

**Memorandum
Community and Economic Development**

To: Randall Tweet, City Manager
Subject: CED – HUD CDBG Program Year 2020
Consolidated Annual Performance Report
Date: April 12, 2021



The required fifteen (15) day comment period for the City of Rock Island's PY 2020 Consolidated Annual Performance Report (CAPER) will concluded on April 8, 2021. The city is holding one public hearing to allow citizens an opportunity to present comments regarding the content of the CAPER.

The public hearing will take place April 12, 2020 during the regular Rock Island City Council Meeting. This public hearing is being held for the purpose of gaining public comment regarding the Program Year 2020 HUD-CDBG projects, activities, and expenditures.

CED staff requests that at the conclusion of the public hearing, Council accept and approve the Program Year 2020 Consolidated Annual Performance Report as submitted.

RECOMMENDATION:

That council accepts and approves the Program Year 2020 Consolidated Annual Performance Report as submitted.

Submitted by: Colleen Small-Vollman, Budget and Grant Manager

Approved by: Randall Tweet, City Manager

CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

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

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

The City of Rock Island received a Community Development Block Grant entitlement allocation of \$1,103,273 for Program Year 2020 starting January 1, 2020 and ending December 31, 2020. In addition to the PY 2020 funding, the city budgeted an additional \$1,016,588 in unexpended Commercial and Industrial Revolving Loan Fund and from unspent previous year awards for eligible activities. The total funding that the city obligated for PY 2020 was \$2,119,861. The city allocated funds to the following programs: Neighborhood Housing Rehabilitation, Code Enforcement activities, Public Service Programs, and Public Facility improvements, as well as program administration and Neighborhood Housing service delivery costs.

In addition to the regular CDBG award the city was also awarded a total of \$879,697 in Community Development Block Grant-Corona Virus funding. These funds were to prevent, prepare for or respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The funds have been distributed to provide economic development grants and public service grants totaling the full amount. Although the full amount has been obligated, The city only drew a total of \$412,811 in 2020. The remainder will be drawn in 2021 as compliance documentation is reviewed and accepted.

CED staff worked with the following departments to achieve the objectives outlined in the 2020 Annual Action Plan: Parks and Recreation. Funding was obligated to assist in addressing the continued rehabilitation and enhancement of Douglas Park and the areas around Douglas Park.

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
Healthy Homes Lead Paint	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	10	3	30.00%			
Healthy Homes Lead Paint	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	40	10	25.00%	10	6	60.00%
Housing Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Rental units rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	75	0	0.00%			
Housing Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	125	79	63.20%	25	43	172.00%
Job Creation	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Jobs created/retained	Jobs	50	325	650.00%	15	325	2,166.67%
Program Administration	Program Administration	CDBG: \$	Other	Other	1	1	100.00%	1	1	100.00%
Property Maintenance	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Buildings Demolished	Buildings	10	7	70.00%			
Property Maintenance	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$	Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care	Household Housing Unit	300	3700	1,233.33%	60	3700	6,166.67%

Public Infrastructure	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	1000	12880	1,288.00%	400	400	100.00%
Public Service	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	875	676	77.26%	200	200	100.00%

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.

The City of Rock Island Community and Economic Development Department was not fully staffed for the first five months of Program Year 2020, once the Construction Officer and Housing Loan Officer positions were staffed the only position shortfall continued to be the department Director.

The current consolidated plan process identified the following goals as activity priorities:

- 1) Improve housing conditions for income qualified residents
- 2) Create suitable living environments
- 3) Provide Public Services
- 4) Reduce the impacts of lead paint

Staff provided funding for 43 single family owner occupied housing units through the Neighborhood Housing Rehabilitation Programs, exceeding

the 2020 goal by six (6) houses. The Neighborhood Housing Rehabilitation Targeted Area Repair and Rehabilitation Program (TARRP) provided funding to 11 single family owner occupied houses. This was the first year for this program, funding has been increased for 2021 due to the need and level of rehabilitation activities in the designated areas. Code enforcement activities in the TARRP areas provided outreach and information regarding the TARRP program, this also increased the need for services in these areas. The Code Enforcement Inspector addressed 3700 cases that included the following violations: 1480 courtesy nuisance, 388 2nd violation nuisance, 120 habitual nuisance, 1411 weeds, 14 graffiti, and 284 housing.

