

Passaic County, NJ Annual Action Plan

FY 2025

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Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

Passaic County receives funding annually from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The Department of Planning and Economic Development is the County's designated department responsible for the federal grant program. One of the requirements for receiving these funds is the development of a five-year Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (CP) to provide policy direction for the next five years of funding decisions. In general, the CP is guided by three overarching goals that are applied according to a community's needs. The goals are:

- To provide decent housing by preserving the affordable housing stock, increasing the availability of affordable housing, reducing discriminatory barriers, increasing the supply of supportive housing for those with special needs and transitioning homeless persons and families into housing.
- To provide a suitable living environment through safer, more livable neighborhoods, greater integration of low- and moderate- income residents throughout the cities, increased housing opportunities and reinvestment in deteriorating neighborhoods.
- To expand economic opportunities through more jobs paying self-sufficient wages, homeownership opportunities, development activities that promote long term community viability and the empowerment of low- and moderate-income persons to achieve self-sufficiency.

The County prepared a Five Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2023-2027. This plan is the basis for the allocation of priorities and actions for FY 2025. The federal funding resource for implementation of the plan is the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The main objective of this program is to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate-income levels. Funds can be used for a wide array of activities, including rehabilitation of public facilities and infrastructure, removal of architectural barriers, public services, rehabilitation of housing, commercial or industrial buildings and loans or grants to businesses.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

In 2023, the County prepared a five-year plan for the fiscal years 2023 to 2027.

Goal Name	Description

Affordable Housing	Creation/preservation of affordable housing including housing rehabilitation assistance and preservation/expansion of homeless facilities
Public Facility Improvements	Improvements to public facilities that serve low- and moderate-income clientele and/or are located in low- and moderate-income area and demolition of vacant structures that pose a risk to the health and safety of residents in any area of the community.
Infrastructure Improvements	Improvements to public infrastructure that serve low- and moderate-income residents and/or are located in low- and moderate-income area
Public Services	Provision of public services to low- and moderate-income clientele
Planning and Administration	Administration and planning conducted to operate the CDBG program successfully.

During FY 2025, the County will use CDBG funds in support of the goals for infrastructure, public services, affordable housing, and planning and administration.

3. Evaluation of past performance

Passaic County is currently administering the FY 2024 grant program. The current program year runs from September 1, 2024, to August 31, 2025. The last CAPER, for FY 2023, covered the period from September 1, 2023, to August 31, 2024.

Passaic County received \$965,848.00 CDBG award in FY 2023. Funds were allocated to public facility improvements, street improvements, handicap barrier removal projects, water and sanitary sewer improvements, public services and administration.

During FY 2023, there were several projects completed and two public service programs were administered through several years funding.

Projects completed during FY 2023 include:

- Borough of Prospect Park FY22 North 15th Place Roadway Improvements
- Passaic County Arts Center-ADA Improvements to John Rea House
- Bloomingdale Senior Center Pavilion
- Passaic County Habitat for Humanity Critical Repair Program: Completed in Fall 2024

- FY 22 CASA: Court Appointed Advocacy for Child Abuse Victims
- FY 21, FY 22, FY 23 Home Care Options
- Borough of Little Falls Street Reconstruction (Mozart and Cherry Streets): Completed in Fall
 2024
- Borough of Pompton Lakes Hershfield St Improvements: Completed in Fall 2024
- Borough of Prospect Park 11th Street Improvements: Completed in Fall 2024

The design and bidding of many of the FY 2022 and 2023 projects got underway in 2023; bids that have not yet gone out will go out in late 2024 with work to begin spring 2025. Many public service activities will continue, with older year funding being spent first. Projects underway include:

- Improvements to the Woodland Park Library: Bid and under construction in Fall 2024
- Borough of Totowa Sanitary Sewer Lining (Franklin Place, Lincoln Place, Willard Ave)
- Borough of Wanaque Park Avenue Improvements: Bid and under construction in Fall 2024
- Borough of Hawthorne Sidewalk Improvements: Bid and under construction in Fall 2024
- West Milford Township ADA Improvements at the Township Building: In Design, evaluating structural integrity of building prior to bidding as of Fall 2024

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

The Passaic County CDBG program includes outreach to municipalities and organizations as described in full in the Annual Plan. Such outreach included:

- 1. Informing the municipalities and organizations of the availability of funds, application deadline, and first public hearing date. Letters and emails were sent out on December 15, 2024
- 2. The first public meeting was held on February 7, 2025. The hearing was advertised in two local newspapers and the Spanish publication, El Especialito, and was included in the cover letter of the CDBG FY 2025 application.
- 3. The Hearing notices were disseminated in Spanish as well as English. The blast email to municipalities and organizations requested that they share this information with their constituents. The County website also contains program information and can be translated easily.
- 4. The Action Plan was disseminated by email to all of the participating municipalities as well as organizations that represent low- and moderate-income persons and those with limited English proficiency. The second public hearing, held on June 3, 2025, announcement was included in this communication.
- 5. A second public hearing was held on June 3, 2025, at 1:00 pm virtually and in person (hybrid). The hearing was advertised in two local newspapers and the Spanish publication, El Especialito; with the availability of the Action Plan for display and disseminated through agencies that have contact with low- and moderate-income persons and those with limited English proficiency.

