

2021 Draft Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report

City of Bloomington

Public Comment Draft

www.hennepin.us/housing-plans



Website

www.hennepin.us/housing-plans



City of Bloomington

FY 2021 DRAFT

Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report



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.

This document is the Consolidated Annual Performance Report (CAPER) for the City of Bloomington's 2021 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program year, as it relates to its Action Plan, Consolidated Plan, and other HUD requirements. The City of Bloomington did not receive HOME, HOPWA or ESG funding in 2021. The 2021 Program Year (PY) began July 1, 2021, ending June 30, 2022.

The city did receive \$515,447 in CARES Act funding, known as CDBG-CV3. These funds were expended on emergency housing assistance and more detail is included below and throughout this report.

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.

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Create and Preserve Affordable Rental Housing	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Rental units constructed	Household Housing Unit	100	0	0.00%			

Create and Preserve Affordable Rental Housing	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	100	0	0.00%			
Fair Housing Activities	Fair Housing Activities	CDBG: \$ / Section 108: \$0	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	0	0				
Preserve and Create Single Family Home Ownership	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$ / Section 108: \$0	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	6	6	100.00%	2	2	100.00%
Preserve and Create Single Family Home Ownership	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs	CDBG: \$ / Section 108: \$0	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	150	62	41.33%	30	11	36.67%
Senior and Public Services	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / Section 108: \$0	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	500	141	28.20%	100	33	33.00%
Senior and Public Services	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$ / Section 108: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		0	0	

Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date

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.

Single-Family Rehabilitation Program

In PY2021, 11 single-family rehabilitation loans were issued to low/moderate income homeowners using CDBG funds. This activity expended \$293,383.80. This program is offered on a citywide basis. While this activity was suspended for several months due to program updates and the pandemic, we were able to restart and serve 11 homeowners.

Outside Maintenance for Elderly (H.O.M.E.) Program

The HOME program is operated by Senior Community Services and \$20,000 in CDBG was expended in 2021. The program provides household and outside maintenance services to elderly homeowners 62 years-old and older in Bloomington. This program allows seniors to remain in their homes. HOME services were provided to 34 Bloomington residents. This activity is offered citywide. The services are structured to serve seniors in Bloomington.

Fair Housing

This activity is to further fair housing as part of the Fair Housing Implementation Council (FHIC) initiatives. In 2021 the \$5,000 in CDBG funds were used for activities identified in the metro-wide Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

Lead Paint Abatement

This activity provides lead paint assessments and clearance tests on all homes being given a loan through the CDBG Single Family Rehabilitation Loan Program. This fund also can pay for lead paint assessments and clearance tests for multifamily property owners who rent to recipients of the Section 8 Voucher program. This program is offered citywide and served 11 low/mod income households, expending \$4,590 in CDBG funds in 2021.

West Hennepin Affordable Housing Land Trust (WHAHLT)

In 2021, the city assisted WHAHLT with the purchase and rehab of two single-family homes to be re-sold to a low/moderate income first-time homebuyer. The City expended \$150,000 in CDBG funds for the projects.

Administration

This activity covers the general oversight and monitoring of the programs and relays information to the public regarding planning, implementation, or assessment of the CDBG activities. The total expense for this activity for 2021 was \$96,754.

Emergency Rental Assistance

The City of Bloomington received \$515,447 in CARES Act funding in the first round for CDBG. Known as CDBG-CV3, these funds were committed by the City to providing emergency rental and housing assistance through an Amendment of the PY2019 Action Plan. The City contracted with Volunteers Assisted to Assist People (VEAP), Minnesota Homeownership Center, St. Stephen's and Community Mediation and Resolution Services to provide emergency grants to renters, homeowners who were economically impacted by the pandemic and had balances owing to their landlords or mortgage company. The activity assisted Bloomington households with the funding.

CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted).