The City, as part of a consortia, has received a HUD Healthy Homes grant to remediate lead in homes with children under the age of 6. As the grant has proceeded, the consortia has found it difficult to find lead certified contractors. This has caused the cost of remediation to increase above the preferred threshold amount of \$25,000.00 per unit hard cost. In an effort to be able to provide remedy to lead poisoned children the city has allocated some CDBG funds toward the rehabilitation costs. During PY 2020 ? housing units were addressed in Rock Island. During the Program Year the Construction Officer completed the Lead certification courses and also completed the Radon certification course. The city also traded in the old XRF gun and purchased a new XRF gun for lead detection.

The city did not meet the economic development goals in PY 2020 for the following reasons. The city's CPD representative monitored the PY 2017 Commercial/Industrial Revolving Loan Program in April/May of 2018. The results of the monitoring showed several deficiencies that could not be easily addressed to keep the program moving forward. Staff suspended the program indefinitely in an effort to retool the program. The city's expected launch date for the Program will be in 2021. The Community and Economic Development Department lost two staff members in January of 2020. Due to the Novel Corona Virus pandemic, the positions were not filled until May of 2020. The remainder of the year was spent getting the new staff members up to speed and trained. The Neighborhood Housing staff is operating beyond full capacity and it is expected that the retooled Economic Development Policies and Procedures will be released in June of 2021.

The highest priorities for the use of CDBG-CV funds was assistance to small businesses, to assist the small Rock Island businesses the city obligated a total of \$542,410 of the total \$879,697.00 that has been awarded through CDBG-CV.

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	618
Black or African American	165
Asian	91
American Indian or American Native	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0
Total	874
Hispanic	220
Not Hispanic	654

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

Narrative

Overall, the activities initiated and funded with CDBG funds benefitted 874 total persons. The activities included neighborhood housing, public service activities, and public facilities and infrastructure projects. The activities provided new or improved services in Low Mod Areas and for Low Mod Clientel.

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	2,119,983	
Other	public - federal	649,119	

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

The Neighborhood Housing Program is available city wide to applicants that meet the HUD income requirements under the Low/Mod Housing Benefit. The city was able to address 43 houses for a total investment of \$300,000 for single family owner occupied housing. A majority of the applicants awarded in 2020 were elderly. Funding made available to this segment of the population was instrumental in helping Rock Island's senior residents to continue living independently.

The city invested \$160,000 in Douglas Park in 2020. Douglas Park is located in a HUD designated RECAP census tract. This park was once a very popular park for kids and family activities. In the 1980's the park experienced a decline in use and was not invested in by the city. In 2015 the neighbors surrounding the park began to organize and reached out to city officials in an effort to address the blighted conditions of the park. From those efforts "The Friends of Douglas Park" was formed and the city began to repair and update the baseball fields and seating. The city was cited by the Illinois Attorney General because the park was not ADA compliant. In 2017 the city used CDBG funds to make the concession stand, approaches to the seating area and parking lot ADA compliant. In 2018- 2019 CDBG funds were used to put up new fencing around the new and refurbished athletic fields on the north end of the park. The current phase includes historic preservation efforts to restore Fire House No. 5 for use as a learning center. The Fire House is part of the Douglas Park complex and will become an asset to Park activities in the neighborhood.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
City of Rock Island	55		Census tracts 226, 228, 229, 233, 235, 236, 237, 244, 243, 241.02 and City Wide based on LMI
Targeted Reinvestment Area	45		

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

The city expends the majority of CDBG funds in qualifying census tracts under the Low Mod Area benefit and to individuals that are Low Mod Clientel. Benficiaries that fall under LMC or LMH are assisted on a city wide basis.

The City has identified three target areas within the city that are addressed with HUD CDBG funds for Code Enforcement activities.

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 Douglas Park Project will cost a total of 2 million dollars, to date the city has contributed \$471,757 of CDBG funding toward the project. CDBG funds have been able to leverage other state and private grants and investments in the amount of \$1,528,243.

