

City of Hattiesburg

2020 Annual Action Plan

Program Year January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020



**Presented to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
April 1, 2020
City of Hattiesburg
Department of Urban Development
Community Development Division (CDD)
200 Forrest Street
Hattiesburg, MS 39401**

**Annual Action Plan
2020**

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Hattiesburg (COH) 2020 Annual Action Plan is the third Action Plan of the City's 2018-2022 Consolidated Plan. The 2020 Action Plan will continue to address the identified housing, homelessness, supportive services and non-housing community needs as the basis for the City's strategy and its use of the 2020 CDBG and HOME funds granted to the City by HUD. This year's Action Plan is the City's application of the 2020 allocations of the above mentioned grant funds.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

The primary objectives of the 2020 Action Plan are the same as detailed in the Consolidated Plan. The proposed projects/activities with 2020 CDBG/HOME funding will address housing concerns in a number of areas, with primary focus on: Housing Rehabilitation, Affordable Housing Production and Down Payment Assistance. Proposed activities also include continuation of previously established Microenterprise, Façade Improvement and Public Facility activities. Specific goals for each area can be found in section AP-20.

3. Evaluation of past performance

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

The City has managed to meet many of its past objectives, particularly in the area of substantial rehabilitation of single-family homes. Over the five years of the previous five-year Consolidated Plan, the City was able to continue its objectives in the areas of housing activities by limiting its eligible activities to primarily housing and housing related activities. The City has reduced its waiting list to approximately 30 households. Along with CHDO partnerships, a number of rental and homeownership affordable housing opportunities were made available to residents.

During the previous five year Consolidated Plan period, the City also demolished more than 20 vacant and blighted properties. In the last 2-3 years, the City has continued an effort through code enforcement to demolish more than 75 vacant blighted properties.

In 2016, the City also hired a full-time Homelessness Coordinator. This new role was the first full-time position of its kind hired by a Mississippi city. The position focuses on outreach and documentation of homeless individuals, and partnership with other agencies to update the state's homeless management information system. The role is integral to identifying resources available across various agencies and organizations, and to connecting individuals in need to those resources. Likewise, the coordinator has become a go-to point of contact for other city departments and citizens when facing challenges related to homelessness. In recent years, the City also made great strides in reducing the number of homeless veterans.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The City conducted a Public Hearing on December 9, 2019, for the purpose of receiving comments on the creation of the 2020 Action Plan. The City maintains, because of the efforts of the Public Engagement Coordinator, this was one of the best attended public hearings. In addition to newspaper publications, the City utilized its website, community calendar and its Facebook page to provide notice of the hearing and comment period. The Impact paper and local TV station WDAM, both advertised the upcoming hearing on their websites. City staff also sent letters to neighborhood associations and churches to generate interest. Twenty-nine citizens attended the public hearing and 31 written comments were submitted. The hearing also addressed an amendment to funds from prior grant years, but many comments were relevant to both the amendment as well as the 2020 Action Plan.

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.

The sum of all comments would suggest that housing needs- repair and rehabilitation of substandard housing- are still perceived as the greatest need. However, there were a considerable number of comments calling for public facility type projects. Street work, sidewalks, and demolition of blighted properties were also noted multiple times. The City considered these comments and all other resources available in preparing the plan.

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

N/A

7. Summary

The City of Hattiesburg recognizes its CDBG and HOME grants as an opportunity to do great things to improve quality of life for low- to moderate-income residents and as a result, for the City as a whole.

The City values the citizen participation process and looks forward to doing more to promote participation opportunities in the future. Participation in this process by residents of low-income areas and the organizations that regularly serve low-income households is vital to ensure that funds are directed to areas and programs in which they can make the greatest impact. The City believes that the input from the hearing, other meetings, and daily calls to the city support the priorities in this plan.

The City believes that the strategies and objectives set forth in this Annual Action Plan are feasible and attainable (assuming that funding remains available), and they are in accordance with the needs and desires communicated by the public that these grants are intended to serve and organizations that provide such services.

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		HATTIESBURG	
CDBG Administrator	HATTIESBURG		Urban Development D/Community Development Division
HOPWA Administrator			
HOME Administrator	HATTIESBURG		Urban Development D/Community Development Division
HOPWA-C Administrator			

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 City's program staff reached out to citizens, local government representatives, public housing authorities, non-profit developers, and various social service agencies to gather input for the Annual Action Plan through its traditional advertising method. Staff also participated in the Mayor's Town Hall meetings and in quarterly meetings of the Community Advisory Committee – a group similar in purpose to the Housing Round Table.

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(l))

The City continues to participate quarterly in the Community Advisory Committee to discuss a variety of housing and homelessness issues. Participants are similar to the former Housing Round Table, which included the City's Urban Development Department, Mississippi Regional Housing Authority No. 8, the Hattiesburg Housing Authority, Hattiesburg Area Habitat for Humanity, R3SM (a non-profit housing organization), as well as the City's Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs). Participants also include the Salvation Army and Pine Grove Behavioral Health & Addiction Services, which both serve homeless persons; the AIDS Services Coalition, which serves the homeless as well as those living with AIDS; the University of Southern Mississippi's Institute for Disability Studies, which addresses housing issues statewide; and the Hattiesburg Board of Realtors.

The City has worked to bolster mental health services by way of a Behavioral Health Court partnership with Pine Belt Mental Healthcare Resources, and through working with the Pinebelt Coalition on Homelessness to coordinate efforts toward functionally ending homelessness.

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 City works closely with the Continuum of Care operating in Hattiesburg and the surrounding areas. The Pinebelt Homeless Coalition is the lead agency for the implementation of HUD Continuum of Care programs. Generally, individuals requiring assistance are referred to this organization. Further, the City has provided funding to the AIDS Services Coalition and Pine Grove Behavioral Health & Addiction Services. The City also has a full-time Homeless Advocate/Coordinator, who works actively with the coalition as well as other agencies in making proper referrals to appropriate resource agencies. In the last year, the city's coordinator has worked with the coalition to press the issue of a need for a documented plan as well as an adopted standard of care.

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

The City of Hattiesburg is a part of the 71-county "balance of state" Continuum of Care. The City works with the Continuum of Care (Mississippi United to End Homelessness), and a representative from the City regularly participates in their meetings. MUTEH and its members establish guidelines, policies, etc. for the Continuum of Care. The City does not enjoy entitlement status under ESG, and as the City does not directly undertake any activities supporting homeless persons, the City does not access or input information into HMIS.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	AIDS Service Coalition
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Agency has participated in meetings and discussions.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Habitat for Humanity in Hattiesburg, MS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Group participated in meetings and gave verbal comments. Question/comments favored down payment assistance, housing repair programming and rehabilitation grant amounts.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Breakthrough Community Services, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Education Civic Leaders

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Organization participated in public hearings and verbal discussions. Comments focused on down payment assistance, rehabilitation grant funding, and housing repair programs.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Hattiesburg Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Participation in public hearings. Comments focused on improving the quality of safe and habitable public housing.

