

2026 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM



JANUARY 1, 2026 TO DECEMBER 31, 2026

Presented to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
City of Hattiesburg
Department of Urban Development
Community Development Division
200 Forrest Street
Hattiesburg, MS 39401



**URBAN DEVELOPMENT
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**

CITY OF HATTIESBURG
2026 CDBG AND HOME ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
CITIZEN NARRATIVE DRAFT

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The City of Hattiesburg (COH) 2026-2027 Annual Action Plan is the fourth Action Plan of the City's 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan. The 2026-2027 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 2026-2027 CDBG and HOME funds granted to the City by HUD. This year's Action Plan is the City's application of the 2026 allocations of the above-mentioned grant funds.

The City of Hattiesburg received notice on April 6, 2026, from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announcing its Fiscal Year 2026 allocations for its Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Program and Home Investment Partnership Entitlement Program. As per this notice the City of Hattiesburg is required to submit a compliant proposed Annual Action Plan on its desired usage of the funding allocations of \$549,521.00 in Community Development Block Grant and \$278,371.03 in Home Investment Partnership Program funding, a reduction of 4% and 6% respectively from the prior year. The Annual Action Plan is required to be submitted to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, not later than August 16, 2026.

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 2026-2027 Action Plan are the same as detailed in the 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan. The proposed projects/activities utilizing 2026 CDBG/HOME funding will address housing concerns in several areas, with primary focus on: Housing Programs (emergency housing repair and substantial housing rehabilitation, tenant based rental assistance and funding to a local Community Housing Development Organization); and assistance to low-income citizens through local Public Service Non-Profit Agencies.

3. Evaluation of past performance

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

As previously stated in prior Action Plans the City has had a turnover in staffing and several projects that were in consideration were fraught with issues of lack of funding, meeting goals with other potential partners for housing projects and meeting timeliness of expenditure goals and processes as defined by HUD.

The City has taken an active approach by working together with the Community Development Manager and Urban Development Director and other departments and HUD Staff on defining and correcting processes and procedures and implementing a substantial amendment for CDBG during the prior year to bring a prior proposed project to project design, construction bidding and contract award for the Katie Dabbs Community Center Renovation (from a church to a community center). The project is now in construction phase with proposed completion prior to the end of this fiscal year.

The City will continue its housing activities in 2026-2027 by utilizing \$230,000.00 CDBG funds to provide housing rehab and emergency repairs to eligible owner-occupied low-and moderate-income households. The city also plans to utilize \$60,000 to assist local non-profit agencies in providing various services to low- and moderate-income residents. These agencies and specific assistance will be determined later. \$64,616.80 will install ADA compliant sidewalks in a local low and moderate income area. In addition, HOME funds of \$100,000 will provide Tenant-based rental assistance to individual households to help afford housing costs of market rate units. \$50,000.00 to provide homebuyer assistance to purchase affordable housing; CHDO set aside funds of the minimum 15% or \$41,755.65 will be made to an eligible Community Development Housing Organization for eligible use for housing acquisition, acquisition and rehab or new construction of housing for sale or rental to low-income households. The balance of funds for CDBG and HOME will be utilized for Administrative and Planning costs.

The city is fully vested in addressing and preventing homelessness and employs a full-time Homeless Coordinator to organize volunteer outreach activities, share current information with the local agencies that provide shelter, housing assistance and offer a wide variety of supportive housing services; and work to help prevent near-homeless residents from becoming homeless.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The City of Hattiesburg complies with our Citizen Participation Plan, which contains the City's policies and procedures for public involvement in the 2026-2027 Annual Action Plan. The City's plan dictates a 30-day review and comment period prior to City Council approval of the Annual Action Plan.

A public notice was approved by council to be published in the Hattiesburg Post for two public hearings and the 30-day comment period for the draft of the 2026-2027 Annual Action Plan. The first public hearing was held on April 28, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the C.E Roy Community Center, 300 East 5th Street, Hattiesburg, MS. This hearing was to inform the public of the City's anticipated 2026-2027 CDBG and HOME Funding and receive input from the public, non-profits and neighborhood groups of eligible uses of funds and receive input into the individual and community needs to best serve the low- and moderate-income citizens of Hattiesburg. The city sent notifications, comment sheets and Information Flyer notifications to the Community Development partners list of Neighborhood Associations, Citizens and Non-Profits. Notices were sent by email on April 7, 2026, In addition, the notices were posted on the City of Hattiesburg website and Facebook social media account.

