



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

JONATHAN F. MITCHELL, MAYOR

July 6, 2020

New Bedford City Council President Joseph P. Lopes and
Honorable Members of the City Council
City of New Bedford
New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740

Dear Council President Lopes and Honorable Members:

Attached please find a copy of the ***Final Fiscal Year 2020-2024 Office of Housing and Community Development Consolidated Plan and FY2020 Action Plan***, which sets forth activities to be funded through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the Home Investment Partnership (HOME) Program, and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program for the period July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021.

I am requesting that you approve and authorize the submission of the ***Fiscal Year 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and FY2020 Action Plan*** to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

No substantive changes have been made to the Fiscal Year 2020-2024 Draft Consolidated Plan and FY2020 Draft Action Plan which was made available to the public for review on June 16, 2020, for the mandatory 30-Day Public Comment Review Period which expired on July 15, 2020. If you have any questions regarding the contents of the plan, please do not hesitate to contact Patrick J. Sullivan, Director of the Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) at (508) 979-1500.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Respectfully,

Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor

Attachment

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

IN CITY COUNCIL

July 16, 2020

RESOLUTION OF THE NEW BEDFORD CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

WHEREAS, The City of New Bedford desires to continue its participation in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) activities under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) activities under the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009 (HEARTH Act), as amended, and Home Investment Partnership (HOME) activities under Title II of the Cranston Gonzalez National Affordable Housing of 1990, as amended, and;

WHEREAS, The Housing and Community Development, McKinney-Vento and National Affordable Housing Acts, as amended, and the regulations promulgated there under, require a Resolution of the local Governing Body authorizing the Mayor to apply for and execute the federal entitlement grant as a condition of eligibility for Federal financial assistance for the FY2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and One Year Action Plan, and;

WHEREAS, The Mayor of the City of New Bedford must be authorized to submit information to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for Federal financial assistance under said Acts;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the New Bedford City Council, as follows:

SECTION 1. The Mayor of the City of New Bedford is authorized to do all things necessary, and to execute any and all documents required for the timely application for Federal financial assistance under these Acts, as amended, and to provide any and all necessary documents which are required for the acceptance and use of CDBG, ESG and HOME funds.

SECTION 2. The Mayor of the City of New Bedford, as Chief Executive Officer, is authorized and designated as an official representative for the City of New Bedford to act in all matters arising in connection with the application for funds, and in providing the United States of America or any of its subdivisions with any additional information as may be required.

SECTION 3. The Mayor of the City of New Bedford is authorized to assume the status of a responsible Federal Officers under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, insofar as the provisions of that Act apply to Community Development Block Grants administered by the City of New Bedford, and receipt of Federal financial assistance from the United States of America under the Housing and Community Development Act, as amended, and the City of New Bedford hereby accepts the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts for the purpose of enforcement of the Mayor's responsibilities as such a responsible Federal Official under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

IN CITY COUNCIL, July 16, 2020

City of New Bedford

Five-Year Consolidated Plan 2020-2024

Annual Action Plan 2020



Executive Summary

July 16, 2020

Executive Summary

ES-05 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY¹

1. Introduction

The City of New Bedford is an entitlement community that receives block grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to address critical housing and community development needs. These funds include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), the HOME Investment Partnership program (HOME), and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). The primary objective of the CDBG program is to develop viable communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. HOME funds help the City to create and preserve affordable housing. ESG supports outreach and shelters for homeless populations and programs that prevent or rapidly rehouse individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Every five years, HUD requires the submission of a Consolidated Plan, which serves several purposes:

- Informed both by data and strong citizen participation, it prioritizes **housing and community development needs**, delineates a **five-year strategy** for addressing those needs, and establishes **performance measures** by which progress can be assessed.
- It describes **recommendations for specific projects and services** to address housing, community development, emergency shelter, and homeless needs identified through public meetings, needs assessments, coalition meetings, consultations with neighborhood associations, linguistic minority organizations, and other community organizations, and proposals solicited through both public meetings and the Request for Proposals (RFP) process.
- It outlines **activities that will be funded utilizing federal block grants from HUD** in accordance with 24 CFR Part 91.220 of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.