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

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		

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

The City's interaction and coordination with the agencies and partnership groups mentioned above is constant. A full-time grant coordinator also seeks out other opportunities to leverage the city's resources – in Community Development as well as citywide. We have recently considered grant opportunities specific to lead hazard reduction, but have elected to defer such application until we have additional capacity to administer such a program.

The preparation of this action plan also overlapped with the creation of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, which afforded opportunities to gauge feedback regarding the need for quality affordable housing from the perspective of both public housing residents and public housing management.

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

As stated previously, the City conducted a Public Hearing on December 9, 2019, for the purpose of receiving comments on the creation of the 2020 Action Plan. The City maintains, because of the efforts of the Public Engagement Coordinator, this was one of the best attended public hearings. In addition to newspaper publications, the City utilized its website, community calendar and its Facebook page to provide notice of the hearing and comment period. The Impact paper and local TV station WDAM, both advertised the upcoming hearing on their websites. City staff also sent letters to neighborhood associations and churches to generate interest. There were many verbal and several written comments during the formal citizen participation process. The consensus from the community is overwhelming support for and need of a facility to anchor the community and be the catalyst to spur development. The 2020 Action Plan reflects that desire.

The City will continue to bolster its efforts going forward to encourage more citizen engagement.

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 Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	29 citizens; 9 staff members	Repair and rehabilitation of substandard housing - greatest need Infrastructure street work, sidewalks Demolition of blighted properties	N/A	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	546,146	0	1,118,797	1,664,943	1,092,292	The expected amount for the remainder of the Con Plan is simply the Year 3 amount multiplied by 2 to estimate Program Years 2021, and 2022.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1			Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$	
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	296,642	0	892,125	1,188,767	The expected amount for the remainder of the Con Plan is simply the Year 3 amount multiplied by 2 to estimate Program Years 2021, and 2022.
						593,284	

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

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

The City has recently utilized its mapping capabilities to identify City and State owned property throughout the City of Hattiesburg. These properties are reviewed periodically when need arises for particular projects, and the City intends to continue this approach of utilizing property already in its inventory (when appropriate) before seeking property to purchase.

Discussion

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	Housing Programs (including Affordable Housing)	2018	2022	Affordable Housing		Emergency Repair Housing Rehabilitation Rental Rehabilitation	CDBG: \$1,010,714 HOME: \$1,059,103	Rental units rehabilitated: 0 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Added: 1 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 8 Household Housing Unit
3	Down Payment Assistance	2018	2022	Affordable Housing		Down Payment Assistance	HOME: \$100,000	Homeowner Housing Added: 10 Household Housing Unit
8	Economic Development	2018	2022	Non-Housing Community Development		Commercial Rehab - Facade Improvement Microenterprise Assistance	CDBG: \$60,000	Jobs created/retained: 2 Jobs Businesses assisted: 2 Businesses Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
9	Public Facilities	2018	2022	Non-Housing Community Development		Public Facility Improvement	CDBG: \$485,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2516 Persons Assisted Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 0 Households Assisted

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Housing Programs (including Affordable Housing)
	Goal Description	This goal includes the creation of affordable housing by CHDOs either in the rehabilitation of existing housing stock or the construction of new housing for the purpose of sale or rental to eligible households. This goal also includes the bulk of the City's housing program, which is the substantial and emergency rehabilitation of eligible owner-occupied homes. Substantial Rehabilitations are completed with either HOME or CDBG funding. Emergency Repairs are completed using CDBG funding.
3	Goal Name	Down Payment Assistance
	Goal Description	This goal includes the use of HOME funds to assist in making new homeownership affordable for eligible buyers.

8	Goal Name	Economic Development
	Goal Description	<p>This goal serves to re-establish the City's former façade improvement program to incentivize the elimination of slum and blight conditions in the central business district. This is considered Privately-Owned Commercial Rehabilitation, a CDBG eligible activity.</p> <p>This goal includes support of eligible microenterprise businesses. Historically, this program was available without geographic boundary as long as other eligibility requirements were met. The City may consider a geographic target.</p>
9	Goal Name	Public Facilities
	Goal Description	<p>This goal serves to address the community need for a multi-purposed gathering place and also to stimulate area development. This goal is the result of support from citizens and elected officials.</p>

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The following is a listing of projects that the City of Hattiesburg proposes to undertake using CDBG and HOME funds anticipated for 2020.

Projects

#	Project Name
9	Public Facilities and Improvements
10	HOME Administration
11	HOME Housing Programs
12	Down Payment Assistance
13	CHDO Set-Aside
14	CDBG Administration
15	CDBG Housing Programs
16	CDBG Facade Improvement
17	CDBG Microenterprise Assistance

Table 7 - Project Information

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

The allocation of funding is in keeping with the priority needs identified in the Consolidated Plan. Housing issues - rehabilitation, code compliance, affordability - being the greatest priority identified, it is allocated the greatest amount of funding. The City also seeks to make funding available for Façade Improvement, Public Facilities and Microenterprise Assistance. Should funding for those programs go unused for any reason, the city may reallocate those funds for use in Housing Programs.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

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1	Project Name	Public Facilities and Improvements
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Public Facilities
	Needs Addressed	Public Facility Improvement
	Funding	CDBG: \$485,000
	Description	Acquisition and rehabilitation of facilities for a community multi-purpose gathering place.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 2,516 people reside in the neighborhoods where potential public facility projects are being considered.
	Location Description	To be determined.
	Planned Activities	Acquisition and rehabilitation of existing facilities to be utilized as multi-purpose community centers.
2	Project Name	HOME Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Housing Programs (including Affordable Housing) Down Payment Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Housing Rehabilitation Down Payment Assistance Acquisition Rental Rehabilitation
	Funding	HOME: \$29,664
	Description	Overall and day-to-day administration of the HOME Program
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
3	Project Name	HOME Housing Programs
	Target Area	

	Goals Supported	Housing Programs (including Affordable Housing)
	Needs Addressed	Housing Rehabilitation
	Funding	HOME: \$880,457
	Description	Funding of HOME housing activities, primarily substantial housing rehabilitation
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	5 to 7 very low and low income households
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
4	Project Name	Down Payment Assistance
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Down Payment Assistance
	Needs Addressed	Down Payment Assistance
	Funding	HOME: \$100,000
	Description	Down Payment Assistance
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	10 eligible households
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
5	Project Name	CHDO Set-Aside
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Housing Programs (including Affordable Housing)
	Needs Addressed	Housing Rehabilitation Acquisition Rental Rehabilitation
	Funding	HOME: \$178,646