A 2nd public hearing was held on June 18, 2026, 6:00 pm, at the Cultural Community Center. 723 Main Street. This hearing was to inform the public about the proposed projects, activities and funding utilizing the 2026 CDBG and HOME funding allocations. The city sent notifications, comment sheets and Information Flyer notifications to the Community Development partners list of Neighborhood Associations, Citizens and Non-Profits. Notices were sent by email on June 5, 2026, In addition, the notices were posted on the City of Hattiesburg website and Facebook social media account.

30-day Public Notice of the Proposed 2026-2027 Annual Action plan will be available for review and comments from June 19, 2026, through July 20, 2026. Copies of the proposed plan will be available on the City of Hattiesburg website, City Hall and the Community Development Division. The Hattiesburg City Council approved the proposed 2026-2027 Annual Action Plan on August 4, 2026.

Copies of all notices, publications, flyers, agendas and handouts will be included in the attached Citizen Participation Section.

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.

Public Hearing – April 28, 2026 - 6:00 p.m. 300 East 5th Street (C.E. Roy Community Center). Nineteen (19) people attended the public hearing, 14 written comments (surveys) were received.

Summary of citizen comments, any written comments. agenda, handouts and sign-in sheets are included in the attached Citizen Participation Section.

Public Hearing – June 18, 2026 – 6:00 pm 723 Main Street (Cultural Community Center). ___people attended the public hearing. ___ written comments were received.

Summary of citizen comments, written comments, agenda, handouts and sign-in sheets are included in the attached Citizen Participation Section.

Overall, the City of Hattiesburg received ___ written comments during the public hearings and 30-day comment period.

Summary of citizen comments, any written comments, agenda, handouts and sign in sheets are included in the attached Citizen Participation Section.

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

The City of Hattiesburg accepts all comments and views.

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 solicits surveys from its citizens and partner agencies during the planning process and citizen meetings. These responses are reviewed and compiled and included in the citizen participation section attached. The City believes that the input from the hearings, other city and public meetings during the year, 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 , 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)

The City of Hattiesburg's Urban Development Department/Community Development Division is responsible for the administration of both CDBG and HOME funds.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

City of Hattiesburg
 Community Development Division
 P.O. Box 1898
 Hattiesburg, MS 39403-1898
 (601) 554-1006

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

1. Introduction

The City of Hattiesburg encouraged participation in developing the 2026-2027 AAP by soliciting input from the public, local government representatives, public housing authorities, non-profit agencies and various social service agencies through its traditional advertising method. Additionally, the City promoted public hearings via the City's website and Facebook to reach as many interested parties as possible.

The City of Hattiesburg's Planning Division encompasses floodplain management for the City. Representatives of county government from Forrest and Lamar counties responsible for the management of water resources, flood areas and emergency management were invited to participate and encouraged to submit comments during the annual action plan process.

The City of Hattiesburg is currently working with C-Spire Broadband service providers to install and link eligible low-income residents with high-speed internet access utilizing CDBG-CV funding for 2026.

Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(I))

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, 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 Southeast Coalition of Homelessness, which both serve homeless people; 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 Hattiesburg Housing Authority serves approximately 296 residents in its three housing developments, Briarfield Homes, Robertson Place, and Hope Drive. The Authority does not administer a Section 8 Program. Hattiesburg Housing Authority continues 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 Down Payment 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 down payment assistance and general self-sufficient training.

The City continues the work to bolster mental health services by way of a Behavioral Health Court partnership with Southeast Coalition on Homelessness, (formerly Pine Belt Mental Healthcare Resources), and 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 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 people, the City does not access or input information into HMIS.

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

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	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?	Notifications to participate in Agency Needs and Survey and Public Hearings for input into the planning of the AAP were emailed on April 7, 2026, and June 5, 2026. The city works closely with the agency on a regular basis throughout the year.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	PINE BELT MENTAL HEALTHCARE RESOURCES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Services-Education Health Agency Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Notifications to participate in Agency Needs and Survey and Public Hearings for input into the planning of the AAP were emailed on April 7, 2026, and June 5, 2026. The city works closely with the agency on a regular basis throughout the year.

3	Agency/Group/Organization	AIDS Services Coalition
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-homeless Services-Health Service-Fair Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homelessness Strategy HOPWA Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Notifications to participate in Agency Needs and Survey and Public Hearings for input into the planning of the AAP were emailed on April 7, 2026, and June 5, 2026. The city works closely with the agency on a regular basis throughout the year.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Habitat for Humanity in Hattiesburg, MS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Notifications to participate in Agency Needs and Survey and Public Hearings for input into the planning of the AAP were emailed on April 7, 2026, and June 5, 2026. The city works closely with the agency on a regular basis throughout the year.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	THE SALVATION ARMY, HATTIESBURG
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Notifications to participate in Agency Needs and Survey and Public Hearings for input into the planning of the AAP were emailed on April 7, 2026, and June 5, 2026. The city works closely with the agency on a regular basis throughout the year.