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.

This section will be completed upon completion of the public comment period for the draft plan.

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

This section will be completed upon completion of the public comment period for the draft plan.

7. Summary

In summary, the County conducted extensive outreach through its participating municipalities, non-profit organizations, local publications, etc. to develop the proposed 2025 Annual Action Plan. This plan aims to address needs and goals established in the County's 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan.

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
Lead Agency	Passaic County, NJ	Department of Planning and Economic
		Development
CDBG Administrator	Passaic County, NJ	Department of Planning and Economic
		Development, Division of Economic
		Development

Table 1 - Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

The following information provides an overview of Passaic County's efforts to consult with relevant agencies during the development of this Annual Action 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(I))

Passaic County provides an array of services to special needs and low-income persons across a variety of departments. This includes services to the elderly, people with mental health, developmental disabilities and the homeless. The Passaic County Housing Agency is the public housing agency providing Section 8 vouchers that subsidize housing for low-income persons. CDBG funds provide support to public service agencies that serve the elderly (Homecare Options) and advocacy services to abused youth living in foster care (CASA).

Passaic County is also the lead agency for the Continuum of Care, an umbrella organization with approximately 30 member agencies that provide a plethora of services to persons who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The Continuum of Care (CoC) links to all mental health, homeless, services and health organizations.

Through the county's various departments, funds are distributed to many for-profit and notfor-profit agencies that provide direct services including housing to special needs populations. Bi-annual planning for human services funds is undertaken to coordinate the efforts of these many organizations to find housing solutions for those difficult to house.

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 Passaic County Department of Human Services facilitates the CoC process and was consulted on several occasions for input on the 2023-2027 Five-Year plan and FY 2025 Annual Plan. The Director of Economic Development sits on the Board of the CoC and regularly participates in discussions related to CoC funding. The CoC meets quarterly and is active through committees during the intervening months. The committees span the topics of Centralized Intake and coordination of services, review of priority populations for permanent supportive housing, and discussions with health care and other systems of care about discharge policies.

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

Passaic County does not receive ESG funds.

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

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Passaic County Department of Human Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Other government - County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Through interviews with members of the Department of Human Services, information was obtained on homeless services, the special needs population and services provided by Passaic County. Opportunities to coordinate and utilize CDBG funding were discussed.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Passaic County Housing Agency
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Passaic County Housing Agency was consulted by email survey to obtain data about unit availability and site selection as well as waiting list information. The PCHA is a part of County government and is consulted regularly about its needs.

3	Agency/Group/Organization	Passaic County Habitat for Humanity
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Critical repair Services - Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Habitat designed and implemented a Critical Repair Program for low-income residents living in the Urban County.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Passaic County Department of Health
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other Government-County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy Non-homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This agency was consulted to discuss continuing needs in response to the COVID pandemic, as the County is continuing to spend down CDBG-CV funds.

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

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

There were no agency types not consulted. Broadband service providers were consulted during the development of the Consolidated Plan in 2023, and not consulted again during the preparation of the Annual Action Plan.

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	Passaic County Continuum of Care	Strategic Plan goals align with the goals in the CoC's Plan to End Homelessness
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (2015)	Passaic County Dept. of Planning and Economic Development	Strategic Plan goals align with the goals in the CEDS as funding allows, without duplication of activities.
Hazard Mitigation Plan	Passaic County Office of Emergency Management	Strategic Plan goals align with the goals in the Hazard Mitigatoin Plan as funding allows, without duplication of activities

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 Passaic County CDBG program includes outreach to municipalities and organizations as described in full in the Annual Plan. Such outreach included:

- 1. Informing the municipalities and organizations of the availability of funds, application deadline, and first public hearing date. Letters and emails were sent out on December 15, 2024
- 2. The first public meeting was held on February 7, 2025. The hearing was advertised in two local newspapers and the Spanish publication, El Especialito. In addition, the public hearing was included in the cover letter of the CDBG FY 2025 application which was distributed to municipalities and organizations.
- 3. The Hearing notices were disseminated in Spanish as well as English. The blast email requested that municipalities and organizations share this information with their constituents. The County website also contains program information and can be translated easily.
- 4. The Action Plan was disseminated by email to all of the participating jurisdictions as well as organizations that represent low- and moderate-income persons and those with limited English proficiency. The second public hearing, held on June 3, 2025, was included in this communication.
- 5. A second public hearing was held on June 3, 2025, at 1:00 pm virtually and in person (hybrid). The hearing was advertised in two local newspapers and the Spanish publication, El Especialito; with the availability of the Action Plan for display and disseminated through agencies that have contact with low- and moderate-income persons and those with limited English proficiency.

