to thirteen (13) businesses; provided rehabilitation services to twenty-four (24) rental housing units for low- to moderate-income City of Kent residents; reconstructed three (3) City residential streets, completed one (1) Acquisition/Rehab/Resale of one (1) single family housing unit with Habitat for Humanity, which was then sold to a low-income homebuyer, and 2 public facilities - a cold storage facility expansion for Kent Social Services, and Access Point Health Care.

During PY2020, the first completed year of the 2020 - 2024 Five Year Consolidated Strategic Plan, the City of Kent provided CDBG funds for the following activities/projects: \$160,000 for

construction costs associated with the full depth reconstruction of approximately 900 feet of Walnut Street, from Cherry St. to Dodge St. Concrete curb and gutters, new catch basins, and storm sewers were installed and the existing 6" water main was replaced with an 8" line. Driveway aprons were rebuilt with concrete. Existing sidewalk was replaced with new concrete sidewalk; \$15,000 for the design of the Brady's Leap segment of the Portage Hike & Bike Trail which will improve the link from downtown Kent at the Main Street Bridge and expand recreation opportunities for Kent residents; \$18,000 to the Kent Police Department to provide increased Patrols and education to residents of low- to moderate-income neighborhoods and assisted housing complexes; \$35,000 to Community Action Council of Portage County for free furnace inspections/replacements and energy efficiency improvements for nine (9) low- to moderate-income Kent homeowners; \$30,000 to Family and Community Services for the remodel of the Miller Community House kitchen, which provided benefits to 151 low- to moderate-income homeless individuals; \$15,000 to Miller Community House for the provision of shelter to twelve (12) homeless individuals, and \$19,000 to Fair Housing Contact Service for the provision of Fair Housing Services to low- to moderate-income Kent residents.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The City conducted two public hearings while preparing its PY2022 Annual Action Plan. Announcements for the two public hearings were posted as display advertisements that appeared in the local general circulation newspaper fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled public hearings. Notices of the two public hearings were also posted on the City bulletin board fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled meetings. The first public hearing was held on February 16th, 2022, at 7:25 p.m. This session occurred early in the planning process and was held prior to a scheduled City Council session, in an open forum, and was promoted as an opportunity to present information about the CDBG program and to gather information and comments from interested persons concerning needs in the community or specific activities the City should consider funding during PY2022. The second public hearing was held on May 18th, 2022 at 7:25 p.m. in the same format as the first.

After writing the PY2022 Draft Annual Action Plan, the City provided a thirty (30) day public comment period that spanned the time-period of April 19th, 2022 to May 18th, 2022. Various community-oriented agencies and service providers were invited to review the draft and submit comments during the 30-day period. A notice was published in the local newspaper of general circulation announcing the 30-day comment period and availability of the draft for review and comment. Paper copies of the draft were made available for review upon request. The draft was published online at the City of Kent's Website, www.kentohio.org, under the Spotlights

section. Each advertisement indicated that persons with special needs and non-English speaking residents are encouraged to participate and that they should contact the City so that any needed accommodations can be arranged.

5. Summary of public comments

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

No public comments were received.

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

N/A

DRAFT

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	KENT	Department of Community Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The City of Kent Community Development Department is the lead entity responsible for overseeing the development of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and each annual Action Plan, and is responsible for administering programs and activities covered by the 5-Year Plan. The City's Community Development Department staff has been responsible for addressing all administrative aspects of the CDBG program since the City became an entitlement community in 1984. Department personnel were responsible for developing and administering the City's prior 5-Year Consolidated Plans and addressing all regulatory requirements associated with the CDBG program. The City implements specific CDBG activities on its own or through the use of subrecipients and contractors.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

Bridget Susel, Community Development Director

Kathy Petsko, Grants and Neighborhood Programs Coordinator

930 Overholt Road

Kent, OH 44240

p: (330) 678-8108 f: (330) 678-8030 petskok@kent-ohio.org

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

1. Introduction

The City of Kent’s 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan process incorporated several different methodologies for gathering comments and input in order to identify needs and priorities the City should consider during the development of its 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. The City of Kent distributed an electronic survey to numerous nonprofit organizations requesting information on current affordable housing inventory, the needs of the homeless, supportive services, special needs, community development needs and other proposed services that would benefit low-to moderate-income persons. The City also held discussions with City personnel from various departments to identify needs and to collect insights on possible priority needs that should be considered for inclusion into the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan.