	Description	Funding to be awarded to a CHDO for an affordable housing activity that benefits a low and/or very low income household.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	2 to 4 low and/or very-low income households depending on the activity chosen by the CHDO
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
6	Project Name	CDBG Administration
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Housing Programs (including Affordable Housing) Down Payment Assistance Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Housing Rehabilitation Emergency Repair Down Payment Assistance Public Facility Improvement Microenterprise Assistance Commercial Rehab - Facade Improvement Rental Rehabilitation
	Funding	CDBG: \$109,229
	Description	Overall and day-to-day administration of the CDBG Program
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
7	Project Name	CDBG Housing Programs
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Housing Programs (including Affordable Housing)

	Needs Addressed	Housing Rehabilitation Emergency Repair
	Funding	CDBG: \$1,010,714
	Description	Funding for all CDBG Housing Activities as well as project delivery for CDBG funded housing activities
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 12-18 households will benefit from either substantial rehabilitation or emergency repair projects.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Substantial rehabilitation and Emergency repair of owner-occupied housing.
8	Project Name	CDBG Facade Improvement
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Commercial Rehab - Facade Improvement
	Funding	CDBG: \$30,000
	Description	Commercial rehabilitation of building exteriors to improve quality of life and/or eliminate blight conditions.
	Target Date	
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	Applicants within the central business district/downtown area.
9	Planned Activities	
	Project Name	CDBG Microenterprise Assistance
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Microenterprise Assistance
	Funding	CDBG: \$30,000

Description	Assistance to microenterprise businesses based on qualifying factor of owner, job creation/retention, and/or limited clientele benefit.
Target Date	
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	n/a
Location Description	
Planned Activities	

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

With the exception of the Facade Improvement Program, none of the activities proposed for the 2020 Action Plan are directed geographically, meaning that there is not a prescribed area in which these activities are required to take place. Microenterprise Assistance, Housing Rehabilitation, Emergency Repair, Down Payment Assistance, and other Affordable Housing activities are allowable Citywide. However, these activities have historically taken place in areas of low-income and minority concentration. Such areas include the greater portion of Wards 2, 4, and 5, which are better identified by U.S. Census tracts 001, 002, 003, 004, 005, 006, 011, and 105. The Facade Improvement Program is directed to the downtown area as a program policy in an effort to continue the revitalization of the historic downtown.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The only activity/priority that is geographically driven in the 2020 Action Plan is the Facade Improvement Program, which is focused by program policy on the downtown area in an effort to continue the revitalization of the historic downtown. It is possible that procedures may change in the future regarding the approach taken to address housing rehabilitation, which could allow for a geographic focus. Such a focus would be based on findings of concentrations of need in low-income areas and/or based on a concerted effort by the City and/or partner agencies to create an impact on a particular neighborhood or area. Though it is currently not the case, the same effort could be enacted to concentrate Microenterprise Assistance on particular low- to moderate-income areas.

Discussion

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The city intends to concentrate its limited resources on affordable housing rehabilitation.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	24
Special-Needs	0
Total	24

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	1
Rehab of Existing Units	13
Acquisition of Existing Units	10
Total	24

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

Discussion

The figures provided above are taken from the total goals from all activities/projects anticipated within the 2020 Action Plan with the exception of Administrative activities, Public Facilities and Economic Development Activities. To a degree, the goals for each category of household or housing project type are unknown because they will vary depending on the type of households that apply for downpayment assistance or for any housing developed by CHDO's. The numbers above are a tabulation of each type as listed in the goals outlined earlier in the Action Plan. The number of households supported included among the non-homeless are those households anticipated to directly benefit from housing rehabilitation activities.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Hattiesburg Housing Authority manages 296 Public Housing units in the City of Hattiesburg.

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

The City of Hattiesburg stands ready to support the Hattiesburg Housing Authority in any way possible, particularly as the HHA seeks to replace many of its older units in the coming years. Most recently, the City has supported via resolution, a funding opportunity that would allow for the replacement of several buildings/units with new units at a HHA property.

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

The Housing Authority will continue to host monthly resident meetings at each of its developments to engage its residents. Guest speakers bring residents valuable information related to the City, the schools, civic service agencies, or others as may be pertinent. The HHA continues to host National Night Out Against Crime events, and use them as an opportunity to engage residents.

The City of Hattiesburg continues to require, as a component of its Downpayment Assistance Program, homebuyer education requirements, which are available to attendees at no or minimal cost through various agencies. The City will continue to work with public housing management to encourage homeownership options through downpayment assistance, Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program, and Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.

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

N/A

Discussion

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

Introduction

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 City of Hattiesburg actively participates in meetings of the Pinebelt Coalition on Homelessness and supports the efforts of individual organizations whose mission is to serve homeless populations. The City's Homelessness Coordinator leads a homeless outreach team, which travels weekly to known and suspected homeless encampments and other known locations in order to assess individuals' needs and to work to pair willing individuals with appropriate resources or services. The City intends to continue this collaboration in 2020, and intends to increase efforts in serving the homeless community by way of funding supportive services offered by appropriate agencies. The City also intends to support these agencies in attaining funding for additional emergency and transitional shelter. The Homeless Coordinator assists the city and homeless support agencies with all homeless issues. The city has also recently acquired a facility to be used by Pinebelt Mental Healthcare Resources and other agencies serving homeless individuals, which will become a multi-faceted resource center for the homeless and those at risk of homelessness.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

As previously stated, the City intends to continue its collaboration with organizations whose missions include services and housing for homeless persons. The City will support these agencies in competing for and attaining funding for additional emergency and transitional shelter, and may, as funding allows, consider opportunities to support new sustainable programs for emergency and/or transitional housing. More direct support for these housing needs will likely come through Public Facility Improvement activities, which may be more feasible in future years. The City's full time Homeless Coordinator assists in identifying available resources for individuals facing homelessness, and these resources sometimes include connecting individuals with emergency or transitional housing.

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 Hattiesburg's partner agencies in the field of homelessness and special needs clients are well organized and maintain close working relationships. The City's Homeless Coordinator works closely with a local non-profit by helping to refer clients for the Rapid Re-Housing Program. This work will continue in 2020.

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.

Forrest General Hospital has a process for identifying homeless persons and persons with substance abuse problems that may require certain case management or supportive service resources, and there is a well-organized process by which people are referred to appropriate agencies that may be able to assist. The City intends to support activities that will assist all manners of homelessness, including the prevention thereof.

Discussion

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

Introduction:

Hattiesburg has historically supported efforts to meet housing needs of its citizens and has been proactive in the provision of housing to its low- and moderate-income residents. In the 1938-1939 timeframe, the City created one of the first housing authorities in the State of Mississippi. The City supported the creation of the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority No. VIII and its efforts to bring Section 8 assistance to City residents.

The Official Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations make provisions for affordable housing and provide protection to citizens by ensuring proper land use and high quality residential land development.