Passaic County updated its citizen participation plan to allow for hybrid hearings, to include virtual participation, throughout the program year in an effort to engage more citizens/participants that were unable to participate in person. The County also advertises in the Spanish newspaper to reach the LEP population of the County.

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	Public Notice and Email	General Public	Sent to inform entities of upcoming public hearings	None received	None	
2	Newspaper Public Notices	General Public	The newspaper public notices were used to inform the public of the first and seconds public hearings as well as the availability of the plan.	None received	None	
3	Public Hearings	General Public	There were approximately 15 people in attendance of the 1st hearing	TBD	None	
4	Letters/Emails	Municipalities and Agencies	Sent to inform entities of process	TBD	None	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The County became an entitlement community as an Urban County for the receipt of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in 2008. The County is allocated a CDBG grant each fiscal year. In FY 2025, the amount allocated by HUD to Passaic County is \$996,962.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source	Uses of Funds	Expe	Expected Amount Available Year 3			Expected	Narrative
	of Funds		Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$	Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Description
CDBG	Public- federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	\$996,962			\$996,962	\$1,978,318	CDBG funds will be used to address community housing and non- housing needs

Table 5 - Expected Resources - Priority Table

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

Each municipality will leverage the CDBG funds with community funds to provide engineering services for their projects. The County does not pay for engineering, so each municipality is responsible for this expense. In addition, the total project costs may require that some of the municipalities bond for the remainder pf the funds needed to complete the project budget. The County has a Homeless Trust Fund that is generating support for homeless prevention and rapid re-housing activities. The County may seek funding from other sources to accomplish its goals. Such funding may include:

- McKinney Vento Funds under the HEARTH Act
- CDBG Disaster Recovery

- Low-Income Housing Tax Credits
- New Markets Tax Credits
- Economic Development Initiative

- Environmental Protection Agency
- Department of Transportation
- Department of Veterans Affairs State funding sources available include:
- NJHMFA Special Needs Housing Fund
- HOME funds provided through DCA
- Weatherization Assistance Program
- Office of Mental Health

- Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services
- Department of Health
- Department of Welfare (Supportive Services for the Homeless)
- Work First New Jersey
- Department of Transportation

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

The County is currently rehabilitating a building in the Township of West Milford to expand its Health Clinic and provide other County services. CDBG-CV funds are allocated for the health clinic project.

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	Improve Public Infrastructure	2025	2026	Non-Housing Community Development		Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$516,879.20	Public Facility or Infrastructure other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 29,013
2	Improve Public Facility	2025	2026	Non- Homeless Special Needs		Improve Public Facilities	CDBG: \$17,945.00	Public Facility or Infrastructure for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 3 households
2	Provide Public Services	2025	2026	Non- Homeless Special Needs		Public Services	CDBG: \$81,503.00	Public Service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 125 persons
3	Improve Access to Affordable Housing	2025	2026	Affordable Housing		Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$175,000.00	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 16 housing units
4	Planning/Administration	2025	2026	Admin		Planning/Administration	CDBG: \$199,392.00	Other: 1 Other

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

Goal Name	Goal Description
Improve Public Infrastructure	Improvements to public infrastructure that serve low-and
	moderate-income residents and/or are located in low-and
	moderate-income areas.
Improve Public Facilities	Improvements to public facilities that serve low-and moderate-
	income residents and/or are located in low-and moderate-income
	areas.
Provide Public Services	The County will support and invest in services that serve children,
	seniors and other low-mod income clientele through a variety of
	programs and services.
Improve Access to Affordable Housing	Creation/preservation of affordable housing through rehabilitation.
Planning/Administration	Administration and planning conducted to operate the CDBG
	program successfully.

Projects

AP-35 Projects - 91.220(d)

Introduction

Passaic County intends to undertake the projects below using FY2025 CDBG funds. Note that these are estimated amounts based on prior year CDBG allocations. Any change in actual allocation as published by HUD will result in an increase in administrative funds up or down to the maximum 20%. All other activities will receive an equal increase or decrease.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Planning/Administration
2	CAFS: Hawthorne Community Residence Bathroom Renovation
3	Passaic County Habitat for Humanity Critical Repair Program
4	YWCA Northern New Jersey Senior Wellness Programming
5	Bloomingdale ADA Ramp Improvements
6	Ringwood ADA Curb Ramps and Sidewalks
7	Hawthorne ADA Curb Ramp Improvements
8	Pompton Lakes ADA Curb Ramp Improvements
9	Rebuilding Together North Jersey-Homeowner Rehabilitation
10	Child Focus: CASA
11	Wanaque Water Main Improvements

Table 7 - Project Information

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

The allocations were selected based on eligibility of the activity, its ability to meet a national objective and the evidence of need in the community. Further consideration was given to the past history of expenditure of CDBG funds by the community. The ability of the community to complete projects in a timely manner was given a high priority. Passaic County allocated its entitlement funds to aid with activities that meet the underserved needs of the communities participating in the program.