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

Local Agencies, non-profit organizations, local governments, neighborhood groups that the Community Development Division maintain as their informational contacts were notified by email requesting participation and notification of public meetings.

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	MS United to End Homelessness	The goals are consistent, identifying the continued need to develop an effective strategic plan, secure adequate resources & stimulate improved participation of the community in the long-term efforts to address poverty, prevent homelessness and improve the quality of life for Hattiesburg residents.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

Optional

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

The City of Hattiesburg complies with our Citizen Participation Plan, which contains the City's policies and procedures for public involvement in the 2026-2027 Annual Action Plan. The City's plan dictates a 30-day comment period prior to City Council approval of the Annual Action Plan.

A public notice was approved by council to be published in the Hattiesburg Post alerting the public that the City was seeking public input as to the specific needs, ideas, and projects that will benefit low-moderate income citizens in Hattiesburg with the utilization of the CDBG and HOME funds with the 2026 grant funding.

The city emailed notifications to the Community Development Division Community partners list of Neighborhood Associations, Citizens and Non-Profits (April 7, 2026 and June 5, 2026) and posted on its website and Facebook social media account. (citizen participation documents are attached). Information submitted in the notifications was requests to attend the upcoming public meetings, comment form and a flyer notification.

Surveys received to date identify the public needs to best utilize CDBG and HOME Funds during the fiscal year. Housing has always been the most identified needs by the citizens. The City of Hattiesburg continually provides funding for housing and housing related projects. Providing homeowner housing repairs, homebuyer assistance and tenant based rental assistance also alleviates homelessness and preserves affordable housing. Funding to public service agencies to assist low and moderate income with various needs, such as financial assistance for food and housing, medical, child care, abuse, education, etc.

The city held two public meetings, April 28, 2026, and June 18, 2026, to receive public input into the community needs and review of the proposed utilization of funding.

The City Council approved the proposed 2026 Action Plan on August 4, 2026.

Review of the plan is available for a 30-day review June 19, 2026, to July 20, 2026. The Plan is available on the City's Website, City Hall and the Community Development Division.

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	City Website	Non-targeted/broad community	No response received	None	None	
2	Email Notifications	Non-targeted/broad community Local agencies, Non-profits, local governments, Neighborhood Groups, Citizens	Email notifications - Notice of Public Hearings requesting public participation and surveys sent on April 7, 2026, and June 5, 2026	None	None	
3	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	4/9/26 Proof of Publication of Public Hearings and notice of 30-day comment period of draft.	None	None	

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)
4	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	April 28, 2026 - Public Meeting - 19 people attended, which included representative of local government, grant writer and housing developer attended along with City Staff.	General questions were on the eligible uses of CDBG and HOME funds for housing development, new construction, eligible uses for businesses and how to become a CHDO. Ms. McCarty and Ms. Johnson answered all questions and encouraged citizens to contact the CD Department for specific documentation and processes. Summary of public hearing and comments are attached in the Citizen Participation Section.	none	

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)
5	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	June 18, 2026 - Public Hearing - ___ people attended the public hearing	Comments to be updated after the public hearing		
6	City Website, Newspaper Ad, City Hall	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	30-Day Public Review of the Draft 2026 Annual Action Plan. Comments will be received from June 19, 2026, to July 20, 2026.	Comments to be updated after the comment period ends		

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

April 6, 2026, HUD notified the City of Hattiesburg of its PY 2026 CDBG Funding Allocation of \$549,521.00 and HOME Funding Allocation of \$278,371.0390. The City does not anticipate generating any program income during PY 2026. Use of funds for 2026 will primary be utilized for housing programs, (owner occupied housing rehabilitation, emergency and minor housing repairs and tenant based rental assistance, project activity delivery costs, and required CHDO set-aside) using eligible CDBG and HOME funds. In addition, funds will be utilized for Public Service Agencies and Planning and Administration costs.