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

Coordination among different service providers is an integral component in providing quality affordable housing opportunities and needed supportive services. The City has funded and collaborated on numerous housing and supportive service activities through the years with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding, Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) program funding and local social service funding. The City sought input from numerous agencies in the community that provide a variety of housing and social service programs for specific beneficiaries. The Portage County Housing Services Council is an organization that meets on a quarterly basis and that provides an excellent forum for housing and service providers to discuss needs facing the community and to coordinate the provision of services to meet those needs.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.

The City of Kent is part of Region 5 of the State of Ohio’s Continuum of Care (CoC) Balance of State program. Each year the City verifies and provides certification that the projects undertaken with CoC funding are consistent with the goals of the City’s Consolidated Plan. The City also often funds activities undertaken by both Family & Community Services (F&CS) and the Region 5 lead agency, Coleman Professional Services, on efforts to address the needs of the homeless within the City and in Portage County. The City currently provides funding to Family &

Community Services for operation of the only emergency homeless shelter in Portage County which is located in the City of Kent. The City also provides support for F&CS's Safer Futures, a domestic violence shelter and F&CS's Housing and Emergency Support Services program which provides homelessness prevention for those facing eviction and homelessness. The City has also recently provided funding to Coleman Professional Services for an emergency rental assistance program and the construction of new permanent supportive housing for youth transitioning out of foster care. Many of the non-housing supportive services that the City supports aim to address some of the conditions that often eventually lead to homelessness.

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

The City of Kent is part of Region 5 of the State of Ohio's CoC Balance of State program which does not receive ESG funding.

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

SEE TABLE NEXT PAGE

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Portage Metropolitan Housing Authority</p>
	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>PHA</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy</p>
	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2022 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period.</p>

2	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p> <p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Family and Community Services</p> <p>Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services - Victims Health Agency</p>
<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>		<p>Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy</p>

	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2022 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period.</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p> <p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Coleman Professional Services</p> <p>Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Employment Health Agency</p> <p>Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy</p>

	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2022 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period.</p>
4	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>TOWNHALL II</p>
	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Services-Health Health Agency</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Mental Health and Addiction Services</p>
	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2022 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period.</p>
5	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL OF PORTAGE COUNTY</p>
	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment</p>

	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy</p>
6	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2022 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period.</p>
6	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Summit Medina Business Alliance (SBDC)</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Services-Education Services-Employment Economic Development</p>
7	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2022 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period.</p>
7	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Habitat for Humanity of Portage County Housing</p>

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2022 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	Neighborhood Development Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2022 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	AxessPointe Community Health Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Health Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Development Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	

10	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Kent
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Community Development Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2022 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period.

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

N/A

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

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Region 5 Coleman Professional Services	Both plans aim to address the needs of the homeless including efforts to provide stable housing opportunities, as well as needed supportive services.
Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice	City of Kent	Both plans share the goal of Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

The City conducted two public hearings while preparing its PY2022 Annual Action Plan. Announcements for the two public hearings were posted as display advertisements that appeared in the local general circulation newspaper fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled public hearings. Notices of the two public hearings were also posted on the City bulletin board fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled meetings. The first public hearing was held on February 16th, 2022. This session occurred early in the planning process and was held before a scheduled City Council session. The hearing occurred in an open forum and was promoted as an opportunity to present information about the CDBG program and to gather information and comments from interested persons concerning needs in the community or specific activities the City should consider funding during PY2022. The second public hearing was held on May 18th, 2022 at 7:25 pm in the same format as the first.

The City provided a thirty (30) day public comment period for the PY2022 Draft Annual Action Plan that spanned the time-period of April 19th, 2022 to May 18, 2022. Various community-oriented agencies and service providers were invited to review the draft and submit comments during the 30-day public comment period. A notice was published in a local newspaper of general circulation announcing the 30-day comment period and availability of the draft for review and comment. Paper copies of the draft were made available for review at the City of Kent Clerk of Council office and the City of Kent Community Development Department. Each advertisement indicated that persons with special needs and non-English speaking residents were encouraged to participate and that they should contact the City so that any needed accommodations could be arranged.