AP-38 Project Summary

Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Planning/Administration	
	Target Area	No Target Areas established	
	Goals Supported	Planning/Administration	
Needs Addressed Planning/Administration		Planning/Administration	
Funding CDBG: \$199,392		CDBG: \$199,392	
	Description	On-going program management and oversight. Public information, advertising and consulting services are included	
	Target Date	8/31/2026	
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities N/A Admin		N/A Admin	
	Location Description	Countywide – Urban County	
	Planned Activities	General Program Administration Matrix Code 21A	
2	Project Name	CAFS: Hawthorne Community Residence Bathroom Renovation	
	Target Area	No target areas established	
	Goals Supported	Improve Public Facilities	
	Needs Addressed	Non-Homeless Special Needs	
	Funding	CDBG: \$17,945	

	Description	Renovation of an existing bathroom located in the Hawthorne Community Residence for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Work to be done includes a moisture resistant tile, a handicapped accessible shower installation, all safety features, and a drain in the floor for any overflows.	
	Target Date	8/31/2026	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	One group home containing three households will be rehabilitated	
	Location Description	159 Forest Avenue, Hawthorne, NJ 07506	
	Planned Activities	Facilities for Persons with Disabilities 03B	
3	Project Name	Passaic County Habitat for Humanity Critical Repair Program	
	Target Area	No target areas established	
	Goals Supported	Improve Access to Affordable Housing	
	Needs Addressed	Affordable housing	
	Funding	CDBG: \$145,000	
	Description	Preserve existing affordable housing for eligible low-moderate income households. Expansion of Habitat Passaic County Critical Repair Program for twelve owner occupied homes in 12 municipalities. All homeowners will be income screened. Services include address immediate and critical housing rehabilitation problems to ensure safe and continued occupancy, i.e., roof replacement; repair utilities such as heat, water supply, sanitary sewer, air conditioning, ventilation and access and egress locations (porch steps and sidewalks). Some ADA accommodations. No lead-based paint items, i.e., windows or doors.	
	Target Date	8/31/2026	

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Twelve low-moderate income households will be benefit from this project.	
	Location Description	Bloomingdale, Haledon, Hawthorne, Little Falls, North Haledon, Pompton Lakes, Prospect Park, Ringwood, Totowa, Wanaque, West Milford, and Woodland Park	
	Planned Activities	Housing Rehabilitation Matrix Code 14A	
4	Project Name	YWCA Northern New Jersey Senior Wellness Programming	
	Target Area	No target areas established	
	Goals Supported	Provide Public Services	
	Needs Addressed	Public Services	
	Funding	CDBG: \$45,000	
	Description	Our virtual senior programming includes weekly virtual fitness classes, monthly Friendship Fridays, and a weekly mental health support group, along with a caregiver support group. Senior Wellness Programs like those at YWCA NNJ provide multiple layers of prevention through socialization, physical activity, connection to resources, and education about health and wellness.	
	Target Date	8/31/2026	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This program will serve at least 100 Passaic Couty seniors	
	Location Description	Virtual	
	Planned Activities	Senior Services 05A	
5	Project Name	Bloomingdale ADA Ramp Improvements	
	Target Area	No target areas established	

Goals Supported Improve public infrastructure	
Needs Addressed	Infrastructure improvements
Funding	CDBG: \$62,247
Description	The sidewalks in this neighborhood of the Borough of Bloomingdale were constructed prior to the passage of the American with Disabilities Act. Only a few intersections in this neighborhood were constructed with curb ramps at all. The Borough is proposing to upgrade the intersections at the following streets: Oakwood Terrace, Lakeside Avenue, Elm Street, Ann Street, Charles Street, Roy Avenue, James Avenue, Walter Drive, Winfred Court, and Clark Street; a total of thirty (30) ramps will be installed. All ramps will be compliant with federal ADA Standards and NJDOT specifications. Pedestrian traffic control signs & stripping will be replaced as needed.
Target Date	8/31/2026
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	400 persons will benefit from this activity.
Location Description	Oakwood Terrace, Lakeside Avenue, Elm Street, Ann Street, Charles Street, Roy Avenue,
	James Avenue, Walter Drive, Winfred Court, and Clark Street, Bloomingdale
Planned Activities	Street ADA Improvements Matrix Code 03K
Ringwood ADA Curb Ramps and Sidewalks	
Project Name	
Target Area	No target areas established
Goals Supported	Improve public infrastructure
Needs Addressed	Infrastructure improvements
Funding	CDBG: \$98,375

	Description	Installation of granite block curbing on Skyline drive, starting at the north side of the Alta Vista Drive intersection continuing across the main entrance to 115 Skyline Drive, and ending at the south end driveway of the same complex. 5' wide sidewalk will be installed along that same route, and each intersection will have barrier-free ramps on both sides. The project will also include restoration of any disturbed pavement, brick pavers between the curb and the sidewalk, and shade trees along the project area.	
	Target Date	8/31/2026	
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities 4,337 persons will benefit from the		4,337 persons will benefit from this activity.	
	Location Description	Skyline Drive, County Route 692	
	Planned Activities	Street Improvements and Sidewalk Improvements Matrix Code 03K, 03L	
7	Project Name	Hawthorne ADA Curb Ramp Improvements	
	Target Area	No target areas established	
	Goals Supported	Improve public infrastructure	
	Needs Addressed	Infrastructure improvements	
	Funding	CDBG: \$45,000	
	Description	Between 2008 and 2024 the Borough has replaced nearly all of its 800 sidewalk handicapped ramps using a combination of local and CDBG funds. At present, to complete this project the Borough needs to construct 4 ramps at 2 locations.	
	Target Date	8/31/2026	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	19,718 persons will benefit from this activity.	