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 City's zoning ordinance and related regulations are conducive to affordable housing development. As public policies are concerned, the only notable barrier to affordable housing has to do with development in flood zones where FEMA regulations create limitations on the value/cost of rehabilitation that can take place on existing structures. Historically, new affordable housing has not been created in flood zones when using CDBG or HOME funds because of the challenges of meeting the development requirements.

Discussion:

The City continues to implement housing rehabilitation programs to upgrade owner-occupied housing. Through CHDOs, the City of Hattiesburg is supporting the development of affordable housing and homebuyer down-payment assistance programs. These activities serve to reduce affordable housing barriers. The City has also partnered with service providers in areas of adult financial literacy, jobs training, and employability skills training - all of which address barriers individuals may have in attaining affordable housing. The City will continue to support such programs.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

Several of the City of Hattiesburg's CDBG and HOME funded activities seek to address underserved needs by way of affordable housing, housing rehabilitation, and assistance to non-profit organizations with such missions, among others. The City will continue these efforts in the coming years, and will also continue work in areas of obstacles pertaining to affordable housing.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City will re-launch its Down Payment Assistance Program, continue to promote the Bank On Hattiesburg Program, and continue addressing code compliance in an effort to continue improving housing stock.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

Through the City's ongoing Housing Rehabilitation, Emergency Repair, and other housing activities, the City and its partners comply with 24 CFR Part 35, which often requires lead-based paint abatement. These activities will be continued in 2020 along with the potential for addressing LBP hazards in housing as a stand-alone activity.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City will continue to support non-profits and public efforts to improve adult financial literacy through continued participation with Bank On Hattiesburg and continued promotion of free tax preparation services in an effort to address the high number of households in the area that are either un-banked or under-banked.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The City plans to continue facilitating meetings with various housing agencies, and participating in the Community Action Agency, the Pinebelt Coalition on Homelessness, and participating with other similar organizations as the opportunity arises. The City will continue to assess the group for gaps in representation and work to close those gaps by bringing other valuable participants to the table in order to further develop institutional structure. The Mayor's Town Hall circuit of neighborhood meetings will also continue, which has proven effective in making additional contacts with interested organizations and individuals.

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

The City will continue to participate with and support the efforts of the Pinebelt Coalition on Homelessness, and will continue to encourage agencies that have a mutual interest to participate as well. The City continues to work with United Way and Bank-On to provide reasonable costs banking services and financial literacy education to all residents, especially the un-banked and the under-banked.

Discussion:

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(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 the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
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 planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
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
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	70.00%

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(2)

1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is as follows:

The City has no other forms of investment beyond identified in section 95.205.

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

HOME PROGRAM – RECAPTURE PROVISIONS

Recapture Provisions HOME program regulations governing recapture when a HOME participating jurisdiction (City of Hattiesburg) uses HOME funds to assist homebuyers are set forth in 24 CFR Part 92.254(a)(5). By virtue of the fact that the City of Hattiesburg uses HOME funds to assist homebuyers, all homebuyers programs provided by the City of Hattiesburg and its sub-recipients must include guidelines for recapture as required by HUD. The 2013 HOME Program Final Rule updated the requirements of Resale and Recapture. The requirements set forth for resale/recapture will be provided in a separate written agreement between the City of Hattiesburg and the sub-recipient and/or beneficiary. Homebuyer Assistance Programs – The City of Hattiesburg will utilize the same Recapture requirements.

Funds subject to *recapture* – include direct subsidy of HOME investment that enabled the homebuyer to purchase the property. This includes down payment assistance, closing costs or other HOME assistance provided directly to the homebuyer.

Net proceeds are defined as the sales price minus superior loan repayment (other than HOME funds) and any closing costs.

The *Recapture* requirements of all the homebuyer assistance programs that utilize direct financial assistance include the following provisions and is included in the Program Written Participation Agreement and the Deed of Trust and Promissory Note:

i. The Deed of Trust and Promissory Note (lien), attached to the property to enforce recapture will be executed at loan closing and recapture guidelines adhered to by the homebuyer. The lien also restricts the homebuyer's ability to refinance during the period of affordability without approval. (See refinance/subordination policy).

The lien will depreciate annually in equal increments based on the affordability period, 5 years (20% per year), 10 years (10% per year), and 15 years (6.66% per year).

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

HOME PROGRAM – RECAPTURE PROVISIONS

Recapture Provisions

HOME program regulations governing recapture when a HOME participating jurisdiction (City of Hattiesburg) uses HOME funds to assist homebuyers are set forth in 24 CFR Part 92.254(a)(5). By virtue of the fact that the City of Hattiesburg uses HOME funds to assist homebuyers, all homebuyers programs provided by the City of Hattiesburg and its sub-recipients must include guidelines for recapture as required by HUD.

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Homebuyer Assistance Programs – The City of Hattiesburg will utilize the same Recapture requirements.

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The lien will depreciate annually in equal increments based on the affordability period, 5 years (20% per year), 10 years (10% per year), and 15 years (6.66% per year).

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

N/A

Based on the HOME Affordable Homeownership, the City will determine 95% of the median area purchase price set forth at CFR 92.254 (a)(2)(iii). For single-family housing, this does not exceed \$148,000.00. Eligible applicants for the City's DPA and Rehabilitation Programs are low and very-low income residents of the City. The City uses a number of public forums and events to promote its programs and to solicit applicants. Information may be obtained in the Community Development office Monday-Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. For CHDO Set-Aside funds, the eligible applicants are local not-for-profit housing development organizations that can meet HOME CHDO requirements. These agencies are solicited through a Request for Proposal process.

Citizen Participation Record

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2020 ACTION PLAN
FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG & HOME)
PROGRAMS AND APPLICABLE INFORMATION
ATTENTION: ALL HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI RESIDENTS

The City of Hattiesburg, Mississippi anticipates receipt of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in January 2020 or soon thereafter. These funds are estimated to total approximately \$847,000. The funds will be used to meet the primary objectives of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1974, as amended, by providing access to affordable, decent, safe and sanitary housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities for persons, of low and moderate-income.

A Public Hearing is scheduled for December 9, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chamber of City Hall at 200 Forrest Street for the purpose of receiving comments on the creation of the 2020 Action Plan. Public Comments on the topic will be taken between November 21, 2019 and December 23, 2019.

The City expects to receive a CDBG entitlement grant of approximately \$562,000. The City proposes to budget these funds for the following activities: CDBG Administration (\$112,400); Commercial Rehabilitation/Façade Improvement (\$30,000); Microenterprise Assistance (\$30,000); and Housing Programs (\$389,600).

The City expects to receive a HOME entitlement grant of approximately \$285,000. The City proposes to budget these funds for the following activities: HOME Administration (\$28,500); Community Housing Development Organization Set-aside (\$42,750); Down Payment Assistance (\$50,000); and Housing Rehabilitation (\$163,750).