SEE TABLE NEXT PAGE

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
1	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Notice of 2/16/2022 Public Hearing published in the Kent-Ravenna Record Courier on 2/2/2022	N/A	N/A	
2	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	Public Hearing number 1, held 2/16/2022, at 7:25PM	No comments were received.	N/A	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
3	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Public Notice of availability of DRAFT PY2021 CDBG Action Plan for Review, published in the Kent-Ravenna Record Courier on 4/19/2022, for a 30-day Public Comment Period commencing on Tuesday, 4/19/2022 and ending on Wednesday, 5/18/2022.	No comments were received.	N/A	
4	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	Notice of 5/18/2022 Public Hearing published in the Kent-Ravenna Record Courier on 5/4/2022.	No comments were received.	N/A	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation \$	Program Income \$	Prior Year Resources \$	Total \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	0	0	0	0		
Other	public - state	Housing	0	0	0	0		

Table 5 - Expected Resources -- Priority Table

Annual Action Plan
2022

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

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

Discussion

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Walnut Street Reconstruction	2020	2021	Non-Housing Community Development		Public Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$160,000 public - state: \$1,058,200	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 18040 Persons Assisted
2	Neighborhood Policing Program	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development		Crime Prevention	CDBG: \$18,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 8097 Persons Assisted
3	Energy Efficiency Housing Rehabilitation	2020	2024	Affordable Housing		Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation	CDBG: \$35,000 public - state: \$47,690	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 7 Household Housing Unit

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Micro-Enterprise Assistance	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development		Micro-Enterprise Assistance	CDBG: \$5,000 public - state: \$415,929	Businesses assisted: 3 Businesses Assisted
5	Homeless Shelter Services	2020	2024	Homeless		Homeless Shelter Services	CDBG: \$15,000 public - state: \$293,500	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 45 Persons Assisted

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Walnut Street Reconstruction
	Goal Description	
2	Goal Name	Neighborhood Policing Program
	Goal Description	
3	Goal Name	Energy Efficiency Housing Rehabilitation
	Goal Description	
4	Goal Name	Micro-Enterprise Assistance
	Goal Description	
5	Goal Name	Homeless Shelter Services
	Goal Description	

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Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The City is proposing to undertake the projects listed in Table 7 during PY2022, the third year of the 2020-2024 Five-Year Consolidated Planning period. The proposed projects are a result of an open request for proposal process and a thorough staff review which takes into account the proposed objectives and priority needs outlined in this plan, as well as all regulatory requirements of the CDBG program.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	2022 CDBG Walnut Street Reconstruction
2	2022 Neighborhood Policing Program
3	2022 CDBG - Furnace Inspection/Targeted Replacement Program
4	2022 CDBG - Miller House Homeless Shelter Services
5	2022 CDBG - Silver Meadows Renovations
6	2022 CDBG - Coleman Health Services - 209 S. Prospect Rehabilitation
7	2022 CDBG - Small Business Counseling
8	2022 CDBG Admin
9	2022 CDBG Fair Housing Services

Table 7 - Project Information

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

The allocation priorities are driven by the goals and objectives set forth in the City's current 5-year Consolidated Plan that spans the time period PY2020-PY2024 and how the projects that were proposed as part of an open request for proposal process align with the goals and objectives of the Consolidated Plan. The largest obstacle for addressing underserved needs is the limited amount of funding that is available when compared to the amount of need that is the community. The City best addresses this issue by keeping in close communication with other service providers in the community to ensure there is no overlap or duplication of services and by expending funds that are targeted towards the largest, and most underserved, needs in the City.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	2022 CDBG Walnut Street Reconstruction
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Walnut Street Reconstruction
	Needs Addressed	Public Infrastructure Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$160,000 public - state: \$497,035
	Description	CDBG funds will be used for Phase II, from Harris Street to Dodge Street, of the full-depth Walnut Street Reconstruction project.
	Target Date	12/31/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	An estimated 3,070 low- to moderate-income residents will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	The project location is Walnut Street, Kent, OH, between Harris and Dodge Streets.
Planned Activities	The project involves the full depth reconstruction of Walnut Street, from Harris to Dodge Streets, and will include asphalt concrete pavement at a width of 22 feet between face and curb, new catch basins and storm sewers, along with curbing to improve drainage along the roadway, rebuilt concrete driveway aprons, and 4 foot wide sidewalks which will tie into the existing sidewalk on Harris and Dodge Streets.	
2	Project Name	2022 Neighborhood Policing Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Neighborhood Policing Program
	Needs Addressed	Crime Prevention
	Funding	CDBG: \$18,000