	Location Description Four ramps at two locations – Garfield Avenue and Grand Avenue, McKinley Avenue, McK		
	Planned Activities	Street Improvements Matrix Code 03K	
8	Project Name Pompton Lakes ADA Curb Ramp Improvements		
	Target Area No target areas established		
	Goals Supported	Improve public infrastructure	
	Needs Addressed	Infrastructure improvements	
	Funding	CDBG: \$165,000	
	Description The proposed project includes the replacement of ADA curb ramps along Durham Street, Edv Avenue, Riverdale Boulevard, Laurel Street, Willow Avenue, and Woodlawn Avenue. All of the existing curb ramps are not ADA compliant, along with wear and tear. The project aims to cred durable and accommodating pedestrian walking path that rectifies the existing deterioration ensuring a safer and more pleasant experience for pedestrians.		
	Target Date	8/31/2026	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	4,541 persons will benefit from this activity.	
	Location Description	Durham Street, Edwards Avenue, Riverdale Boulevard, Laurel Street, Willow Avenue, and Woodlawn Avenue in Pompton Lakes	
	Planned Activities	Street Improvements Matrix Code 03K	
9	Project Name	Rebuilding Together North Jersey-Homeowner Rehabilitation	
	Target Area	No target areas established	
	Goals Supported	Improve Access to Affordable Housing	
	Needs Addressed	Affordable housing	

Funding	CDBG: \$32,500	
Description	We provide no-cost repairs and accessibility modifications for low-income homeowners.	
	Our goal is to provide the repairs needed for the homeowners we help to live independently	
	in a safe and healthy home, and we tailor our work to meet the needs of the individual	
	homeowners and the condition of their home. Repairs provided may include: electrical and	
	plumbing work; roof repairs/replacements; HVAC repair/replacement; repairing/replacing	
	hot water heaters; carpentry work; energy-efficiency and weatherization improvements;	
	installing drywall, flooring, windows and doors; modifications for mobility and	
	accessibility; renovating kitchens and bathrooms; and repairs for health and safety,	
	including smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, security lights, falls prevention measures	
	and more.	
Target Date	8/31/2026	
Estimate the number and type of	4 housing units expected to be rehabilitated	
families that will benefit from the		
proposed activities Location Description	Ringwood, NJ	
Planned Activities		
Project Name	Housing Rehabilitation Matrix Code 14A Child Focus (formerly Passaic County CASA)	
Target Area	No Target Area Established	
	Provide Public Services	
Goals Supported		
Needs Addressed	Public Services .	
Funding	CDBG: \$36,503	

	Description	Support the salary of an Advocacy Coordinator who will oversee 15-20 CASA volunteers who will serve a total of approximately 20-25 children in foster care. Each volunteer: advocates in Family Court for the best interests of the child regarding medical and educational issues. Volunteers will spend 1,000 hours advocating for abused and neglected children.
	Target Date	8/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 25 children will benefit from CASA services
		Serves the Urban County communities: Bloomingdale, Haledon, Hawthorne, Little Falls, North Haledon, Pompton Lakes, Prospect Park, Ringwood, Totowa, Wanaque, West Milford, Woodland Park
	Planned Activities	Public services for abused children Matrix Code 05N
11	Project Name	Wanaque Water Main Improvements
	Target Area	No target areas established
	Goals Supported	Improve public infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Infrastructure improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$150,000
	Description	Upgrading six inch transit water mains to eight inch ductile iron pipes on various side streets in the Haskell section of Wanaque.
Target Date 8/31/2026		8/31/2026
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	17 persons are expected to benefit from this activity.
	Location Description	Jefferson Street and Adams Street, Wanaque

	Planned Activities	Water/Sewer Improvements Matrix Code 03J
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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

Assistance is not directed to any specific geographic area in the County. All the CDBG funding (100%) will benefit LMI clientele in the County's participating municipalities.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
None established	

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The County will use CDBG funds throughout the jurisdiction to serve low and moderate-income persons. This method of allocation will enable the County to serve the most disadvantaged residents given the limited funding available.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing - 91.220(g)

Introduction

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	
Non-Homeless	16
Special-Needs	3
Total	19

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	
The Production of New Units	
Rehab of Existing Units	19
Acquisition of Existing Units	
Total	19

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

Discussion

Nineteen low-income households will benefit from the proposed activities.

AP-60 Public Housing - 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Passaic County Housing Agency does not own or manage public housing in Passaic County. The Passaic County Housing Agency administers Section 8 vouchers only.