91.520(a)

	CDBG
White	46
Black or African American	2
Asian	1
American Indian or American Native	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0
Total	49
Hispanic	2
Not Hispanic	47

Table 2 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds

Narrative

The above table details the race and ethnicity data for the PY2021 CDBG activities and does not include CDBG-CV data. The City did receive a CDBG-CV3 grant, and those funds will be expended in PY2022, since other state assistance was primarily used first.

CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	1,098,055	380,049
Section 108	public - federal	0	

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

The CDBG resources listed in the first line in the chart above includes the PY2021 grant funding, carryover from PY2020 and program income. In addition, on the last line titled "Other" we have listed the CDBG-CV3 grant of \$515,447 that the city received.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

The City of Bloomington is the target area and offers all CDBG funded activities city-wide to qualified people and household. This is both 100% of the planned and 100% of the actual percentage of the allocation. This includes all CDBG-CV funds.

Please note that the City of Bloomington does have publicly (City) owned land. The land is used for a variety of uses including parks, public buildings and right of way for streets. The city is continuing its undertaking a city-wide inventory of all land held by the city, to determine if any excess and could be sold/used for affordable housing.

Leveraging

Explain how federal funds leveraged additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements were satisfied, as well as how any publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that were used to address the needs identified in the plan.

The CDBG program does not require a leveraging match to its grant expenditures. However, the city and its HRA annually invest in the community to address the needs of the community and those identified in the five-year and annual CDBG plans.

In 2021/2022, the City of Bloomington provided over \$500,000 in its own levy funds to the HRA to complete additional single-family rehab loans, in addition to those funded by CDBG.

The City also expends its own funds on public services that are not or cannot be funded through CDBG funds. The City typically expends more than \$100,000 per year of its own funds to non-profits and other organizations serving low-income, disabled and other special-needs populations. Below is a list of some of the agencies that receive this support:

Bridging, Inc.: Provides furniture and household goods to low income families and new Americans

Cornerstone: Provider of support and services to victims of domestic violence

Home Line: Tenant rights and fair housing information service

Meals on Wheels: Meal delivery to elderly and disabled persons

Oasis for Youth: Supportive services to Bloomington youth who are homeless

Senior Community Services: Counseling, case management and outreach services to seniors, including frail elderly

Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People (VEAP): Assisting individuals and families, including homeless, with food, household and living items that they would not otherwise afford.

CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

Evaluation of the jurisdiction's progress in providing affordable housing, including the number and types of families served, the number of extremely low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and middle-income persons served.

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Total	0	0

Table 5 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	0	1
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	0	0
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	30	11
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	2	2
Total	32	14

Table 6 – Number of Households Supported

Discuss the difference between goals and outcomes and problems encountered in meeting these goals.

The City of Bloomington helped to preserve 11 single-family homes owned by low/moderate income households in the city through funding the single-family rehabilitation loan program with CDBG funds. The City and HRA funded Neighborhood loan program will also assist a similar number of households during the 2022 program year. The City also assisted the West Hennepin Affordable Housing Land Trust (WHAHLT) with \$150,000 in CDBG funds for the purchase and rehab of two single-

family home to be re-sold to first-time homebuyer.

In addition, the City's HRA operates the Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Rent Assistance Program within the city. This 551-voucher program is the primary way the city provides affordable housing.

Secondly, the City and HRA are actively working with interested developers to identify sites for the future development of affordable housing. Bloomington is a completely developed city and any development of affordable housing faces high land costs and possible demolition of existing structures. Land assembly for development is further complicated by limited eminent domain powers in Minnesota.

In 2017 the HRA has released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for four HRA-owned parcels located in the France Ave/Old Shakopee Rd redevelopment area. Through the RFP process, the HRA selected a developer to build 42 units of affordable housing on the property. The developer utilized affordable housing tax credits to build the project. The HRA assisted the project with a write down of the purchase price of the property, which it originally purchased with HRA levy funds. Construction has completed and the property was fully leased in the spring of 2020.