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	35	43
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Total	35	43

Table 5 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	0	0
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	0	0
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	35	43
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	0	0
Total	35	43

Table 6 – Number of Households Supported

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

The city has met and exceeded the PY 2020 housing rehabilitation goal. The City continues to address the economic development policies and procedures in order to relaunch the program in PY 2021.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

The Code Enforcement and the Targeted Area Repair and Rehabilitation Programs work in tandem, The city was able to rehabilitate 11 single family owner occupied homes in the first full year of the program. The Targeted Area Repair and Rehabilitation Rental Program is on hold until a department director is hired. The city expects to close any matrix gaps and still acheive the five year matrix goals for all programs.

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	9	0
Low-income	5	0
Moderate-income	8	0
Total	22	0

Table 7 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

The availability of decent, safe, and sanitary affordable housing is one of the pressing needs in Rock Island. The high number of older housing stock in the community creates a need for home repairs/rehabilitation to maintain affordable housing and to revitalize neighborhoods.

The City's Neighborhood Housing Rehabilitation Program provides income qualified residents who are renting or owner-occupy their home to have rehabilitation projects that improve the safety and livability of their home.

As Rock Island’s housing stock continues to age, greater emphasis has to be given to the rehabilitation and preservation of affordable housing for moderate, low and very low income persons and families. Approximately 89% of Rock Island’s housing stock dates from the 1830 through 1990. Due to the efforts of several not for profit organizations working in Rock Island, new affordable housing and rental unit construction have been added to the City’s housing stock. Substandard housing continues to be a concern for low to moderate income neighborhoods in Rock Island.

The City of Rock Island addresses and promotes affordable housing through the Neighborhood Housing Rehabilitation Program to meet the low to moderate housing (LMH) needs. The City oversees the housing resources including those used to rehabilitate, and preserve affordable housing units.

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 remains committed to providing resource information and referrals to help residents who are at risk of becoming homeless or who are presently homeless, access services that ensure they have housing. Like many cities, it is the first responders who deal most frequently with persons who are in crisis. Police and fire are active in giving needed information on homelessness support to people who are in crisis. Rock Island has a variety of resource available for teens, families, veterans, and domestic abuse victims who are without housing. Additionally, the Community and Economic Development team make referrals and provide resource information during phone calls from residents, code enforcement activities, Neighborhood Housing Program intake, and other interactions with the public.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

ProjectNow, Continuum of Care provider for Rock Island, reports that 501 individuals have entered their system requesting immediate shelter from January 1 through December 31, 2020. They currently have 46 households/64 individuals who are currently receiving services for emergency shelter in Rock Island. The need within the community continues to be great, and the City, working with community leaders is working to address the issues that cause residents to experience homelessness. ProjectNow reports that funding for rapid rehousing and homelessness prevention programs are stretched thin due to the Novel Corona Virus Pandemic. The City is actively helping to address homelessness by providing CDBG-CV funding in the amount of \$175,000 to Project now for emergency rental and mortgage assistance payments. Each year, the City supports non-profit organizations providing homelessness services, like Winnie's Place, Bethany Children Services, and Stephen's Place (Christian Care).

Goals to End Homelessness:

- Expand access to housing for persons earning 0-30% of the MFI
- Pilot a housing first program in shelters to rapidly re-house families
- Increase the supply of permanent supportive housing
- Prevent homelessness among at-risk households and persons exiting from institutional care
- Provide access to supportive services under a single plan of care

The City plans to achieve these goals by working to support the efforts of the Continuum of Care Provider, distributing financial support to homelessness service providers through City gaming grants, and by continuing to work to help improve the living environments of low- and moderate-income residents.

While no CDBG funds were allocated in the 2019-2023 Consolidated Plan to address services for homeless persons, the City of Rock Island continues to respond to this need by serving as an active partner in the Homeless Connections of Northwestern Illinois Continuum of Care (CoC). In this capacity, staff shares program level information and assists in CoC decision making. Additionally, the City provides direct funding to homelessness prevention providers through the City's gaming grant program.

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

Rock Island residents benefit from many homeless prevention activities ranging from homeowner repairs to direct rental assistance. The housing repair programs funded by CDBG are offered by the City of Rock Island to ensure that low and moderate-income individuals and families, including those with special needs, are not displaced due to unsafe or threatening housing conditions. Activities offered under these programs include roof repair and replacement, furnace replacement, and other actions needed to address emergency housing conditions. Rebuilding Together Quad Cities also provides limited repairs to help keep low-income families and elderly persons in their homes.

