

2023-24 CDBG CAPER REPORT (draft)

CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

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

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

The ongoing improvement efforts in the Haycraft Neighborhood have addressed the comprehensive goals and objectives toward the overall revitalization of the neighborhood. The City of Elizabethtown's goal of infrastructure improvements (in low to moderate-income areas) is being achieved incrementally through the ongoing efforts of the Haycraft Neighborhood Street/Sidewalk Improvement project which includes continuing improvements along the remainder of Haycraft Neighborhood Imps (Ph 7).

The Haycraft Neighborhood Improvements (Phase 7) project is nearing completion, and it is expected to be 100% completed by October 2024. The City also continues to cultivate and maintain strong working relationships with many community partners, organizations, and agencies with shared goals of community development and outreach of services for specific low/moderate individuals and families.

The 2023-24 CDBG activities addresses several areas of the strategic plan and all areas of high priority that were identified in the City of Elizabethtown's 2020-25 Consolidated Plan. All of the efforts and activities of the 2023-24 CDBG program year meet the goals as outlined in the plan:

Provide Decent Housing- Included within this broad goal are the following: assist homeless persons to obtain affordable housing; retain affordable housing stock, increase the availability of permanent housing that is affordable to low-income Americans without discrimination; and increase supportive housing that includes structural features and services to enable persons with special needs to live in dignity.

Provide a Suitable Living Environment- This includes improving the safety and livability of neighborhoods; increasing access to quality facilities and services; reducing isolation of income groups within areas by improving affordable

housing opportunities and revitalizing deteriorating neighborhoods; restoring and preserving natural and physical features of special value for historic, architectural, or aesthetic reasons; conserving energy resources

Expand Economic Opportunities- Within this goal are creating jobs accessible to low and very low-income persons; providing access to credit for community development that promotes long-term economic and social viability; and empowering low and very low-income persons in federally assisted and public housing achieve self-sufficiency.

Improve Overall Community Structure -Elimination of slum and blight conditions, elimination of conditions that are detrimental to health, safety and public welfare, conservation and expansion of the City's housing stock, preservation of historic properties, expansion and improvement of the quantity and quality of community services, evaluation and replacement of outdated infrastructure, redevelopment of low and moderate-income areas for future land use, and alleviations of physical and economic distress.

Comparison of the proposed versus actual outcomes for each outcome measure submitted with the consolidated plan and explain, if applicable, why progress was not made toward meeting goals and objectives. 91.520(g)

Categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee's program year goals are listed in Table 1 attached to this document.

Assess how the jurisdiction's use of funds, particularly CDBG, addresses the priorities and specific objectives identified in the plan, giving special attention to the highest priority activities identified.

The program activities outlined in our plan was a continuation of previous years' CDBG efforts that focus on the gradual stabilization and revitalization of primarily low-income residential area(s) within downtown Elizabethtown. The City's annual plan includes the trail connection from the Haycraft Neighborhood (East Railroad Avenue/ East Poplar Street area) toward the East Dixie Avenue corridor. This project is expected to tie in with future public spaces, residential, and commercial developments which will greatly enhance the overall accessibility and livability of the targeted neighborhood and well as our downtown.

The ongoing improvement efforts in the Haycraft Neighborhood addressed many of the City's comprehensive priorities for revitalization of the targeted neighborhood.

- Reconstruction of unimproved street segments within areas that are eligible for community development revitalization. (high priority)
- The continuation an improvement program that will upgrade existing to more efficient street systems, curbs, gutters, and sidewalk systems along the streets eligible for community development revitalization. (high priority)
- The continuation of an improvement program that will revitalize existing housing options and/or increase affordable housing options in the areas eligible for community development revitalization.
- Keep a continuous record of targeted area needs in an effort to best use CDBG funds.
- Support facility improvements and increased services to neighborhoods and social service providers that serve areas and/or persons of low to moderate-income.
- Reduce blighting influences in targeted areas for revitalization and in the business and industrial areas close by. Voluntary acquisition and demolition activities will help to reduce blight and will also allow for future redevelopment activities.

Street/Sidewalk Improvements

The Haycraft Neighborhood Area Improvements (Phase 7) is almost complete. This project will have successfully added a substantial trail connection in/out of the targeted neighborhood toward the greater downtown area as well as the larger Buffalo Lake trail. Trail markings and signage will also be in place along East Railroad Avenue to make all traffic aware of the oncoming pedestrian / bicycle traffic from the trail path.

Continued Revitalization & Redevelopment

With the continuation of public infrastructure improvements and ongoing efforts to clear slum/blight conditions, the Hardin County Habitat for Humanity and potentially private developers will continue to develop affordable housing in this target area.

Additionally, CDBG efforts will help to prepare for future target areas for revitalization within the East Downtown Corridor Area as referenced in the 2020 Consolidated Plan.

Assess use of CDBG funds

Goals and outcomes-The comprehensive improvements address at least two of the four main goals of community development and revitalization: provide suitable living environment and improve overall community structure. These goals have been directly addressed with 2023-24 CDBG activities. The City recognizes each goal is very important, but prioritizes to accomplish the most needed improvements and best utilize the CDBG funding. The multi-phased revitalization approach has proven and continues to be very successful for this targeted neighborhood. Aside from the 2023-24 main activity, the City uses all/any opportunities for affordable housing development and outreach to the targeted neighborhood and community-wide populations of lower income individuals, minorities, and others with more specific needs. The City places an emphasis on public participation throughout the planning and other various stages of community development. The project administrator stays in close contact with the residents of the targeted neighborhood and with various social service providers throughout the community which includes a high percentage of minorities representing various races and backgrounds. This helps the City to keep an eye on the overall community needs, as well as those more specific to specific populations associated with poverty and low income, housing/homeless needs, single-headed households, dependency issues, and other social issues that affect individuals of all ages. Whenever possible, the City offers program and events to the targeted neighborhood where any/all neighborhood citizens of all races, ethnic backgrounds, creeds, religions, ages, levels of ability, genders, and familial statuses are encouraged to attend and participate. We also notify the entire community of all other public meetings and events with various outlets (City Council meeting which are aired on local television, newspaper, City's webpage that offers translation in approximately 100

languages, etc.), and we encourage all citizens to participate. Additionally, the City maintains open communication and outreach with the residents of the Haycraft Neighborhood, and residents are invited every year to participate in neighborhood events including community garden which is managed, coordinated, and operated by the neighbor community garden group. Additionally, a neighborhood outreach event is being schedule for mid-October 2024 to communicate progress of improvements with the neighborhood residents.

Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year Strategic Plan to Date

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Infrastructure improvements	Affordable Housing / Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / (100%) General Fund: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	150	150	100.00%			
Revitalization of housing stock	Affordable Housing / Homeless	CDBG: \$ / General Fund: \$75000	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	0	0	0.00%			
Revitalization of housing stock	Affordable Housing / Homeless	CDBG: \$ / General Fund: \$75000	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care	Household Housing Unit	0	0		0	0	