The City will consider any comments or views of citizens, agencies or units of local government received in writing and orally at the Public Hearing scheduled for December 9, 2019. Written comments will additionally be accepted in the Community Development Division through December 23, 2019. A summary of any comments or reviews accepted will be attached to the final action plan.

Comments related to this NOTICE may be sent to or delivered to City Hall, First Floor, Community Development/Department of Urban Development, 200 Forrest Street, Hattiesburg, MS 39401.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the Department at (601) 545-4675. To ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons with disabilities that require aids or services to participate may contact the Department of Urban Development at (601) 545-4675; or e-mail shall@hattiesburgms.com in advance of the hearing to make arrangements.

CITY OF HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI

BY: _____
CITY CLERK

(SEAL)

Toby Barker, Mayor

PUBLISH Twice in the Non-Legal Section: Thursday, November 21, 2019; Thursday, November 28, 2019

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Proof of Publication

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, LAMAR COUNTY, FORREST COUNTY
Personally appeared before me, the undersigned person, representing The PineBelt NEWS, a weekly newspapers published in Lamar County and Forrest County, Mississippi, who, being duly sworn, says that the notice, a true copy of which is hereto annexed, appeared in the issues of said newspapers as follows:

Total # of Words: 409 Published 2 times

Date 1st Published: Nov 21 Amt: 49.08

Date 2nd Published: Nov 28 Amt: 40.90

Date 3rd Published: _____ Amt: _____

Date 4th Published: _____ Amt: _____

Date 5th Published: _____ Amt: _____

Subtotal Printer's Fee: 89.98

Proof of Publication Fee: 3.00

TOTAL: 92.98

(signed)

Haskel Burns

The PineBelt NEWS

Sworn to and subscribed before me in my Presence, this 28th
day of November, 2019, a Notary Public in
and for the County of Lamar, State of Mississippi:

(signed)



FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

- ☐ Em P: _____
☐ App: _____
☐ File Name: CoH - Public Hearing 2020 Action
☐ Invoice #: 95129
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2020 ACTION PLAN FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG & HOME) PROGRAMS AND APPLICABLE INFORMATION ATTENTION: ALL HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI RESIDENTS

The City of Hattiesburg, Mississippi anticipates receipt of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in January 2020 or soon thereafter. These funds are estimated to total approximately \$847,000. The funds will be used to meet the primary objectives of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1974, as amended, by providing access to affordable, decent, safe and sanitary housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities for persons, of low and moderate-income.

A Public Hearing is scheduled for December 9, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chamber of City Hall at 200 Forrest Street for the purpose of receiving comments on the creation of the 2020 Action Plan. Public Comments on the topic will be taken between November 21, 2019 and December 23, 2019.

The City expects to receive a CDBG entitlement grant of approximately \$562,000. The City proposes to budget these funds for the following activities: CDBG Administration (\$112,400); Commercial Rehabilitation/Façade Improvement (\$30,000); Microenterprise Assistance (\$30,000); and Housing Programs (\$389,600).

The City expects to receive a HOME entitlement grant of approximately \$285,000. The City proposes to budget these funds for the following activities: HOME Administration (\$28,500); Community Housing Development Organization Set-aside (\$42,750); Down Payment Assistance (\$50,000); and

Housing Rehabilitation (\$163,750).

The City will consider any comments or views of citizens, agencies or units of local government received in writing and orally at the Public Hearing scheduled for December 9, 2019. Written comments will additionally be accepted in the Community Development Division through December 23, 2019. A summary of any comments or reviews accepted will be attached to the final action plan.

Comments related to this NOTICE may be sent to or delivered to City Hall, First Floor, Community Development/Department of Urban Development, 200 Forrest Street, Hattiesburg, MS 39401.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the Department at (601) 545-4675. To ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons with disabilities that require aids or services to participate may contact the Department of Urban Development at (601) 545-4675; or e-mail shall@hattiesburgms.com in advance of the hearing to make arrangements.

CITY OF HATTIESBURG,
MISSISSIPPI

BY: /s/ Karmen Eaton
CITY CLERK

Toby Barker, Mayor

Published Nov 21, 28, 2019



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**City of Hattiesburg-Government**
14 hrs · 


NOTICE: On Monday, December 9, the City of Hattiesburg will host a public hearing at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of City Hall (200 Forrest Street) for citizens to provide feedback on the proposed amendments to the City of Hattiesburg's 2016, 2017, and 2018 Action Plans related to its CDBG and HOME programs, as well as the 2020 Action Plan.


The public notices can be found online at:

- <http://www.hattiesburgms.com/.../PUBLIC-HEARING-NOTICE-End-of-...>
- <http://www.hattiesburgms.com/.../NOTICE-OF-PUBLIC-HEARING-202...>

Public comments on the topic will be taken until December 23, 2019.





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Public Hearing: 2020 Action Plan

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

There is never a shortage of things to do or see in the Hub City. If you are looking for something to do, we encourage you to check out the events listed here.

If you would like to add your own event, you can do that by clicking [here](#). Please see the following guidelines for submitting an event:

- ☐ Listed events must have a point of contact or link for more information (website, ticketing vendor or Facebook page).
- ☐ All events will be submitted for review before being published, with approval in 24-48 hours. If an event is not approved, the submitter will be contacted.
- ☐ A photo for uploading is helpful, but not required.
- ☐ All events should take place in the City of Hattiesburg.
- ☐ The City of Hattiesburg reserves the right to approve or deny any event listing and to edit the content submitted.
- ☐ The posting of an event does not provide for the event being endorsed through the status of being "city-sanctioned" (by City Council) or "city-sponsored." However, both city-sanctioned and city-sponsored events will also be listed here.

NOTE: Submitting an event for publication on the calendar is not the same as filing for a permit to host an event on city property, streets or needs traffic support. For permits, you'll need to submit a permit application to the Hattiesburg City Council. A permit application can be downloaded here: [Event & Parade Permits](#).