The Salvation Army's Family Assistance Program serves Rock Island residents by offering emergency food, clothing, housewares, rental assistance, and utility assistance. Area veterans can also find help through the Rock Island County's Veterans Assistance Commission; services include rental assistance, food, medical equipment, and referrals. Rock Island Township and South Rock Island Township offices help income-qualifying residents with food, utility assistance, and other personal essentials. Alternatives for the Older Adult offers homelessness prevention activities by assisting older adults with health problems to secure services that help them stay within their home or community.

Other local social service entities prevent homelessness by offering assistance that allows low-income households to devote a greater portion of their earnings toward housing expenses. Activities include childcare subsidies, weatherization, and food assistance. Agencies including Project NOW, Christian Family Care Center, Churches United, the Salvation Army, and SAL Family and Community Services all help individuals and families stay housed by offering these types of services.

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

Permanent supportive housing is offered in the City of Rock Island to homeless persons with long term needs, as well as persons who have been diagnosed with a serious mental illness, developmental disability, or other health impairment. While the City's CDBG funding does not directly support these activities, other state and local resources are available to help address permanent supportive housing needs for these individuals.

Efforts to address the supportive housing needs of homeless persons living with HIV or AIDS are done through an organization called Steven's Place. Steven's Place is a supportive housing project taken on jointly by the City of Rock Island and DeLaCerde House.

Permanent supportive housing will continue to be provided by agencies that assist people who have mental or physical disabilities. The Robert Young Center located in Rock Island offers a Community Support Program, which provides psychiatric services, case management, recreation, and residential services to persons with a serious mental illness. The ARC of Rock Island County also provides residential services to persons who have a developmental disability and John Lewis Community Services provides permanent supportive housing to veterans.

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

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

RIHA submitted an application for the demolition and redevelopment of Lincoln Homes in 2016-2018 based on available funding. Lincoln Homes is a 55-unit family site comprised of two-, three- and four-bedroom townhouse units in six buildings. HUD does not consider renovation of a property to be viable when costs exceed 90% of the Total Development Cost (TDC) for new construction. The renovation of the 50-year old development would be 173% of the total development cost for new construction, therefore renovating the property is not feasible. Construction of Lincoln Residences began in September of PY 2020 and the expected completion date for the units is spring/summer of 2021.

Two Rivers Point (AKA Sunset Heights) is a 141-unit high-rise apartment building consisting of studio, one- and two-bedroom apartments. Currently 57 units are vacant and undergoing renovation.

Spencer Towers is a nine-floor low-income high-rise comprised of 199 1-bedroom units. Spencer underwent an elevator modernization and a new parking lot in 2016.

As the jurisdiction, the city completed the ERRS for these projects.

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

As part of the changing face of public housing, RIHA is assisting public housing residents in their efforts to become financially self-sufficient, and less dependent upon government assistance through the RIHA Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program. The FSS program partners with agencies and educational institutions throughout Rock Island County and the Quad Cities to help families develop the strengths, skills and experience necessary to achieve economic independence. Some key elements of the program include:

- **Homebuyer Incentive program:** Through this program Public Housing families participate in the program as new residents living at the 3rd & 11th Townhomes. RIHA also identified additional individuals who have expressed an interest in homeownership in the Homebuyer Incentive program. As part of the program, participants learn how to care for and maintain a home including interior and exterior care and maintenance. They also receive counseling and training in all aspects of household financial management. Pre-purchase workshops assist with new homeownership.
- **Escrow Account program:** This program currently includes 24 participants with an annual goal of 30 total participants. An escrow credit is based on the earned income increases of the family and is credited to the Escrow Account by RIHA during the term of the FSS contract. The more money an individual earns, the more money deposited into the escrow account. The escrow is not counted as an individual asset until the FSS contract is completed and only when the money is paid directly to the individual. A portion of this escrow account can be made available to the

family during the term of the contract to enable the family to complete an interim goal such as education or other employment related needs.

- **Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program:** This program assists public housing residents in their efforts to become financially self-sufficient, economically independent and less dependent upon government assistance. There are currently 80 RIHA families participating in the program. RIHA intends to increase that number to 85 participants in 2016.
- **YouthBuild program** provides, at-risk youth 16 to 24 years of age the opportunity to earn their GED or high school diploma while learning soft job skills and receiving on the job training in carpentry and other trade skills, while also providing community service.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs

The Rock Island Housing Authority is not considered "troubled."