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

N/A – There is no public housing in the Urban County.

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

Passaic County Housing Agency has a family self-sufficiency program, including job training, development of employment skills, educational activities, and savings accounts for the development of economic self-sufficiency. This program serves approximately 80 families annually from a total of 830 Housing Agency Section 8 families.

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

N/A – Not a troubled agency.

Discussion

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

Introduction

The Passaic County Continuum of Care (CoC) is supported by the staff of the Department of Human Services and administered by the Passaic County Interagency Council on Homelessness. The Passaic County Consolidated Plan relies on the work of the CoC to set policy and implement programs to prevent homelessness and assist persons who are homeless.

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

The CoC plans and manages the homeless system's coordination through an ongoing collaboration of public and non-profit agencies, grantors, advocacy groups and formerly homeless individuals. The CoC has provided grant funding to NJ 211 to be the single point of entry for the coordinated assessment process. NJ 211 is the virtual Coordinated Assessment access point accessible to the community via telephone with availability 24 hours a day 7 days a week. NJ 211 strives to make materials and phone conversations accessible to persons with limited English proficiency through translation. NJ 211 is a key partner in conducting point of entry referrals into shelters, permanent housing, and services.

The CoC's Coordinated Assessment system covers the entire Passaic County geographic area through strategic outreach from PATH and SSVF partners. Strategic outreach covers the CoC's geography annually, but also proactively outreaches to the hardest to serve individuals who are not actively seeking services, and who are identified or staying in known locations. The PATH Program provides regular outreach at known locations. Further, through partnership with the eviction courts, PATH has addressed the needs of those at-risk of losing their housing. When families are removed from the welfare list, outreach is conducted to see if they have short-term places to live and long-term plans for permanent housing. Additional street outreach is conducted by "They Have A Name" to encourage people to move to shelter and services. The SSVF and Community Hope coordinate street outreach to homeless veterans.

As part of the coordinated system, the CoC has created a Housing Prioritization Tool (HPT) to assist the most vulnerable households in the Coordinated Assessment system. Using the tool ensures that people with the greatest needs will be prioritized when housing providers are seeking referrals for permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing placements. The CoC tracks the length of time clients remain on the list and where clients are discharged to, ensuring the effectiveness of the CoC and the prioritization process. The CoC can monitor bed availability in real-time for housing projects using the Homeless Management Information System. The CoC 2024 project listing identifies HMIS and SSO costs to support coordinated entry as priority projects.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The CoC captures Point in Time data, Systems Performance Measures and Coordinated Entry data to evaluate and understand the emergency needs of persons in the County experiencing homelessness.

Passaic County does not receive Emergency Solutions Grant funding from HUD to directly support emergency shelter and transitional housing needs in the County.

The County's Continuum of Care provides several shelters for people who are homeless. The County is working with shelter providers to decrease the period of time someone experiences homelessness. While no longer a priority at the federal level, there are transitional housing needs that still exist in the County, in addition to robust case management services. As the Continuum continues to prioritize projects that adopt Housing First, several Transitional Housing programs have been converted to Permanent Supportive Housing, though stakeholders report the need for transitional housing for youth aging out of foster care to ensure success in permanent housing.

The Continuum of Care FY2024 Priority Listing prioritizes rapid rehousing projects in the County, including three new project submissions all for rapid rehousing.

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

Coordinated referral and an extensive inventory of services provide an opportunity for persons who are homeless to make a successful transition to permanent housing. The CoC Priorities are: (1) ending chronic and veteran homelessness, (2) creating new low-barrier permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing projects that follow housing first principles, and (3) creating a systemic response to homelessness through coordinated entry and assessment.

- To end chronic homelessness, the CoC is utilizing a Housing Prioritization Tool to prioritize chronically homeless persons for permanent housing opportunities systematically and is supporting projects that have low-barrier intake and termination criteria, this includes having had NJCDC sponsor 15 new Housing First vouchers for the chronically homeless utilizing State Rental Assistance from NJ DCA.
- To end homelessness, PCICH members Catholic Family and Community Services and Community Hope provide SSVF outreach, services, and rental assistance and manage a byname-list of identified veterans to connect them with veteran-specific and other community resources.
- To create a systemic response to homelessness, the CoC has funded NJ 211 to cover the full geographic area with Coordinated Assessment access, and is holding monthly case conferencing meetings among outreach, housing providers and emergency shelter providers to prioritize resources for those who are homeless for the longest time and with the greatest severity of

service needs.

Through partnerships with the Children's Inter-Agency Coordinating Council (CIACC), education system partners, homeless liaisons, the behavioral health care system, child protective services and the homeless services system, homeless students and their families are identified, and service plans developed to meet their needs. CIACC offers cross-training on homeless definitions, compliance and requirements, support systems for the homeless and effective community service providers. CIACC has developed a standardized intervention model for use in school settings to effectively determine the service needs of homeless children and connect them to appropriate providers. The homeless liaison serves on the CoC board.