	Description	CDBG funds will be used to provide additional City of Kent police patrols and increase police visibility primarily in low- to moderate-income neighborhoods and in assisted housing complexes.
	Target Date	7/31/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	8,097 low- to moderate-income residents of the City of Kent will benefit from this program
	Location Description	Funded (subsidized) housing projects, the Downtown business district, and residential neighborhoods as well as the 8 Planning Districts of the City of Kent will benefit from additional police patrols, bicycle patrols and public education and outreach by the City of Kent police department.
	Planned Activities	The program objectives are to improve police-neighborhood relationships, improve methods of identifying sources of crime and neighborhood description, increase the rate at which crimes are reported to the police, enhance crime prevention activities and disseminate security information resources by promoting greater interaction between police officers and residents through additional police patrols, bicycle police patrols, and educational outreach.
3	Project Name	2022 CDBG - Furnace Inspection/Targeted Replacement Program
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Energy Efficiency Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation
	Funding	CDBG: \$35,000 public - state: \$14,158
	Description	CDBG funds will be used to provide furnace inspections, tune-ups, and/or replacement of failing or inefficient furnaces and/or hot water tanks for low- to moderate income, owner-occupied homes located within the City of Kent.
	Target Date	7/31/2023

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	An estimated 7 households - 5 low-income and 2 extremely low-income - will benefit from this program.
	Location Description	Project location will be an estimated 7 owner-occupied low- to moderate-income housing units on scattered sites throughout the City of Kent. Specific locations will be determined at a later date.
	Planned Activities	Community Action Council of Portage County will secure applications for CDBG services for at least 7 households. Services may include: basic furnace inspection and diagnostics; installation of high efficiency heating systems; installation of replacement hot water tanks and associated expansion tanks, and consumer education services.
4	Project Name	2022 CDBG - Miller House Homeless Shelter Services
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Homeless Shelter Services
	Needs Addressed	Homeless Shelter Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000 public - state: \$169,200
	Description	CDBG funds will be used to pay for shelter nights spent by Kent residents at the Miller Community House, a homeless shelter, and for needed case management, counseling and housing placement.
	Target Date	7/31/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	An estimated 45 extremely low-income homeless individuals will receive shelter and wrap-around services.
	Location Description	Services will be provided at the M. Marie Miller Community House, located at 1211 Anita Drive, Kent, OH 44240.

	Planned Activities	Services provided will include: emergency shelter, including food, clothing and other basic needs; on-site case management services; coordination of education placement, and permanent housing placements.
5	Project Name	2022 CDBG - Silver Meadows Renovations
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Energy Efficiency Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Non-Profit Public Facilities
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000 public - state: \$28,000
	Description	CDBG funds will be used to replace the siding, gutters and downspouts on three (3) permanent supporting housing duplexes located at 692-694 Silver Meadows, 717-719 Silver Meadows, and 733-735 Silver Meadows. These 6 housing units will provide safe and decent housing for low- to moderate-income residents of the City of Kent.
	Target Date	7/31/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Six extremely low-income, homeless households will benefit from safe, sanitary and affordable housing.
	Location Description	Project locations: 692, 694 717 719 733 and 735 Siler Meadows, Kent, OH 44240.
	Planned Activities	The siding, gutters and downspouts will be replace to improve energy efficiency and overall functionality of the homes.
6	Project Name	2022 CDBG - Coleman Health Services - 209 S. Prospect Rehabilitation
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Energy Efficiency Housing Rehabilitation
	Needs Addressed	Non-Profit Rental Rehabilitation