In 2003 RIHA developed a plan backed by definitive goals and measurable outcomes to completely redefine and reinvent public housing within the city of Rock Island. The RIHA Asset Management Plan clearly defined how the Agency intended to shift the organization's vision, mission, purpose, policies, processes and philosophy toward the development of affordable mixed-income housing.

The goal is to include households with varying incomes while also providing quality housing options for the City's most vulnerable residents. The strategy is to demolish existing obsolete public housing developments and replace them with mixed-income affordable for-sale and rental housing that is indistinguishable from other housing within the City.

With the full implementation of the original 2003 Asset Management Plan and the 2008 Implementation Plan, RIHA plans to demolish and redevelop Lincoln Homes, redevelop the former Valley Homes site, and redevelop Spencer Towers into mixed income properties. The Plan also requires the development of affordable in-fill for-sale and rental housing in multiple neighborhoods throughout the City based on defined need. RIHA recently completed a Comprehensive Housing Market Study of the City of Rock Island and the surrounding Quad City area to identify housing gaps within the City. With the results of the Market Study in hand, the RIHA Board of Commissioners will be evaluating the 2003 Asset Management Plan and 2008 Implementation Plan and updating it to reflect current housing needs and gaps.

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)

A comprehensive zoning code update was completed in 2020. It aimed, in large part, to remove policy barriers that limited the range of housing options available in the community. Minimum lot sizes were replaced with a modest minimum lot width allowing many smaller lots to be developed. Minimum principal dwelling size was reduced so smaller houses can be built. Tiny houses will be allowed in year yards as accessory dwelling units. In all business zoning districts, mixed use developments will be easier to achieve as upper story residential units are permitted without additional review. In addition to the code, the accompanying zoning map was also updated. It expands areas of the community where higher density residential development is allowed, especially along public transit corridors. All of these changes will allow for residential development in a greater variety of shapes and sizes, thereby addressing a broader range of needs.

Neighborhood Housing Program

The City's Neighborhood Housing Rehabilitation Program is funded through CDBG entitlement allocation and provides a way for income qualified residents to rehabilitate their homes. The assistance is provided in the form of a forgivable loan. The program is available to qualified homeowners residing within the corporate limits of the City of Rock Island. The program is designed to bring owner-occupied homes into compliance with property standards as specified in the City's Building Codes and Ordinances.

The Housing Rehabilitation Program also addresses emergency needs on a case by case basis. Emergency rehabilitation items are limited to inoperable furnaces/boilers, water heaters, broken water/sewer lines, non-compliant weather head, severely damaged roofs, and exterior accessibility issues for elderly and disabled persons.

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

The primary obstacle to meeting underserved needs is the lack of identified and available resources. To overcome this obstacle, the city continues to actively pursue creative partnerships, both financially and in structuring of projects to leverage the available funds. In addition, it is the goal of the city to continue to continually improve communications and participation with residents, business owners, partners, and other key stakeholders.

The City continues to seek ways to expand the means by which those whose needs are underserved are informed about the financial and informational resources available to them, specifically the programs funded through the CDBG program. The City will continue to expand outreach to the Hispanic

community by ensuring the program materials and information is available in Spanish. Additionally, the City will also continue providing translation services to reach the large population of residents who are part of the African refugee community.

The City continues to utilize gaming revenue for annual grants that provide public service benefits to underserved residents. Past grant recipients have included projects aimed at assisting homeless persons, providing childcare for low-income families, and increasing access to health care service for low-income persons.

The City's concerted effort to address challenges and housing deficiencies in the RECAP area will address a population whose needs are often unmet and underserved. In addition of targeted code enforcement activities in the Targeted Reinvestment Area, income qualified residents will also be able to participate in the Neighborhood Housing Program (NSP). The NSP is a forgivable loan program that allows for much needed home rehabilitation projects. Additionally, the city will work to improve the infrastructure of the neighborhood.