In the fall of 2019, the City adopted an inclusionary housing ordinance and established an affordable housing trust fund, initially funded with \$15 million for the development of new and the preservation of existing Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing (NOAH). The first NOAH property to access this tool was the purchase a 306-unit building with non-profit housing developer Aeon. Aeon has also received additional assistance from the City and other sources to add 172 units of low-income tax credit affordable housing units on excess land on the property and was fully leased in fall 2021.

The city does not utilize CDBG to provide ongoing affordable housing assistance, but by utilizing resources like Section 8 and the initiatives noted above, the city is making significant progress of meeting the goal to provide additional affordable housing opportunities in the city. The city did use its CDBG-CV1 and CV3 funds for emergency rental assistance.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

The development and provision of new affordable housing units is a high priority for the city and its HRA. Staff is presently working with interested developers in identifying sites for possible future projects, including using the City's affordable housing trust fund, as well as the low-income housing tax credit program development as noted above.

The city will continue to review its options and strategies for the provision of affordable housing. The city through its strategic planning process identified the creation of more affordable housing units a key goal. This has resulted in an inclusionary housing policy that was adopted in 2019. Secondly, the City & HRA staff are actively working with housing advocates, developers, and others on strategies for the preservation of Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing (NOAH) within the city. The City adopted in

2019 a 90-Day Tenant Protection ordinance that protects existing tenants of NOAH properties after a sale. Also, the City has adopted a Fair Housing policy that affirms the City's commitment to Fair Housing and formalizes a referral process for fair housing complaints.

The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are still being assessed and the city will determine how to re-align funding and priorities to best serve the community.

Include the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income persons served by each activity where information on income by family size is required to determine the eligibility of the activity.

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	0	0
Low-income	10	0
Moderate-income	4	0
Total	14	0

Table 7 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

The City of Bloomington utilizes its' CDBG funding to assist only those households at or below 80% of AMI (moderate-income) and below or seniors. As noted in the chart above, 71% were households between 31% and 50% of AMI (low-income) and 29% were households at 51% to 80% of median income (moderate-income). The city continues to reach towards its goal to target funding to the lowest income households.

In PY2021 the City received CARES Act funding to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The most immediate need to respond to the economic hardships caused by the pandemic was to provide emergency rental assistance to renters in the city. Our CDBG-CV3 grant is used to for this purpose.

CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)

Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:

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

The City of Bloomington works closely with Hennepin County to reaching out and assessing the needs of homeless persons. The City's Public Health, HRA and Community Outreach and Engagement divisions can refer homeless persons to Hennepin County or other service providers such as non-profits. In addition, Hennepin County provides a regional Human Services center in Bloomington that includes food and cash assistance and assessment of needs and services for homeless persons.

Hennepin County has implemented Coordinated Entry for families, which assesses families in shelter after one week in shelter. The community has launched a Coordinated Entry system for singles, assessing people in shelter with the VI-SPDAT assessment forms. Additionally, the County launched a more coordinated shelter entry system for single adults and implemented the VI-SPDAT assessment for all single adults after a month in shelter. People who score into the Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) range are triaged through a Housing Referral Coordinator to available PSH units within Hennepin County. Those who score in the Rapid Rehousing range are assigned a rapid rehousing service provider. St. Stephen's Street Outreach conducts VI-SPDAT assessments on people who are unsheltered, and their referrals also go through the Housing Referral Coordinator. The City of Bloomington also works directly with St. Stephen's Street Outreach, using CV3, for outside unsheltered homeless persons in Bloomington to provide services and referrals as this has increased with impacts of the COVID pandemic.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City of Bloomington has two non-profits located within the city that actively address the needs of two homeless populations: youth and victims of domestic violence. Specifically, Oasis for Youth (oasisforyouth.org) opens doors to housing, employment, education, and wellness for youth facing homelessness in the suburbs, including Bloomington. Oasis provides tools for stability and opportunities to thrive through individualized case management, onsite supportive services, and connections to housing and community resources. Cornerstone provides services to domestic violence victims and their families (cornerstonemn.org). Through its Bloomington service center, Cornerstone provides services and emergency shelter to individuals and families who have become homeless due to violence in the home.