	Funding	CDBG: \$9,000 public - state: \$9,140
	Description	CDBG funds will be used to rehabilitate a vacant apartment for an extremely low-income individual with serious persistent mental illness. The rehabilitation will include repair walls, replacing the existing flooring, tub, water closet and vanity, and demolishing/replacing the existing exterior entry landing.
	Target Date	7/31/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	One extremely low-income household will benefit from this project.
	Location Description	The project is located at 209 S. Prospect St, Kent, OH 44240.
	Planned Activities	The bathroom will be fully rehabbed, including all bathroom fixtures. Flooring throughout the apartment will be replaced with new, textured vinyl planking. There is considerable smoke damage to the unit. The walls and ceilings will be cleaned, patched and repainted.
7	Project Name	2022 CDBG - Small Business Counseling
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Micro-Enterprise Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Micro-Enterprise Assistance
	Funding	CDBG: \$5,000 public - state: \$224,249
	Description	CDBG funds will be used to provide one-o-one business counseling, as well as business workshops and training for low-to moderate-income residents of the City of Kent.
	Target Date	7/31/2023

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	An estimated three (3) individuals - two low-income, and one (1) very low-income - will benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	Services will be provided from 930 Overholt Road, Kent, OH 44240.
	Planned Activities	One-on-one business counseling and business workshops/training will be provided to low- to moderate-income residents of the City of Kent.
8	Project Name	2022 CDBG Admin
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$1,720
	Description	CDBG funds will be used to cover grant administration costs, such as the cost of staff, supplies, advertising, postage, copying, travel costs for trainings, and other related costs.
	Target Date	7/31/2023
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	930 Overholt Rd., Kent, OH 44240
	Planned Activities	Funds will be used to assist with expenses incurred during the administration and oversight of CDBG-funded activities.
9	Project Name	2022 CDBG Fair Housing Services
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	
	Needs Addressed	
	Funding	CDBG: \$19,000

Description	CDBG funds will be used to cover the costs associated with the provision of fair housing services. Fair Housing Contact Service will provide counseling in the areas of housing discrimination and landlord-tenant issues, investigate fair housing complaints, and provide public education and outreach services in the City of Kent.
Target Date	7/31/2023
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
Location Description	Fair Housing Contact Service will provide fair housing services to residents of the City of Kent, OH...
Planned Activities	Services will include: homebuyer counseling, tenant/landlord counseling, investigation of discrimination complaints, educational workshops/trainings and testing.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

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

During this Consolidated Plan process (2020-2024), the City will target its available CDBG and other local resources toward supporting public infrastructure improvement projects and activities within the neighborhoods of the City that have some of the highest concentrations of low- to moderate-income and minority households. The City is continuing this geographic targeting of public infrastructure improvements during the PY2022 period by contributing funding to the Walnut Street Reconstruction project. This project will meet this priority need and is located in a low- to moderate-income area and an area of minority concentration as shown on the maps attached to this plan in the appendix. The Neighborhood Policing program will again be undertaken during PY2022 and provide additional police outreach to low-to moderate-income geographic areas of the City, some of which also have a higher concentrations of minority populations. The program has a goal of improving communication, trust and understanding between residents and the Police Department. The other programs being proposed during PY2022 provide a citywide benefit to residents or assistance to eligible households that could be located anywhere throughout the City, rather than on the basis of a geographic area.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The City targets some of its available CDBG and other local resources towards neighborhoods of the City that have some of the highest concentrations of low-to moderate-income households. The intent of this shift and its continuance during this 2020 - 2024 Five-year Consolidated Plan period, and PY2022, is to ensure that resources are allocated to the geographic areas of greatest need in the City.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	27
Non-Homeless	7
Special-Needs	0
Total	34

Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	9
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	9

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

Discussion

During PY2022, as outlined in **Table – 6 One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement**; it is anticipated that twenty (20) homeless households will be provided housing through an emergency homeless shelter being funded with CDBG funding; six (6) homeless households will be supported through exterior housing improvements, and one (1) additional housing unit for a homeless, mentally ill household will be renovated. Seven (7) non-homeless households will receive energy efficiency rehabilitation through the Furnace Inspection/Targeted Replacement program. A total of nine (9) units will be rehabilitated, as shown in **Table 7 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type**: - seven (7) through the Furnace Inspection/Targeted Replacement program, and two (2) will be rehabilitated using CHIP and CDBG program income.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The City is one of the smallest entitlement communities in the State of Ohio and receives a limited amount of CDBG funding on an annual basis. The City does not have the funding available to support a Tenant-Based Rental Assistance program or to complete rehabilitation activities at PMHA units located within the City. Although the City cannot provide financial assistance, it works collaboratively with the PMHA on various housing issues, including possible homeownership programs that may benefit households participating in PMHA's public housing or Section 8 voucher assistance program.