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

Rock Island will provide lead paint remediation to 50 houses over the next 3.5 years. The City of Moline will be working with the Rock Island County Health Department, the City of Rock Island, the City of East Moline, and the City of Silvis to administer \$2,240,000 for 2019 Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction grant program funding and \$160,000 in Healthy Homes Supplemental funding. The project will address lead hazards in housing units providing safer homes for low and very low-income families with children. The City will also perform healthy homes assessments. A total of 50 homes will have lead paint remediation in Rock Island over the course of the 3.5-year grant period.

The grant provides a valuable source of supplemental funding to address housing renovation costs and comply with the Federal lead-based paint regulations

Activities to be funded under the grant include:

- Lead-based paint treatment and control – this would include eliminating, containing, encapsulating or otherwise reducing exposure to lead in windows, doors, walls, exterior surfaces (walls, window sills, porches, eaves, soil, etc.) as part of property renovation. Expenses for testing and clearance would also be included.
- Training and Education – for contractors and their employees so they can become proficient in lead-safe renovation and treatment techniques and therefore comply with state licensing requirements. Required insurance coverage could be paid for, in whole or part, by the grant. Funding could also be provided to augment the County Health Department's public education efforts related to lead hazards.
- Relocation / Supplies – funds would available for temporary relocation of residents and their possessions while home repairs are being made.

- Administration – costs related to program administration and coordination of various program components would be covered through the grant.

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

The City continues to work to reduce the number of poverty-level families. The City's primary focus has been on encouraging economic growth, increased job creation, and fostering programs that bring living-wage jobs to the community.

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts

Through negotiated agreements, the City offers assistance for new construction projects and renovation of existing buildings within Rock Island's five Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts. The TIF districts are adjacent to the RECAP area identified in the 2019 Assessment of Impediments to Fair Affordable Housing. Improving these commercial areas has a direct economic impact of the low- and moderate-income residents in the RECAP area. The TIF district, since it is adjacent to the RECAP area, also abuts the Targeted Reinvestment Area identified in the Consolidated Plan and 2019 Action Plan.

The TIF districts may assist developers with assessment and cleanup of contaminated soil, building rehabilitation, construction of engineered barriers, demolition/site preparation and land assembly costs.

Enterprise Zone

Enterprise Zone is a specific area designated by the State of Illinois to receive tax incentives and other benefits to stimulate economic growth and neighborhood revitalization in economically depressed areas of the state. The Rock Island Enterprise Zone allows for property tax abatement and sales tax exemption.

Business Incentive Programs

The City of Rock Island offers a variety of programs to assist both existing and new businesses wishing to undertake a sustainable improvement project. The Facade Improvement Program provides a dollar for dollar match of 75% of the total project costs (up to the maximum match of \$7,500) of Energy Star rated products, green roofs, and other energy-efficient or environmentally sound materials for exterior improvements to an existing commercial property is available. Additionally, the Permit Fee Rebate program allows the city to rebate a portion of the building permit fee associated with the construction of a LEED-certified building.

These programs continue to revitalize the downtown commercial area and improve the livability of the

adjacent neighborhoods. Programs such as these are key to bringing in new employment opportunities, encouraging the growth of existing businesses, and create job opportunities.

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

The city is committed to continuing their education and understanding of CDBG funding to the community and working closely with HUD. When reasonable, the city will send staff to training and participate in webinars. The city will continue to update and receive feedback from the City Council on the status of projects and the progress of meeting program goals. Institutional transparency and communication with the community are a top priority for all city projects. City staff will continue evaluating and improving programs to ensure the needs of the community are being met with the available funding and resources.

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

The City of Rock Island participates in regional groups and coalitions that address homelessness, affordable and fair housing, and economic development. The city will continue to explore ways to coordinate CDBG activities with other regional CDBG entitlement communities. The city will work with other communities in the Quad Cities in implementing the activities outlined in the Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction grant and Healthy Homes Supplemental funding.

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 Rock Island, in conjunction with its Metropolitan Statistical Area partners - Moline, Illinois and Davenport, Iowa - completed an updated Analysis of Impediments to Fair and Affordable Housing (AI) in January 2019. The 2019 study was completed by Mosaic Community Planning.

The following impediments were identified in the 2019 AI:

- Continued need for an increased supply of decent affordable housing
- Lack of geographic diversity in affordable housing options
- Accessible housing for people with disabilities in short supply
- Community development planning lacks an equity focus
- Protected classes face a barrier to fairly accessing housing
- Community perceptions influence housing choice.