In addition, all homeless persons and families may access the services provided by Hennepin County. Hennepin County has a board policy to shelter all families and all disabled adults. Our shelter system is robust and expands to meet demand, essentially sheltering all people who request emergency shelter.

The family shelter system is coordinated by Hennepin County staff. The single adult shelter system is coordinated by a consortium of five single adult shelter providers. Youth can either enter a youth-specific shelter system or can access single adult or family shelter. Additionally, Hennepin County has taken part in the Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) program and Bloomington, through its HRA, is a participating entity. Transitional housing is accessed through the Housing Referral Coordinator. Most of the transitional housing in Hennepin County has changed their programming to either be Permanent Supportive Housing or Rapid Rehousing.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after 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); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

The City of Bloomington works closely with Hennepin County to reaching out and assessing the needs persons at risk of homelessness. The City's Public Health, HRA and Community Outreach and Engagement divisions can refer homeless persons to Hennepin County or other service providers such as non-profits. In addition, Hennepin County provides a regional Human Services center in Bloomington that includes food and cash assistance and assessment of needs and services for homeless persons. The city, through its HRA provides rental assistance for 551 every month through its Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) program. This program provides an essential resource to families and individuals to obtain affordable housing. The city also works closely with Hennepin County for providing services to those likely to become homeless after 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), and receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs. In cases where City staff is unable to connect the person at risk of homelessness to the service's needs, they will be provided referrals to Hennepin County for assistance.

To the extent possible, people who are not literally homeless are first directed to “non-homeless” resources to assist in housing stability. Hennepin County offers “emergency assistance” for rent or utility bill arrears to keep people in their current housing. Treatment programs are encouraged to find housing for their clients upon discharge, rather than discharging them into homelessness. This is an area for improvement, however. Because of the extremely low vacancy rate, many people are still discharged from systems into homelessness. As our community’s Coordinated Entry system expands, the county will reach out to those systems of care to assess people before discharge into appropriate homeless-specific and mainstream funding sources for housing support. The county uses state dollars from Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP) as a second tier of prevention funds for families and singles that have already used emergency assistance within the past year.

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 City of Bloomington's HRA provides permanent affordable housing through its Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) program that assists up to 551 individuals and families every month. The HRA also operates 21 single-family rental homes that provide families a pathway to homeownership.

Hennepin County: For all our populations, our focus is on making homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring. Families experiencing homelessness are guaranteed entry into Hennepin County's contracted shelter system. They are assessed via the VI-F-SPDAT within a week of shelter entry. The VI-F-SPDAT assesses their vulnerability and need for supports to end their homelessness. Families are then offered Permanent Supportive Housing or Rapid Rehousing services, as their vulnerability warrants. The focus in family shelter is on making the experience as brief as possible, but with sufficient supports in place upon housing to make a recurrence of homelessness rare. Our RRH program has flexible rental and social service supports, so that supports can continue up to two years, as needed by the family. For single adults, our plan is to implement the "Single Point of Entry". In this system, all single adults will be briefly assessed upon entry into shelter. Those who do not self-resolve within a few weeks will be given the VI-SPDAT and a housing plan will be developed, with Permanent Supportive Housing or Rapid Rehousing services offered, depending on vulnerability. Currently, most youth are served through our family or single adult system. Some youths are served in youth-specific shelter and housing. Youth are given a choice as to which system to enter. We are currently more intentionally wrapping youth into the adult system, so that youth who enter the homeless system and get assessed can choose to either enter youth-focused housing or more general adult housing options, again based on their vulnerability, as determined by the VI-TAE-SPDAT.

CR-30 - Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j)

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

The City of Bloomington does not operate a Public Housing program.

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

The City of Bloomington does not operate a Public Housing program.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

The City of Bloomington has one PHA (or HRA) located within its jurisdiction. The Bloomington HRA does not operate a public housing program and is rated by HUD as a High Performer for the administration of its Housing Choice Voucher program.