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

The Portage Metropolitan Housing Authority (PMHA) has approximately 305 public housing units that can be used for housing extremely low-income (0-30% of AMI) and low-income households (31-50% of AMI) which includes households with annual household incomes between 0 - 50% of the area median income (AMI). The PMHA's 2022 Annual Agency Plan identified the following goals and objectives:

1. Achieve and Maintain Excellence in Tenant-Based Housing Programs

- Two households will become new homeowners through the Housing Choice Voucher Homeownership Program

2. Improve Productivity and Cost Effectiveness

- Examine opportunities to improve productivity and cost effectiveness through technology

3. Collaborate with Community Partners to Leverage Resources to Benefit Households Assisted by PMHA and Portage County

- PMHA will investigate opportunities to develop and manage permanent supportive housing.
- PMHA will investigate methods of inter-agency cooperation that will lessen barriers to assistance for applicants and participants.

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

PMHA provides programming for residents of Public Housing through a number of different measures including their Resident Opportunity Self Sufficiency (ROSS) grant program and their Good Neighbor Program which is funded through the City of Kent's local Social Service Grant Program. ROSS is a HUD Consolidated Plan KENT 118 OMB Control No: 2506-0117 (exp. 06/30/2018) funded program specifically for public housing units that helps families and individuals obtain self-sufficiency and improve quality of life. The Good Neighbor program provides an array of services that aim to improve the living environment of LMI families residing in public housing. Programming through the Good Neighbor program includes: a forum for interaction between public housing residents and the Kent Police Department, referral and service coordination that to meet needs of residents, distribution literature promoting healthy lifestyles, and employment services. All of these measures are taken with the goal of increasing resident involvement and improving the living environment of PMHA residents in Kent. PMHA offers a homeownership program through its Housing Choice Voucher Program. PMHA's most recent "Moving to Work" plan had a goal for two (2) residents to obtain homeownership.

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

N/A

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

Introduction

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

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

Services for the homeless in Portage County are usually undertaken by one of two housing and services providers in the area, Family & Community Services (F&CS) and Coleman Professional Services (CPS). The City plans to fund both of these agencies during PY2022 for the services that they provide to the homeless. The City will fund F&CS's Homeless Shelter Services Program, which provides emergency shelter nights at an emergency homeless shelter along with connected supportive services that aim to meet the specific needs of each client. Services through Coleman Professional Services will be funded through the City of Kent's Social Services program.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City will use CDBG funding for Family & Community Services' Homeless Shelter Services Program during PY2022, which provides emergency housing for individuals and families, as well as as supportive services that may be needed.

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 goals mentioned above are designed to help individuals and families transition from homelessness to stable housing situations. Services needed for self-sufficiency vary depending on the needs of each specific client. An assessment is conducted at intake by local housing providers that identifies needs with the goal always being sustaining a self-sufficient housing/living situation as expeditiously as possible given the unique characteristics of each client. Local services providers, including the agencies mentioned in this section who are scheduled to receive funding from the City during PY2022, coordinate well with each other and

keep in close contact through a number of different forums, most notably the Portage County Housing Services Council. These agencies, including the City of Kent, are cognizant of programming that is available in the Community that provides services and emergency, transitional and supportive housing. These relationships are key to facilitating a housing and support service structure that, to the Consolidated Plan KENT 120 OMB Control No: 2506-0117 (exp. 06/30/2018) greatest extent feasible, ensures no gaps exist.