The city's Consolidated Plan has been prepared in accordance with guidance provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. It covers the five-year period from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2024.

¹ 24 CFR 91.200(C), 91.220(B)

2. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment Overview

The housing and community development objectives identified in this Consolidated Plan include:

- Increasing the amount of **decent, safe and affordable housing** by supporting the **rehabilitation of substandard units**;
- Increasing the supply of **affordable housing** available to **low- and moderate-income households**;
- Supporting the development through rehabilitation of **affordable housing that is suitable for people with special housing needs**, including the frail elderly, severely mentally ill, developmentally disabled, physically disabled, and people with AIDS and related diseases;
- Expanding opportunities for **homeownership**;
- Promoting **business revitalization** efforts by providing technical assistance to microentrepreneurs and small business owner;
- Responding to the needs for **infrastructure improvements** such as reconstructing city streets and sidewalks, demolishing abandoned and unsafe buildings, and replacing leaded water lines;
- Undertaking physical improvements to improve **public facilities and parks**; and,
- Providing **funding to non-profit agencies** that provide much-needed services and programs to eligible New Bedford residents.

3. Evaluation of past performance

The City of New Bedford has demonstrated tremendous progress in meeting the goals and objectives identified in the previous Consolidated Plan and related Annual Action Plans. The City's successful efforts have focused on activities that helped to improve the quality of life for low- and moderate-income residents. These efforts have included increasing the amount of decent, safe and affordable housing, expanding homeownership opportunities, promoting neighborhood-based business revitalization efforts, coordinating job training efforts, and investing in public infrastructure, facilities, and parks.

An inclusive public process conducted with extensive outreach, community input, careful planning, and a significant commitment of financial resources have enabled the City to achieve strong performance across all programs and objectives despite funding constraints from HUD grants. The City remains confident that its demonstrated high level of performance will be replicated during the period covered by this Consolidated Plan.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

Please see Section PR 15 for details about the City's consultation and participation process.

In order to ensure maximum participation from the citizens of New Bedford, the Consolidated Planning process included public meetings, stakeholder sessions, roundtable meetings with key sub-populations, and a community survey conducted in English, Spanish, and Portuguese. In addition to meetings with neighborhood organizations, the Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) then conducted three public meetings.

A draft of the Consolidated Plan was available for public review from June 16 – July 15, 2020 on the City of New Bedford's website at <https://www.newbedford-ma.gov/housing-community-development/2020-2024-consolidated-plan/>. A notice of the draft Action Plan's availability was posted on the City of New Bedford's website at <https://www.newbedford-ma.gov/housing-community-development/2020-2024-consolidated-plan/>

5. Summary of public comments

All comments were accepted.

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

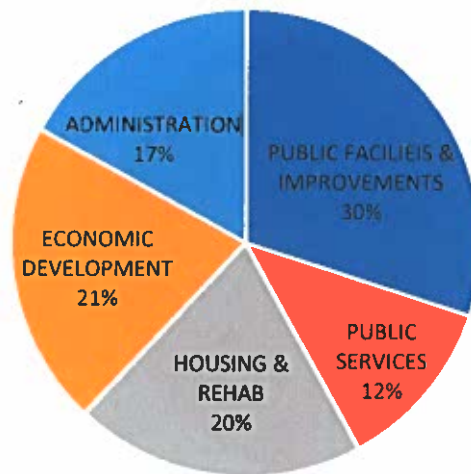
All comments were accepted.