CR-35 - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j)

Actions taken 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. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)

The City of Bloomington is flexible to assist the development of new housing including affordable units. A current example is the development of 394 units of rental housing at Indigo in the South Loop District of the city, which was completed in 2017. The developer asked for financial assistance and policy changes to enable the development to proceed. In return, the city required the addition of affordable units to the project and the developer agreed to placing eight project-based vouchers in the project. (This number was capped due to the high costs of the Davis Bacon requirements that begin at nine or more units.)

To assist the development of this project, the city did the following:

Allowed alternative construction methods, created a TIF district, allowed higher density, floor area ratio increased, increased building height, assisted with land assembly, land cost write-down, parking variances granted and reduced street width requirements.

This example demonstrates Bloomington's willingness to remove or ameliorate policies that may restrict the creation of new affordable and/or market rate housing.

The HRA is also working with a developer to construct 42 units of affordable housing on property owned by the HRA. These units will utilize federal tax credits to assist households at or below 60% of area median income. The HRA assisted the project by writing down the purchase price of the land to the developer. This property fully leased up in 2020.

The City approved an inclusionary housing policy that now requires a percentage of affordable units be included in all multi-family development of 20 units or more. This Opportunity Housing Ordinance (OHO), adopted in the fall of 2019, also established an affordable housing trust fund, initially funded with \$15 million for the development of new and the preservation of existing Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing (NOAH). The first NOAH property to access these tools was the purchase a 306-unit building with non-profit housing developer Aeon. Aeon has also received additional assistance from the City and other sources to add 172 units of low-income tax credit affordable housing units on excess land on the property with construction beginning in 2020 and fully leased in 2021.

Actions taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The primary obstacle that results in underserved needs is the limited funding the City of Bloomington receives from the CDBG program. The city received a slight increase in its 2018 CDBG grant, this still reflects a nearly \$100,000 grant reduction since FY2003. Even with these cuts, the city has developed a balanced offering of activities to best utilize this limited resource, including low/mod income single-family rehab, fair housing, home ownership/land trust, senior home maintenance and affordable housing homeownership.

The City and its HRA continue to work to identify the underserved needs in the community. The City and HRA have both provided additional funding to preserve the housing stock of the city through the various single-family rehabilitation programs that the HRA operates. In addition, the City funds many public services in the community, as was described in an earlier section of this report. The City's Public Health and Community Outreach and Engagement divisions work closely with various elderly, disabled and others in need to provide direct services or referrals and connections to other service providers.

In 2019, the City approved an inclusionary housing policy that now requires a percentage of affordable units be included in all multi-family development of 20 units or more. This Opportunity Housing Ordinance (OHO), adopted in the fall of 2019, also established an affordable housing trust fund, initially funded with \$15 million for the development of new and the preservation of existing Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing (NOAH). The first NOAH property to access these tools was the purchase a 306-unit building with non-profit housing developer Aeon. Aeon has also received additional assistance from the City and other sources to add 172 units of low-income tax credit affordable housing units on excess land on the property with construction beginning in 2020 and fully leased in 2021. This development has 17 affordable units reserved for homeless individuals and families. Also, the City and HRA continue to explore funding options to reach those with the greatest need, specifically those households with incomes below 30% AMI.

Actions taken to reduce lead-based paint hazards. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The city and HRA funds lead-based paint testing and clearance testing to all participants in the single-family rehabilitation loan program. In 2021, the city expended \$4,590 for lead-based paint testing in homes within the city that have applied for a rehabilitation loan.

Actions taken to reduce the number of poverty-level families. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The number of persons in poverty is also reduced through the City's public service activities mentioned earlier. In addition, the HRA will continue to seek additional sources of funding for affordable housing. The provision of safe, decent affordable housing is recognized as one of the best ways to assist a family overcome poverty. Bloomington HRA has contract authority for 551 Section 8 vouchers and assists new participants when current participants go off the program. However, due to HUD's budget cuts for our program, we have limited the issuing of new vouchers to the budget authority made available by HUD/Congress. The HRA will continue to maximize the use of the funding it does receive to assist the maximum number of families.