09 December Monday

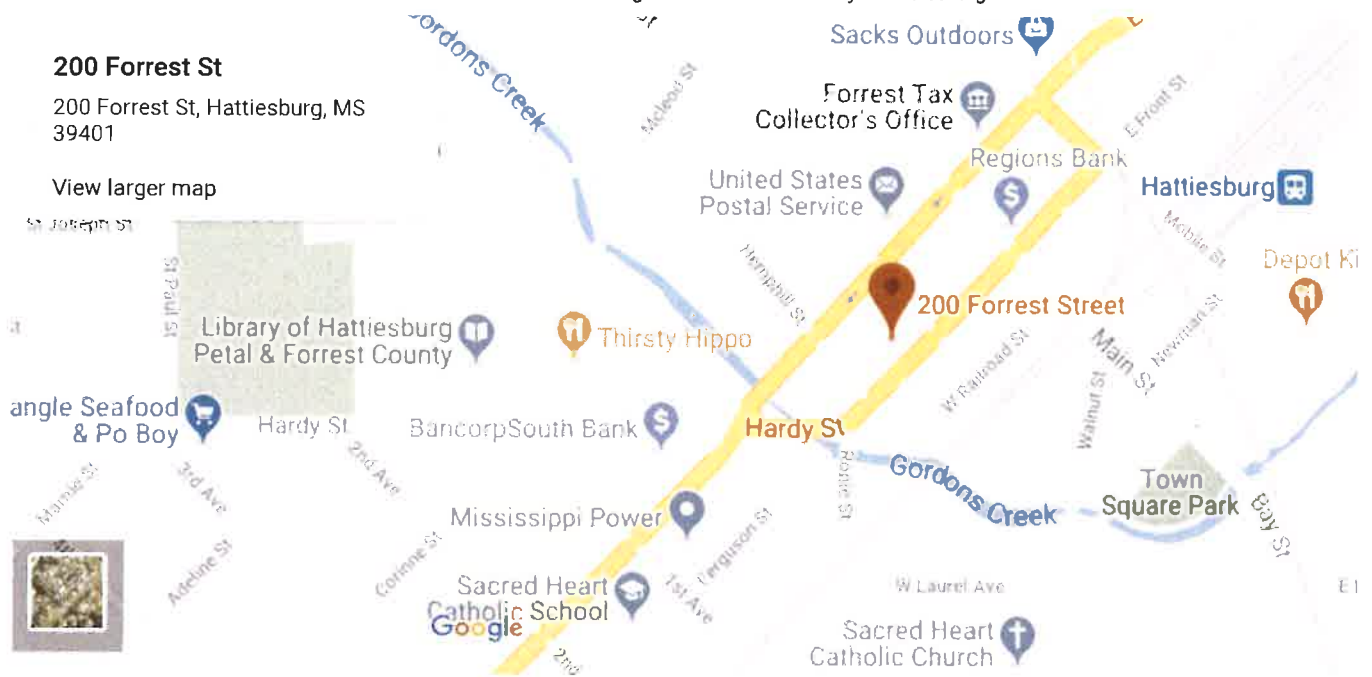
Public Hearing: 2020 Action Plan

09 December 2019, 17:30 - 09 December 2019, 18:30

[City Hall – City Council Chambers](#), 200 Forrest Street
Hattiesburg, MS 39401 United States

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The City of Hattiesburg, Mississippi anticipates receipt of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and IIR Program funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in January 2020 or soon thereafter. The primary objectives of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1974, as amended, by providing access to sanitary housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities for persons, of low and moderate income.

A Public Hearing is scheduled for December 9, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chamber of City Hall at 200 Forrest Street for the purpose of receiving comments on the creation of the 2020 Action Plan. Public Comments on the topic will be taken between December 9, 2019 and December 23, 2019.

The public notice can be found online at: <http://www.hattiesburgms.com/wp-content/uploads/NOTICE-OF-PUBLIC-HEARING-2020-ACTION-PLAN.pdf>

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Details

Date: December 9

Time: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Cost: Free

Event Category [Public Meeting](#)

Website: <http://www.hattiesburgms.com/wp-content/uploads/NOTICE-OF-PUBLIC-HEARING-2020-ACTION-PLAN.pdf>

Venue

Venue Name: [City Hall – City Council Chambers](#)

Address: 200 Forrest Street

Hattiesburg, MS 39401 United States

[+ Google Map](#)

Phone: 601-545-4675

Organizer

Organizer Name: [Urban Development](#)

[previous](#)[Public Hearing: 2016, 2017 & 2018 Action Plan Amendments](#)

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[Public Hearing: 2016, 2017 & 2018 Action Plan Amendments](#)

December 09, 2019

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**Mayor
Toby Barker**

Council – Ward One
Jeffrey George

Council – Ward Two
Deborah Denard Delgado

Council – Ward Three
Carter Carroll

Council – Ward Four
Mary Dryden

Council – Ward Five
Nicholas Brown

Hello,

The City of Hattiesburg's Department of Urban Development has two public comment periods open related to the CDBG and HOME programs. We will be hosting a public hearing on **Monday, December 9, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.** in the City Council Chamber of City Hall (200 Forrest St).

Input gathered at the hearing and through December 23, 2019 will help determine how these grant funds are used in the community.

The enclosed flyers have more information regarding the details of each public comment period and the public hearing. We encourage you to attend the public hearing if available and hope you would pass along this information to your colleagues, clients, and community.

Please contact Stephanie Hall Campos at 601-545-4675 or shall@hattiesburgms.com if you have any questions. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Andrew Ellard
Director of Urban Development

PUBLIC HEARING

2020 Action Plan for Housing & Community Development Block Grant (CDBG & HOME) Programs

The City of Hattiesburg, Mississippi anticipates receipt of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in January 2020 or soon thereafter. These funds are estimated to total approximately \$847,000. The funds will be used to meet the primary objectives of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1974, as amended, by providing access to affordable, decent, safe and sanitary housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities for persons, of low and moderate-income.

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The City expects to receive a HOME entitlement grant of approximately \$285,000. The City proposes to budget these funds for the following activities: HOME Administration (\$28,500); Community Housing Development Organization Set-aside (\$42,750); Down Payment Assistance (\$50,000); and Housing Rehabilitation (\$163,750).

The City will consider any comments or view of citizens, agencies or units of local government received in writing and orally at the Public Hearing scheduled for December 9, 2019. Written comments will additionally be accepted in the Community Development Division through December 23, 2019. A summary of any comments or reviews accepted will be attached to the final action plan.

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To ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons with disabilities that require aids or services to participate may contact the Department of Urban Development at (601) 545-4675; or e-mail shall@hattiesburgms.com in advance of the hearing to make arrangements.

**December
9, 2019**

5:30pm

**City Council
Chamber of
City Hall**

**200 Forrest St.
Hattiesburg, MS**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
OR TO REQUEST
ACCOMMODATIONS**

Contact
City of Hattiesburg
Department of Urban
Development

601-545-4675
shall@hattiesburgms.com



Citizen Participation
End of Year Amendment – PY 2016, 2017, and 2018
& 2020 Action Plan Preparation

On November 21 and 28, 2019, the city published notices for public hearings to concurrently consider amendments to the 2016, 2017, and 2018 Action Plans and to prepare for the 2020 Action Plan. The public hearing was held at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council chamber of City Hall on December 9, 2019.

In addition to newspaper publications, the city utilized its website community calendar and its Facebook page to provide notice of the hearing and comment period. Notices were also picked up by the Impact paper and WDAM, both of which advertised the upcoming hearing on their websites. City staff also sent letters out to neighborhood associations and churches to generate additional interest.