The Passaic County Homeless Trust Fund has funded rapid re-housing and services in support of rapid re-housing projects. The State DCA funded 500 state-wide rental assistance vouchers for chronically homeless to be matched by services provided by local agencies. NJCDC is administering 50 vouchers and matching with services funded from the County's Homeless Trust Fund.

The Passaic County Housing Agency was also selected by the Department of Housing and Urban Development to receive 29 Emergency Housing Vouchers through the American Rescue Plan Act. These vouchers are targeted to assist individuals or families that are homeless, at risk of homelessness, fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, or were recently homeless and have a high risk of housing instability. Applicants are referred to the Housing Agency by the County Department of Human Services. The Housing Agency has already issued 25 of the vouchers. In order to assist the families into transitioning into a new apartment, HUD has also supplied service fees which may be used for security deposits, realty fees, utility bills, and the purchase of household items, if needed.

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 CoC application to HUD indicated that the most effective way to decrease homelessness is through a single point of entry, assessment, expanded outreach, increased community awareness, coordination of efforts and expansion of housing opportunities and prevention services.

The Ten-Year Plan places a prevention emphasis on discharge planning and access to a safety net of services. The Coalition continues to:

• Work with the State of New Jersey and local public and private entities to establish an effective

homelessness prevention program in Passaic County.

- Create a 'minimum standard' discharge policy to be adopted county-wide.
- Create affiliation agreements between various discharge agencies and shelters.
- Improve discharge planning policy for prisons and jails.
- Improve discharge planning for youth aging out of the DYFS system.

Partnerships with the school homeless liaisons will be strengthened through coordinated training sessions with providers. The Mainstream Committee of the CoC has incorporated education and early childcare issues in their monthly meetings. The CoC works with the Children's Inter-Agency Coordinating Council (CIACC) to build partnerships with the healthcare system, child protective services and homeless services system to better identify homeless students and coordinate services.

The County has budgeted \$36,503 in FY25 CDBG funds for the County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program which assists foster youth.

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

Introduction:

The County updated its Analysis to Impediments to Fair Housing in 2022. Barriers identified include:

A. Lower employment rates and wages for certain members of the protected classes restrict housing choice.

- Members of the protected classes tend to have lower incomes and higher unemployment rates than their counterparts. Persons with disabilities participate in the labor force at lower rates than persons without disabilities.
- In the Urban County, the labor force participation rate among those with one or more
 disabilities was 49.8%, while the labor force participation rates among those without a
 disability was 84.9%. Across Passaic County, approximately 14-18% of persons with
 disabilities participating in the labor force are unemployed compared to 4-6% of those
 without a disability.
- In Passaic County, Black and Hispanic households experience higher unemployment rates than White and Asian households.

B. Non-White households were less likely to be homeowners than White households.

- In the Urban County, Black and Hispanic households are under-represented among homeowners. While 85.5% of homeowners in the Urban County identified as White, only 1.7% identified as Black, and 12.1% identified as Hispanic.
- Non-white applicants are disproportionately represented among mortgage applicants.
 Furthermore, Black applicants have the highest rate of denial among applicants, making homeownership more difficult to achieve.
- Homeownership has historically been a way for a family to create generational wealth,
 which allows those families additional opportunities such as accessing equity to pay for
 higher education or start a business. Increasing homeownership rates among members
 of the protected classes can assist in generating wealth.

C. Moderate levels of segregation exist in Passaic County.

 In 2020, Black, Asian, and Hispanic communities in Passaic County experienced moderate levels of segregation. Of the three minority groups analyzed, Asian Annual Action Plan

- communities in Passaic County are the only community to experience an increase in the dissimilarity index in comparison to 2010.
- A lack of racial or ethnic integration in a community creates other problems, such as
 reinforcing prejudicial attitudes and behaviors, narrowing opportunities for interaction,
 and reducing the degree to which community life is considered harmonious. Racial segregation
 has been linked to diminished employment prospects, poor educational attainment, increased
 infant and adult mortality rates and increased homicide rates

D. The Land Use and Housing elements of the Comprehensive Plan are outdated.

• Since the previous AI, which was conducted in 2018, the only change to Passaic County's Comprehensive Master Plan was the addition of the Green Stormwater Infrastructure Element on November 29, 2018. Other elements of its comprehensive plan have not been updated for almost a decade or more. Significant changes in the housing market for both renters and homebuyers have occurred since then. One way to decrease segregation is through improved land use policies that emphasize higher density housing, which is often a more affordable option. It should be noted, that in accordance with the NJ Municipal Land Use Law, municipalities have the ultimate decision-making powers relating to land use in their communities. Counties can only review and comment on ingress and egress onto County roads and how new development will impact the flow of water onto County roads.

E. Planning documents in some municipalities are not consistent with fair housing laws.

- Since the previous AI, most municipalities did not update their zoning ordinances in accordance with recommendations made.
- Many of the municipal zoning ordinances in the Urban County are outdated, lack terms,
 definitions, and/or regulations, or are in violation of fair housing laws.