In the spring of 2020, the HRA provided \$200,000 to VEAP to provide emergency housing assistance to families during the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, the City will provide \$269,000 in CDBG-CV funds to VEAP for emergency housing assistance. In addition, the City has received \$515,447 in CDBG-CV3 funds. These funds are being used in a variety of ways to address the needs of those who have been economically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including emergency rental and mortgage assistance, foreclosure prevention, homeless outreach, and services.

Actions taken to develop institutional structure. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City of Bloomington works to connect its services and programs with other new and existing programs and services provided by other governmental entities and non-profits. The City's HRA has worked this year to develop a close working relationship between its program staff and the non-profit Volunteers to Assist People (VEAP), a large social service agency in the South Metro and the largest food shelf in the area. This ongoing relationship will assist participants of both agencies get better connected to the services they need. HRA staff has also reached-out and developed working relationships with the staff at the Hennepin County Social Services hub located in Bloomington. The hub provides essential connections to cash assistance, food stamps, mental health, and homeless services.

Actions taken to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

As noted above, the City of Bloomington works to connect its services and programs with other new and existing programs and services provided by other governmental entities and non-profits. For example, the City's HRA continues to develop a close working relationship between its program staff and the non-profit Volunteers to Assist People (VEAP), a large social service agency in the South Metro and the largest food shelf in the area. This ongoing relationship will assist participants of both agencies get better connected to the services they need. Also, this year, HRA staff continued developing the working relationships with the staff at the new Hennepin County Social Services hub located in Bloomington. The hub provides essential connections to cash assistance, food stamps, mental health, and homeless services.

Identify actions taken to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in the jurisdictions analysis of impediments to fair housing choice. 91.520(a)

The City of Bloomington is a member of the ad-hoc Fair Housing Implementation Council (FHIC) which was established in 2002 to coordinate efforts of its participating members to comply with their obligations to affirmatively further fair housing throughout the metro housing market area. Funding members administer federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funding, as well as other Fair Housing programs. Funding members of the FHIC include the counties of Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Washington, Metro HRA (Metropolitan Council), the Community Development Agencies of Scott and Carver Counties, and the cities of

Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Minneapolis, Plymouth, Coon Rapids, Saint Paul, and Woodbury. The FHIC has recently completed an updated AI as part of the 2020 Consolidated Plan process and is coordinating efforts and activities to begin to address the identified impediments from the AI.

The City of Bloomington continued work of its own to reduce fair housing impediments and further fair housing. Specific examples include using HRA levy funds to help support the creation of a multi-lingual tenant-landlord rights video to be publicly broadcast in the Metro and to be pushed out to members of minority populations. The video, "A Good Place to Live" will also be part of a curriculum for ESL classes throughout the Metro and state. The video can be seen here:

<http://www.housinglink.org/HousingResources/FairHousing/> which is on Housing Link's fair housing resource page. HousingLink is a local non-profit that provides education on issues such as Fair Housing and links to vacant rental units and information on how to access affordable housing programs. The Bloomington HRA provides HousingLink with levy funding of \$10,000 per year to assist in their work.

In 2018, the City of Bloomington adopted a Fair Housing Policy that affirms the City's commitment to fair housing choice in all housing. The policy formalizes a fair housing complaint process to provide referrals to the proper investigative agency for such complaints. The policy also sets out internal objectives to ensure that the City operates within the confines of the Fair Housing Act and the Minnesota Human Rights Act.

CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

Describe the standards and procedures used to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and used to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements

The city has several divisions that it monitors to determine the extent of homeless people and families in the city. These include the HRA, Community Outreach and Engagement and Public Health divisions. The staff of these divisions coordinate services and referrals for homeless families and individuals. While Bloomington does have homelessness, which has been exacerbated by the pandemic, we plan to undergo an assessment for housing needs in Bloomington, all while those who are experiencing homelessness are eligible to access the fully developed services provided by Hennepin County.