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

The support network described in the previous sections is designed to prevent homelessness and provide housing and any needed services to those who become homeless. This support structure is in place with the intention of limiting the amount of time individuals or families experience homelessness and to provide tools for them to become self-sufficient. In addition to the projects and activities mention in the previous areas of this section, the City allocates local social service funding to Family & Community Services and Coleman Professional Services for homelessness prevention rental assistance programs. Social Service funding is also provided to the local Community Action Agency for a job training program designed to provide marketable computer skills for low-to moderate income Kent residents. Unfortunately, the City of Kent is one of the smallest entitlement communities in the State and the needs for many different services far outweigh the resources that are available with CDBG funding alone. For this reason the City and local service providers rely on the pooling of different funding sources and good coordination among providers to ensure the best housing and service delivery network is in place, given the amount of resources that are available, to meet the needs of the homeless.

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AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)

Introduction:

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

The City of Kent does not have any local public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing. The primary barrier to affordable housing for many low- to moderate-income households remains the limited number of affordable housing units in the community. The City is home to Kent State University and the student population has created a large rental market in the community. The City recognizes that there still is a need for more affordable housing in the community and that the City's large student population does limit the availability of rental units for low- to moderate-income households, especially larger families. The City has implemented code violation and zoning ordinances to address some of the issues that have developed over the years as a result of the student renters. These ordinances are not restrictive in terms of limiting the availability of affordable housing, but rather, are focused on property maintenance issues to ensure landlords maintain safe and decent housing. The zoning code, and its enforcement, also limits the use of boarding houses in the city, which can be rented out by the bedroom. This enforcement helps the affordability of housing by lowering rent structures that can escalate as a result of houses rented on a per bedroom basis. This enforcement, which is achieved through the City of Kent's Rental Registry program, helps to maintain the affordability of housing by lowering rent structures that can escalate as a result of houses being rented on a per bedroom basis. The City does not have tax policies or other public policies that affect the valuation of land or other property in a manner that adversely impacts the availability of housing in the community. It is also challenging for many low- to moderate- income households to make the transition from being renters to homeowners because of the difficulties associated with saving for a down payment and securing financing from traditional lenders.

The City is committed to allocating CDBG funds to affordable housing initiatives and has designated offering housing programs to provide safe and decent housing for low-to moderate-income households as a primary funding objective for PY2022 and during the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan period. In addition, the City will utilize Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) funds from the State of Ohio to help expand affordable housing opportunities for the low- to moderate-income households in Kent. All of these efforts are a strategy to remove barriers to affordable housing by increasing the supply and availability of affordable housing. The

City is always continuing its housing code enforcement that targets illegal boarding houses that rent to students on a per bedroom basis that limit available housing for larger families and can increase rent levels. The City of Kent participates in the Portage County Housing Services Council (PCHSC), which is a collaborative volunteer group comprised of nonprofit agencies, developers and government agencies that are involved with housing programs throughout Portage County. The PCHSC meets quarterly and routinely discusses strategies to remove barriers to affordable housing.

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AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City will continue its collaboration with area nonprofit organizations in order to identify the most immediate underserved needs in the community along with possible funding sources that can be accessed to address these needs. The City provides CDBG funding for several programs that serve the needs of the underserved in the City of Kent. Often organizations that received CDBG funding through the City use the grant award as match to try and secure additional funding from other government or private sources in order to expand or create new programs to meet the needs of the underserved. The largest obstacle for addressing underserved needs is the limited amount of funding that is available when compared to the amount of need that is the community. The City best addresses this issue by keeping in close communication with other service providers in the area to ensure there is no overlap or duplication of services and by expending funds that are most targeted towards the largest, and most underserved, needs in the City. The various projects undertaken in past Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program years, in this PY2022 CDBG Action plan and through the City's locally funded Social Service Grant Program are rooted in the purpose of addressing underserved needs in the Community.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City has identified offering programs to provide safe and decent housing for low- to moderate-income households as a primary funding objective during the PY2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and anticipates undertaking activities on a continuing basis to further this objective. During PY2022, the City plans to foster and maintain affordable housing by undertaking the Energy Efficiency Housing Rehabilitation program at seven (7) households, install new siding, gutters and downspouts at six (6) permanent supportive housing facilities owned by Family and Community Services, rehabilitate one (1) vacant apartment, owned by Coleman Health Services, for an extremely low-income person with serious persistent mental illness., and have RLF funding available for the Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation that can assist with substantial and emergency water/sewer connection housing rehabilitation. The City will continue to fund the Homeless Shelter Services program, which will provide emergency housing for an estimated forty-five (45) homeless persons. Concurrently with this Action Plan, the City is preparing an application for a Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) grant through the State of Ohio Development Service Agency's, Office of Community Development to help expand affordable housing opportunities for the low- to moderate-income households in Kent. If