7. Summary

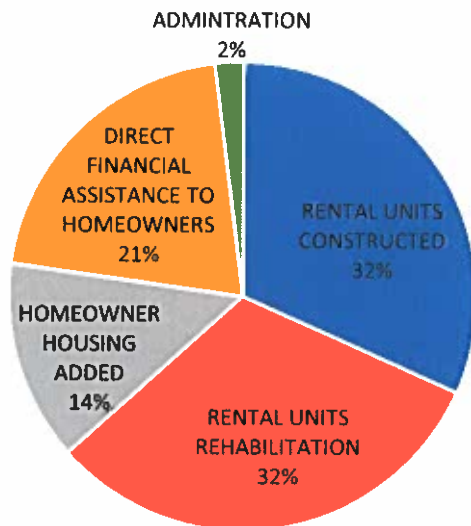
The City of New Bedford has identified its priority housing and community development needs and created a strategic response to addressing them. Many of these strategies have the potential for improving the quality of life for the City's low- and moderate-income residents. With careful planning, coordinated implementation, and a significant commitment of financial resources, the goals described in this Consolidated Plan will be achieved, providing tremendous opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals and families throughout New Bedford.

The City remains confident that its consistently high level of performance enjoyed in the past will be maintained as it explores innovative ways to create the best possible community and neighborhoods for its low- and moderate-income residents.

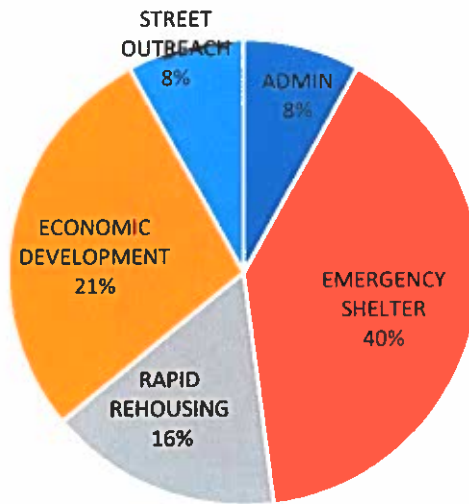
TOTAL CDBG FUNDING AVAILABLE FY20 -- \$3,060,904



HOME FUNDING AVAILABLE FY20 -- \$4,747,000



TOTAL ESG FUNDING AVAILABLE FY20 -- \$233,573



BUDGET: The following FY2020 budget charts provide a breakdown of the CDBG, ESG and HOME programs and projects.

FY2020 CDBG FUNDING: BUDGET		FY2020 Amount Awarded
1. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING² \$3,060,904		
PUBLIC FACILITIES	PROJECT NAME	
Greater New Bedford Boys' & Girls' Club	Building Renovation	\$200,000
Office of Housing & Community Development	Park & Playground Improvements Project	\$636,704
Office of Housing & Community Development	Project Management	\$85,000
SUBTOTAL		\$921,704
PUBLIC SERVICES	PROJECT NAME	
Buzzards Bay Coalition	Discover Buzzard Bay	\$7,500
Coastline Elderly Services, Inc.	Community Mainstream Resources	\$15,000
Community Boating Center	Junior Instructor Training Program	\$7,500
Dennison Memorial Community Center	Academic Excellence Program	\$26,000
Department of Community Services	Community Elder Program and Services	\$93,000
Department of Parks, Recreation & Beaches	Kennedy Summer Day Program*	\$25,000
Department of Parks, Recreation & Beaches	Seasonal Training and Employment	\$20,000
Department of Parks, Recreation & Beaches	Supportive Recreation	\$15,000
Dream Out Loud Center, Inc.	The Creative Careers Program (CCP)	\$7,000
Entrepreneurship for All	E for All South Coast	\$7,500
Greater New Bedford Boys' & Girls' Club	Youth Outreach Transportation Project	\$7,500
GroundWork Southcoast	Green Team & Positive Community	\$7,500
Immigrants Assistance Center, Inc.	Social Services Non-English Speaking	\$9,000
NB Police Department – Domestic Violence Unit	Domestic Violence Intern Coordinator	\$26,000
New Bedford Whaling Museum	Youth Apprenticeship Program	\$10,000
NBAM / Artworks!	ArtMOBILE	\$7,500
NeighborWorks Southern Mass	Homeownership + Financial Ed &	\$6,000
NorthStar	HEAL Center: Community Access to	\$10,000
Marion Institute	Grow Education – Farm to School	\$10,000
PACE	Health Access Senior Care	\$9,000
Sea Lab - Marine Science Education Center	Community Development Scholarship	\$6,000
South Coastal Counties Legal Services, Inc.	Housing Law Project	\$10,000
SouthCoast Fair Housing, Inc (SCFH)	Fair Housing Counseling & Advocacy	\$2,500
United Way Hunger Commission	Hunger Heroes – Thanksgiving	\$5,000
Youth Opportunities Unlimited	Explore Your Environment	\$10,000
YWCA Southeastern MA, Inc.	YWCA Youth Without Limits	\$5,000
SUBTOTAL		\$364,500

*Due to COVID-19 concerns, this program may not be operational in the summer.