The city through its annual planning process for the CDBG program considers the best activities to serve the city. The CDBG program funding and its activities are considered in a broader connection to the other services provided by the City and the other agencies and non-profits that are funded by the City.

The largest activity the city undertakes with CDBG funding is the Single-Family Rehabilitation Loan Program. The homeowners who participate in this program are free to select the contractors that they choose for their project. They must acquire bids from at least two licensed contractors. The lowest qualified bid is then accepted. The city provides the homeowners with a list of contractors who have successfully worked with the rehab program in the past. This list is updated periodically and includes Section 3, minority-owned and/or women-owned businesses. Homeowners are not limited to the list and the city does not recommend specific contractors.

In 2019, the city has created and hired a Racial Equity Coordinator position. In 2022, this position was expanded to the Office of Racial Equity, Inclusion and Belonging and staffing of a Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer and Equity and Inclusion Specialist. This office works to initiate and coordinate activities that expand equity and inclusion efforts both internally and externally in the city.

Citizen Participation Plan 91.105(d); 91.115(d)

Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports.

The City of Bloomington is a member of the Hennepin County Consortium for the CDBG and HOME programs. Hennepin County serves as lead agency for the consortium. To encourage public comment on the CAPER, the City published a 15-day public notice of a comment period and public hearing for the CAPER as well as on the City's website. To ensure access to all, regardless of native language, during the comment period, the city posted its' section of the CAPER on our webpage. The webpage can translate into any language, utilizing Google translate. In addition, the webpage is fully ADA compliant, including any documents that are posted on the site. The city sent out an email notification to all subscribers seeking updates on our CDBG program. This email informed them of the comment period and where to go to see view and/or download the CAPER. In addition to the Bloomington public hearing, the County published a public notice for a public hearing and 15-day comment period that included Bloomington's CAPER as a section. The County provided printed copies at public libraries and electronic copies on its website for comments.

During the comment period, a public hearing will be held before the Bloomington City Council and during the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners for the CAPER at which the public may comment on any part of the CAPER, including the Bloomington section.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.

The City of Bloomington expended all \$269,466 of its CDBG-CV1 funds for emergency rental assistance to assist families who have been economically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The city assisted 157 qualified households with this funding. The city will also receive \$515,447 in CDBG-CV3 funding and has committed those funds in PY2021. The City will fund activities including emergency rental and mortgage assistance, foreclosure prevention, and homeless outreach/counseling.

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

No

[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.

The City of Bloomington expended all \$269,466 of its CDBG-CV1 funds for emergency rental assistance to assist families who have been economically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The city assisted 157 qualified households with this funding. The city will also receive \$515,447 in CDBG-CV3 funding and has committed those funds in PY2021. The City will fund activities including emergency rental and mortgage assistance, foreclosure prevention, and homeless outreach/counseling.

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

No

[BEDI grantees] Describe accomplishments and program outcomes during the last year.

CR-58 – Section 3

Identify the number of individuals assisted and the types of assistance provided

Total Labor Hours	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Total Number of Activities	0	0	0	0	0
Total Labor Hours					
Total Section 3 Worker Hours					
Total Targeted Section 3 Worker Hours					

Table 8 – Total Labor Hours

Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Public Housing Targeted Workers					
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Other Funding Targeted Workers.					
Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships).					
Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or paying tuition for, off-site training.					
Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching).					
Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section 3 business concerns.					
Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns understand and bid on contracts.					
Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate participation by Section 3 business concerns.					
Provided or connected residents with assistance in seeking employment including: drafting resumes, preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities, connecting residents to job placement services.					
Held one or more job fairs.					
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that can provide direct services or referrals.					
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that provide one or more of the following: work readiness health screenings, interview clothing, uniforms, test fees, transportation.					
Assisted residents with finding child care.					
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community college or a four year educational institution.					
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training.					
Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching.					
Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns.					
Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies.					
Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses.					
Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.					

Other.					
--------	--	--	--	--	--

Table 9 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program

Narrative