this CHIP grant can be secured it will result in the substantial rehabilitation eligible owner-occupied households in the City.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City and its subrecipient agencies that are involved in housing rehabilitation activities, continue to implement the current requirements involving the reduction of lead-based paint hazards. Depending on the nature of each individual project and scope of work, the City requires that contractors working on housing rehabilitation projects have the proper Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) Certification through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or lead-based paint abatement licensure through the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). A licensed third-party vendor is used for conducting both lead risk assessments and clearance testing. In addition, a City staff member that oversees the entire rehabilitation process has received lead-based paint training and holds lead-licensure as a certified lead-abatement contractor. Anytime construction activity is undertaken on housing that was built prior to 1978, all required lead-based paint measures are taken to ensure that all regulatory guidelines are met and the safety of its occupants.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City of Kent's goal for reducing the number of poverty level families in this current economic climate is to promote economic development initiatives that will result in job creation. The City completed a \$100+ million dollar downtown redevelopment project that is generating new employment opportunities. With the initial investment in the core of downtown is complete, and the City is focusing on leveraging and expanding upon these investments to the areas immediately surrounding the downtown core and throughout other areas of the City. The development of downtown has and is still creating many temporary and permanent jobs; the nature of these jobs is varied and includes everything from white collar business jobs to service related positions. During PY2022, the City will continue to provide financial support to the various nonprofit agencies in the community that work with persons living at the poverty level. During PY2022 the Summit-Medina Business Alliance's Micro-Enterprise Development Program, which provides business counseling and consultation services to low- to moderate-income entrepreneurs and business owners who are below the poverty level, will continue to be available to residents. Many of the services local non-profit agencies provide, including housing initiatives and supportive services have a primary goal of reducing the number of families and individuals living below the poverty-level. Infrastructure investment, such as the Walnut Street Reconstruction project, within low- to moderate-income Census Block Groups that are likely to have a higher proportion of families below the poverty line, are designed in-part to help improve

the economic conditions within those areas. As mentioned earlier in this report, the City is currently writing a Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) grant through the State of Ohio Development Service Agency's, Office of Community Development to help expand affordable housing opportunities for the low- to moderate-income households in Kent, including those below the poverty-level. Many of the activities undertaken in past Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program years, in this PY2022 CDBG Action plan and through the City's locally funded Social Service Grant Program share a common goal of reducing the number of poverty-level families.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City plans to work closely with local social service agencies and nonprofit housing providers during the PY2022 Action Plan year to identify local needs within the community and to identify possible methods for minimizing the gaps in service. By maintaining its working relationship with local agencies, the City has an ongoing understanding of the needs of special needs populations within the community. The local institutional structure is further supported through the coordination of activities provided through the Portage County Housing Services Council. The City will continue its involvement in the PY 2022 year because such involvement creates an important link to a number of social service agencies and housing providers in Kent and throughout Portage County. The Community Resource Connect will help further solidify institutional structure. Beyond providing information and resources for residents in the community, Community Resource Connect will allow service and housing providers to further collaborate, or make new connections, that helps ensure the provision of housing and related services from various organizations in the community is as efficient as possible.

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

Coordination between the City of Kent, the Portage Metropolitan Housing Authority (PMHA) and various social service agencies is an ongoing process. The City, PMHA and many area nonprofit service and housing providers are active members of the Portage County Housing Services Council (HSC). The HSC provides a forum for the exchange of ideas and discussions on affordable housing needs within Portage County. Information gathered through these meetings is utilized by the City in developing its housing goals and is used by other HSC participating organizations to identify the needs of the homeless during the annual Continuum of Care (CoC) process

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(1)

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

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

Other CDBG Requirements

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