FY2020 CDBG FUNDING: BUDGET		FY2020 Amount Awarded
1. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING³ \$3,060,904		
HOUSING REHABILITATION	PROJECT NAME	
Office of Housing & Community Development	Deleading Program	\$50,000
Office of Housing & Community Development	Emergency Repair Program (Funded RLF)	\$150,000
Office of Housing & Community Development	Financial Assistance (Funded RLF – PI Earned)	\$50,000
Office of Housing & Community Development	Housing Accessibility	\$75,000
Office of Housing & Community Development	Service Delivery	\$300,000
SUBTOTAL		\$625,000
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	PROJECT NAME	
Office of Housing & Community Development	Storefronts Reimbursement Program	\$50,000
New Bedford Economic Development Council	Economic Development Assistance Project	\$479,700
New Bedford Economic Development Council	E.D. Revolving Loan Fund (RLF - Earned)	\$100,000
SUBTOTAL		\$629,700
PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION	PROJECT NAME	
CDBG Planning and Administration	Entitlement Management & Project	\$520,000
SUBTOTAL		\$520,000
TOTAL CDBG ENTITLEMENT EXPENDITURES		\$3,060,904

Budget continued on following page

³ This total reflects the FY20 CDBG entitlement [\$2,760,904] and revolving loan fund accounts [300,000].

FY2020 ESG FUNDING: BUDGET		FY2020 Amount Awarded
2. EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT FUNDING⁴	\$233,573	
ESG ACTIVITIES	PROJECT NAME	
Catholic Social Services of Fall River, Inc.	Basic Needs & Emergency Services (RRH / HP)	\$70,000
Catholic Social Services of Fall River, Inc.	Sister Rose House (ES)	\$16,150
New Bedford Women's Center, Inc.	Battered Women's Shelter (ES)	\$18,275
PACE, Inc.	PACE Housing Services (RRH / HP)	\$34,619
SE Mass Veterans Housing Program, Inc.	Veterans Transition House (ES)	\$16,000
SRN, Inc.	SRN - Harbour House Family Center (ES)	\$28,475
Steppingstone, Inc.	NB Women's Therapeutic Community (ES)	\$14,686
Steppingstone, Inc.	FAIHR Street Outreach Program (SO)	\$17,850
Administration	Administration 7.5%	\$17,518
TOTAL		\$233,573
ESG CATEGORY		
Street Outreach (SO)		\$17,850
Emergency Shelter (ES)		\$93,586
Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)		\$38,419
Homeless Prevention (HP)		\$66,200
Administration		\$17,518
TOTAL ESG ENTITLEMENT EXPENDITURES		\$233,573

FY2020 HOME FUNDING: BUDGET		FY2020 Amount Awarded
3. HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP FUNDING⁵	\$4,747,000	
HOME ACTIVITIES		
Office of Housing and Community Development	Rental Units Constructed	\$1,500,000
Office of Housing and Community Development	Rental Units Rehabilitation	\$1,500,000
Office of Housing and Community Development	Homeowner Housing Added	\$654,830
Office of Housing and Community Development	Direct Financial Assistance to Homeowners	\$1,000,000
Office of Housing and Community Development	Administration (10%)	\$92,170
TOTAL HOME ENTITLEMENT EXPENDITURES		\$4,747,000

² This total reflects the FY20 ESG entitlement [\$233,573].

³ This total reflects the FY20 HOME entitlement [\$921,697], carryover [\$1,588,000] and program income funds [\$2,237,303].