Prior to the hearing, the city received several completed comment forms and a letter of support from a neighborhood association. The hearing itself was very well-attended with 29 citizens and 9 staff members. At the hearing, several other comment forms were gathered, and after the hearing, more written comments were received from an elected official and another neighborhood association. All letters and comment forms received along with input received at the hearing are taken into consideration and attached.

Minutes of the Public Hearing

The hearing began at 5:30pm and was led by staff member, Andrew Ellard. Presentation slides are also attached. The presentation included an introduction of Community Development staff and an explanation that we were holding two hearings concurrently – one to consider amendments proposed to the 2016, 2017, and 2018 Action Plans, and one to consider possibilities for the 2020 Action Plan. The presentation included a summary description of some types of projects that the city has undertaken in the past with both CDBG and HOME and a history since 2016 of the formula-driven amounts allocated to the City. Mr. Ellard showed a project-type breakdown of how funds were allocated in the 2018 and 2019 Action Plans and how the public notice presented the 2020 allocation to be broken down. It was reiterated that this was only a draft based on the prior year's plan, and was only meant as a starting point for conversation and to get input as it relates to 2020.

Next, the presentation included a description (based on the public notice) of what funds from 2016, 2017, and 2018 were proposed to be amended. The 2016 and 2017 amendments constitute a minor amendment and are purely "housekeeping" meant to shift unused Admin funds in both CDBG and HOME for use in Housing Programs. The proposed amendment to the 2018 Plan constitutes a substantial amendment in that it proposes to add a new project type – Public Facilities – that was not previously indicated in the 2018 Plan. This proposal came as a result of input from certain community members, the city's administration, and elected officials discussing possibilities for public community spaces (buildings) that could serve various purposes like community centers, meeting halls, and possibly facilitating public services to low income neighborhoods where they may be located.

Citizens were then asked to provide input by way of the forms provided or through an interactive exercise. Maps of various parts of the city were placed around the room, and attendees were given pens and labels with which they could indicate how they would allocate funds throughout the city. Each person was given 10 labels, representing \$100,000 each. Many, but not all, participated in the interactive portion, and staff tabulated results based on Ward and project types specified. Pictures

were taken of each board in order to consider the data more closely if needed. The results in map form are attached (but note: it only represents the input of those at the hearing and those that participated).

During the hearing, citizens asked questions about the amount of funds received each year and asked if prior year action plans were available. Staff explained the nature of the formula-driven grants and responded that we would be glad to provide copies or access to prior year action plans at any time. Some citizens had questions specific to their own situations regarding eligibility for assistance, and staff present were able to privately meet with those individuals and get basic information with which to follow up later in the week. Throughout the interactive portion of the hearing, staff were available to help citizens with questions to help guide them as needed in presenting their ideas on the maps.

The hearing concluded at 6:25pm.

Citizen Participation Result / Summary

Input received supports the premise of the proposed 2016, 2017, and 2018 amendments. The minor amendments (2016 and 2017) will be processed as originally proposed and the 2018 amendment (substantial) will be drafted as originally proposed and presented to the City Council on February 4, 2020 for final local consideration.

The sum of all comments would suggest that housing needs – repair and rehabilitation of substandard housing – are still perceived as the greatest need. However, there were a considerable number of comments calling for public facility type projects. Street work, sidewalks, and demolition of blighted properties were also noted multiple times. It is likely that the draft 2020 Action Plan, when presented, will differ from what was presented in the public notice leading up to this comment period. The City will continue to consider these comments and all other resources available in preparing the draft.

###

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 1. Type of Submission:**

- ☐ Preapplication
☒ Application
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

*** 2. Type of Application:**

- ☒ New
☐ Continuation
☐ Revision

* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):

* Other (Specify):

*** 3. Date Received:**

3/31/2020

4. Applicant Identifier:**5a. Federal Entity Identifier:****5b. Federal Award Identifier:****State Use Only:****6. Date Received by State:****7. State Application Identifier:****8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:***** a. Legal Name:**

City of Hattiesburg

*** b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):**

64-6000432

*** c. Organizational DUNS:**

07 944 8130

d. Address:*** Street1:**

P.O. Box 1898

Street2:*** City:**

Hattiesburg

County/Parish:*** State:**

MS: Mississippi

Province:*** Country:**

USA: UNITED STATES

*** Zip / Postal Code:**

39043-1898

e. Organizational Unit:**Department Name:**

Urban Development Department

Division Name:

Community Development

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:**Prefix:***** First Name:**

Petra

Middle Name:*** Last Name:**

Wingo

Suffix:**Title:**

Community Development Manager

Organizational Affiliation:*** Telephone Number:**

601-545-4558

Fax Number:

601-545-4592

*** Email:**

pwingo@hattiesburgms.com

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

C: City or Township Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14.218

CFDA Title:

Community Development Block Grant program for Entitlement Communities

* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

* Title:

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

Program Administration; Housing Rehabilitation, Emergency Repair; Facilities Improvement; Facade Improvement; and Microenterprise Assistance

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**16. Congressional Districts Of:**

* a. Applicant

MS-004

* b. Program/Project

MS-004

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date:

01/01/2020

* b. End Date:

12/31/2020

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

* a. Federal

546,146.00

* b. Applicant

* c. State

* d. Local

* e. Other

* f. Program Income

* g. TOTAL

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**☐ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.☒ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**☐ Yes☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications** and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)

☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix:

Mr.

* First Name:

Toby

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Barker

Suffix:

* Title:

Mayor

* Telephone Number:

604-545-4501

Fax Number:

601-545-4592

* Email:

MAYOR@hattiesburgms.com

* Signature of Authorized Representative:

* Date Signed:

4/7/2020

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 1. Type of Submission:

- ☐ Preapplication
☒ Application
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

* 2. Type of Application:

- ☒ New
☐ Continuation
☐ Revision

* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):

* Other (Specify):

* 3. Date Received:

3/31/2020

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name:

City of Hattiesburg

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):

64-6000432

* c. Organizational DUNS:

07 944 8130

d. Address:

* Street1:

P.O. Box 1898

Street2:

* City:

Hattiesburg

County/Parish:

* State:

MS: Mississippi

Province:

* Country:

USA: UNITED STATES

* Zip / Postal Code:

39043-1898

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Urban Development

Division Name:

Community Development

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

* First Name:

Petra

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Wingo

Suffix:

Title:

Community Development Manager

Organizational Affiliation:

* Telephone Number:

601-545-4558

Fax Number:

601-545-4592

* Email:

pwingo@hattiesburgms.com

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

*** 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:**

C: City or Township Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

*** 10. Name of Federal Agency:**

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

14.239

CFDA Title:

HOME Investment Partnership Act

*** 12. Funding Opportunity Number:**

* Title:

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

*** 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:**

HOME Program Administration; HOME Housing Program (Substantial Housing Rehabilitation and CHDO Set Aside); and Downpayment Assistance for first time homebuyers.