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 County will continue to conduct fair housing education and outreach. The County does not control land use, zoning, building codes or other actions with direct impact on land use. The County will

continue to work in an advisory capacity to the local municipalities on land use issues.

The County will continue to promote the County's fair housing webpage as a place to get information on fair housing. In addition, the County hosted a Fair Housing virtual conference on April 23, 2024 with 40 participants. The Conference highlighted ways to ensure Fair Housing Compliance with Federal and State of NJ laws and expand housing opportunities.

The Planning Department is collecting the court determinations for affordable housing to incorporate into a new housing element of the County's Master Plan. The County will promote housing options to expand housing choice.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The following information illustrates other actions that Passaic County will take to address its priority needs.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The primary impediment to the County's ability to meet underserved needs is the limited amount of CDBG funding to address identified priorities. The County will continue to seek public and private resources to leverage its entitlement funds in assisting with implementation of policies and programs.

The County Housing Agency provides rent vouchers to offset the high cost of rental housing in the County.

The Passaic County Human Services Department offers several programs to combat homelessness and is the administrator of the CoC in Passaic County. The County has a Homeless Trust Fund which will provide resources to address homelessness. In addition, the County is utilizing CDBG-CV funds to open a satellite office of the Passaic County Health Clinic in West Milford, an area determined to be underserved by the Health Department. Services will include: health department activities, i.e. vaccinations and testing, etc.; mental health services by the Department of Human Services and services to seniors, disabled individuals and veterans by the Department of Seniors, Disability and Veteran's Affairs.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The County will continue to support its goals of maintaining and expanding affordable housing by supporting activities and programs funded by others by certifying these activities as consistent with the five - year plan.

The Passaic County Weatherization and Home Energy Division provides utility subsidies to low income individuals residing in Passaic County to permit them to stay in their homes and have adequate heating and electricity. In addition, the Division rehabilitates the homes of lowincome individuals to ensure that they are energy efficient. Rehabilitation includes insulation, new windows, new hot water heaters and new boilers.

The County will continue to provide resources to help homeless and low-income people obtain housing. For example, the Passaic County Housing Agency provides rent vouchers to offset the high cost of rental housing in the County.

The County will use 2025 CDBG funds to rehabilitate existing owner housing units in the County, in an effort to preserve existing affordable housing options for County residents. This includes continuing funding for Habitat for Humanity's Critical Repair Program, but also funds a new rehabilitation program administered through Rebuilding Together New Jersey in Ringwood, an area determined to be

underserved.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The County is a participant in the New Jersey Health Department Lead Abatement Initiative. The Passaic County Weatherization and Home Energy Division has grants and loans available to remove lead hazards in homes. When children are identified with an elevated blood lead level, the County provides oversight to ensure that the lead-based paint problem is addressed.

The U.S. EPA guideline for renovation, paint and repair, effective April 22, 2010, requires that all contractors notify owners of properties constructed prior to 1978 of the potential for lead based paint hazards and to perform work in a lead safe manner. Contractors must be trained and registered with the U.S. EPA to do work in older homes that disturbs painted surfaces. Local building code offices will be made aware of these requirements.

Rehabilitation work planned in 2025 will comply with all lead-based paint requirements.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Through implementation of human services programs offered by or through funding provided by Passaic County, the County works to reduce the number of families with incomes below the poverty level. The County, in conjunction with the public and private agencies and institutions, provides lower-income households with the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills as well as the motivation to become fully self-sufficient. Economic Development activities are directed toward the creation of new businesses and employment opportunities. The CDBG program provides the potential of generating jobs that may be filled by Section 3 residents or hire Section 3 businesses.

The county Workforce Development Board and One-Stop Center develop training programs and provide job placement services for county residents.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The County Department of Planning and Economic Development is responsible for the administration of the CDBG program. All sub-recipient agreements are monitored on an ongoing basis. The County participates with other groups when appropriate, such as planning for the homeless, to facilitate cooperative problem solving in Passaic County.

Additionally, coordination between the County, non-profit service providers, and private agencies allow for all parties in Passaic County to efficiently leverage the limited economic and human resources available.

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

The County will continue efforts to enhance coordination between agencies by creating partnerships in

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the implementation the Section 3 outreach initiative and the Passaic County Interagency Council on Homelessness. The Section 3 outreach effort will partner with the Passaic County Workforce Development Center and the agencies involved in the Human Services Advisory Board to identify Section 3 individuals and businesses and to provide feedback on available job opportunities. The Passaic County CEAS/Continuum of Care is comprised of providers of homeless services and prepares the McKinney application for funding from HUD.

In addition to coordination between public and private agencies, improved coordination between Passaic County departments is being pursued to improve housing and economic opportunities for low-and moderate-income residents. Departments include Planning & Economic Development, Passaic County Public Housing Agency, Human Services, Parks & Recreation, Roads Division, and Office of Emergency Management.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(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	0
the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be	0
used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives	
identified in the grantee's strategic plan	
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	0
planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan.	
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