Additionally, a RECAP was identified in Rock Island. HUD developed a methodology that combines demographic and economic indicators to identify areas it classifies as racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty (RECAP's). HUD defines a RECAP as a census tract that has an individual poverty rate of 40% or more (or an individual poverty rate that is at least 3 times that of the tract of the

average MSA, whichever is lower) and a non-white population of 50% or more.

Tract 236 along Centennial Expressway on Rock Island's western edge is roughly bordered by 9th Avenue on the north, 11th Street on the east, 18th Avenue on the south, Mill Street on the west. It includes the Douglas Park neighborhood and Douglas and Rauch Family Parks.

An estimated 2,074 residents are living in the RECAP tract, of whom a majority are black (62.3%). Whites make up 13.6% of the tract, followed by Asians (11.0%), and Hispanics (8.5%). These shares vary considerably from the City of Rock Island as a whole, where Black residents constitute 18.0% of the population and Asians make up 1.8%. Only the share of Hispanic residents is comparable at 9.4%.

Foreign-born residents are also overrepresented in the RECAP tract. More than 20% of RECAP residents were born in other countries, compared to 6.2% of the population citywide. Specifically, residents born in Mexico, India, Burma, Nepal, other south-central Asian countries, and other countries in eastern Africa are overrepresented.

In an effort to address the issues outlined above, the City has developed the "Targeted Area Repair and Rehabilitation Program" This program will assist in the amelioration of the deteriorated effects of neighborhood decline through single family owner occupied housing rehabilitation program. The city provided funding for the continued redevelopment of Douglas Park and sidewalks surrounding the park.

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 and CDBG subrecipients are held accountable to program goals through a range of monitoring and timeliness activities, as described below.

Monitoring Visits: The City conducts an annual visit of all CDBG subrecipients. The monitoring visit is conducted within three months after the end of the fiscal year and includes an on-site interview, inspection of financial and client records relating to the CDBG funding provided (ensuring compliance with FHEO civil rights program requirements as signed by the recipients in the contracts), evaluation of the subrecipients performance, analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the program, assurance that activities are in compliance with the Action Plan, and a report by the subrecipients of any needs, such as technical assistance or areas for program enhancement.

Evaluating Performance: Performance is measured against the goals identified in the initial CDBG subrecipient agreement. During the annual monitoring visit, the subrecipient has an opportunity to explain how goals and objectives for the year were achieved, or why their goals were not reached. A follow-up letter to each subrecipient concludes the annual monitoring visit process. The letter summarizes the findings of the visit, and a copy is kept on file for reference.

Financial Management: Monitoring activities are also conducted each time a subrecipient makes a reimbursement request. City staff verifies that the subrecipient has started their program and is making progress toward their goals before approving a reimbursement request. Subrecipients also must submit the appropriate documentation to be reimbursed. All reimbursement requests are processed and paid within two weeks of their receipt. Requests are reviewed by the Budget and Grants Manager and then are submitted to the Finance Department for payment. The Planning and Redevelopment Administrator provides approval for the checks.

At least two drawdowns for funds are completed each quarter. The Budget and Grants Manager prepares the IDIS draws through an expenditure report generated from the City's accounting software. The expenses for the period are verified and then totaled. The Finance Department's Budget Coordinator then creates vouchers for payment in the IDIS system. Finally, the Accounting Supervisor in the Finance Department approves the draws.

Data Management: The City updates program and financial information in the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) every month to meet HUD's Timeliness requirements. The City obtains program information from the quarterly reports received from the CDBG subrecipients. The Budget and Grants Manager reviews these quarterly reports and enters the appropriate data into IDIS.

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.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the CAPER was made available at rigov.org for a 15-day public comment period.

Citizens were encouraged to provide comments regarding the CAPER by calling (309) 732-2904, emailing small-vollman.colleen@rigov.org or send comments to the attention of the Community and Economic Development Department, Rock Island City Hall, 1528 Third Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201.

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 has well esestablished programs that conform to HUD compliance regulations, the programs are modified over time to reflect changes in regulations or procedural processes. At this time the programs are in accordance with city objectives and there are no plans to change the programs policies or procedudures.

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

No

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

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