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**16. Congressional Districts Of:*** a. Applicant **MS-004*** b. Program/Project **MS-004**

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:* a. Start Date: **01/01/2020*** b. End Date: **12/31/2020****18. Estimated Funding (\$):**

* a. Federal	296,642.00
* b. Applicant	
* c. State	
* d. Local	
* e. Other	
* f. Program Income	
* g. TOTAL	

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

- ☐ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on
- ☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- ☒ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**

☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment

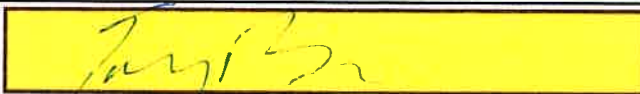
Delete Attachment

View Attachment

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications** and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)

☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:Prefix: **Mr.*** First Name: **Toby**Middle Name: * Last Name: **Barker**Suffix: * Title: **Mayor*** Telephone Number: **604-545-4501**Fax Number: **601-545-4592*** Email: **MAYOR@hattiesburgms.com*** Signature of Authorized Representative: * Date Signed: **4/7/2020**

CERTIFICATIONS

In accordance with the applicable statutes and the regulations governing the consolidated plan regulations, the jurisdiction certifies that:

Affirmatively Further Fair Housing - The jurisdiction will affirmatively further fair housing.

Uniform Relocation Act and Anti-displacement and Relocation Plan - It will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended, (42 U.S.C. 4601-4655) and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 42 in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the Community Development Block Grant or HOME Programs.

Anti-Lobbying - To the best of the jurisdiction's knowledge and belief:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of it, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;

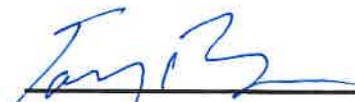
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, it will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying", in accordance with its instructions; and

3. It will require that the language of paragraph 1 and 2 of this anti-lobbying certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Authority of Jurisdiction – The consolidated plan is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and the jurisdiction possesses the legal authority to carry out the programs for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations.

Consistency with Plan – The housing activities to be undertaken with Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS funds are consistent with the strategic plan in the jurisdiction's consolidated plan.

Section 3 – It will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) and implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 135.



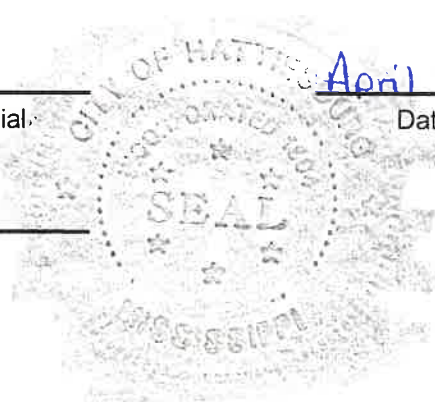
Signature of Authorized Official



Date



Title



Specific Community Development Block Grant Certifications

The Entitlement Community Certifies that:

Citizen Participation – It is in full compliance and following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105.

Community Development Plan – Its consolidated plan identifies community development and housing needs and specifics both short-term and long-term community development objectives that have been developed in accordance with the primary objective of the CDBG program (i.e., the development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and expanding economic opportunities, primarily for persons of low and moderate income) and requirements of 24 CFR Parts 91 and 570.

Following a Plan – It is following a current consolidated plan that has been approved by HUD.

Use of Funds – It has complied with the following criteria:

1. Maximum Feasible Priority – With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG funds, it has developed its Action Plan so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low- and moderate-income families or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The Action Plan may also include CDBG-assisted activities which the grantee certifies are designed to meet other community development needs having particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community, and other financial resources are not available (see Optional CDBG Certification).

2. Overall Benefit – The aggregate use of CDBG funds, including Section 108 Guaranteed Loans, during program year 2020 [a period specified by the grantee of one, two, or three specific consecutive program years], shall principally benefit persons of low and moderate income in a manner that ensures that at least 70 percent of the amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons during the designated period.

3. Special Assessments – It will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG funds, including Section 108 Loan Guaranteed funds, by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low and moderate income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements.

However, if CDBG funds are used to pay the proportion of a fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of public improvements (assisted in part with CDBG funds) financed from other revenue sources, an assessment or charge may be made against the property with respect to the public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds.

In addition, in the case of properties owned and operated by moderate-income (not low-income) families, an assessment or charge may be made against the property for public improvements financed by a source other than CDBG funds, if the jurisdiction certifies that it lacks CDBG funds to cover the assessment.

Excessive Force – It has adopted and is enforcing:

1. A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations; and
2. A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location which is the subject of such non-violent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction.

Compliance with Anti-discrimination laws – The grant will be conducted and administered in conformity with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d) AND THE Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-3619) and implementing regulations.

Lead-Based Paint – It activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of 24 CFR Part 35, Subparts A, B, J, K , and R.


Compliance with Laws – It will comply with applicable laws.



Signature of Authorized Official



Title



Date



Specific HOME Certifications

The HOME participating jurisdiction certifies that:

Tenant Based Rental Assistance – If it plans to provide tenant-based rental assistance, the tenant-based rental assistance is an essential element of its consolidated plan.

Eligible Activities and Costs – It is using and will use HOME funds for eligible activities and costs, as described in 24 CFR §92.205 through §92.209 and that it is not using and will not use HOME funds for prohibited activities, as described in §92.214.

Subsidy Layering - Before committing any funds to a project, it will evaluate the project in accordance with the guidelines that it adopts for this purpose and will not invest any more HOME funds in combination with other Federal assistance than is necessary to provide affordable housing.



Signature of Authorized Official

April 7, 2020

Date

Mayor

Title



Discharge Policy – The recipient will establish and implement, to the maximum extent practicable and where appropriate, policies and protocols for the discharge of persons from publicly funded institutions or systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care, or other youth facilities or correction programs and institutions) in order to prevent this discharge from immediately resulting in homelessness for these persons.

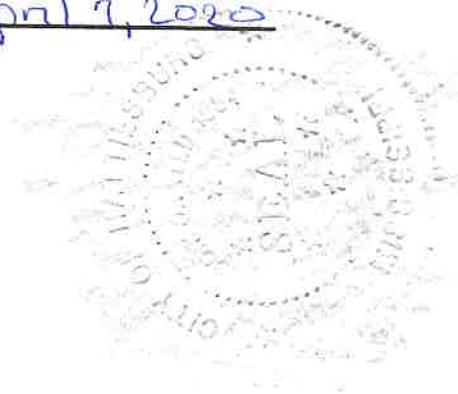


Signature of Authorized Official



Title

April 7, 2020
Date



APPENDIX TO CERTIFICATIONS

INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING LOBBYING CERTIFICATION:

Lobbying Certification

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, Title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.