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	549,521.00	0.00	0.00	549,521.00	549,521.00	

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	278,371.03	0.00	0.00	278,371.03	278,371.00	

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

The City has no required matches for either CDBG or HOME. While we do not formally identify leverage resources, our partnerships with other non-profit entities, the city's long- term planning in lower income neighborhoods, transit, and the like, and the city's aggressive approach to improving infrastructure throughout the city

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

The 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 projects, and the City intends to continue this approach of utilizing property already in its inventory (when appropriate) before seeking property to purchase. Currently the City is utilizing land acquired with prior year CDBG funds and proposed prior and current year CDBG funding to rehabilitate an old church into a community center, which is now in construction stage and anticipated completion during this fiscal year.

Discussion

The city hopes to continue its partnerships through groups such as the MUTEH and the Southeast Coalition on Homelessness in a concerted effort to strategically address problems and mutual concerns. As in the past, the city values these and other such partnerships as community partners and brings differing resources to the table - funding, volunteers, services, etc. - for mutual benefit. The City has hired a Homeless Coordinator to work directly with the Southeast Homeless Coalition to address homeless issues, with a special emphasis on veterans and the chronic homeless population. The City will also continue to seek out funding opportunities such as those available for housing activities through the Federal Home Loan Bank, and the Mississippi Home Corporation.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Improve Access to Affordable Housing	2023	2027	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Increase Affordable Housing Inventory/Condition	CDBG: \$230,000.00 HOME: \$150,000.00	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 15 Household Housing Unit Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 4 Households Assisted Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 20 Households Assisted
2	CHDO Set-aside	2023	2027	Affordable Housing	Citywide	Increase Affordable Housing Inventory/Condition	HOME: \$41,755.65	Homeowner Housing Added: 1 Household Housing Unit

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
3	Address High Priority Public Service Needs	2023	2027	Affordable Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Public Services- Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$60,000.00	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Persons Assisted
4	Provide Residents with Suitable Living Environment	2023	2027	Non-Housing Community Development Improve Living Environment	Low/Mod Census Tracts	Public Facilities and Resources Improvements	CDBG: \$64,616.80	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 50 Households Assisted
5	CDBG Administration and Planning	2023	2027	administration	Citywide	Address and Prevent Homelessness Increase Affordable Housing Inventory/Condition Public Services- Non-Housing Community Development Public Services- Housing Public Facilities and Resources Improvements	CDBG: \$109,904.20	Other: 1 Other

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	HOME Administration & Planning	2023	2027	Administration	Citywide	Address and Prevent Homelessness Increase Affordable Housing Inventory/Condition Public Services- Non-Housing Community Development Public Services- Housing Public Facilities and Resources Improvements Improve Community Resilience/Ability to Respond	HOME: \$27,837.10	Other: 1 Other

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Improve Access to Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	Improve Access to Affordable Housing CDBG - Owner occupied Housing Repair and Emergency Repair program (roof, minor repairs, plumbing, etc.) - City Wide HOME - Homebuyer Assistance Program - City Wide HOME TBRA - Household Income Eligible Rental Assistance - City Wide All Assistance provided for 100% low-and moderate Income
2	Goal Name	CHDO Set-aside
	Goal Description	
3	Goal Name	Address High Priority Public Service Needs
	Goal Description	
4	Goal Name	Provide Residents with Suitable Living Environment
	Goal Description	CDBG Infrastructure funding will install ADA compliant sidewalks in a low and moderate income neighborhood.
5	Goal Name	CDBG Administration and Planning
	Goal Description	
6	Goal Name	HOME Administration & Planning
	Goal Description	Administration and planning funds will pay for eligible costs required to administer the HOME Entitlement Programs in compliance with federal, state and local regulations and policies. Fair housing educational outreach activities will also be supported with HOME funds.

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 for 2026.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	2026 CDBG Administration and Planning
2	2026 CDBG Housing Programs
3	2026 CDBG Public Services
4	2026 CDBG Public Infrastructure
5	2026 HOME Administration and Planning
6	2026 Homebuyer Assistance
7	2026 HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
8	2026 HOME CHDO Set-Aside

Table 7 - Project Information

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

For the 2026 CDBG and HOME Program Years, the City of Hattiesburg's basis for allocation investments into housing needs for low-and moderate-income residents. These projects and activities include CDBG Emergency and Minor Homeowner Housing Repairs, HOME Homebuyer Assistance, Tenant Based Rental Assistance and set-aside HOME funding for an eligible Community Housing Development Organization. The city will also assist several local public service agencies that provide services to the low-income citizens of Hattiesburg and utilize public infrastructure by providing sidewalks to a low- and moderate-income neighborhood.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	2026 CDBG Administration and Planning
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	CDBG Administration and Planning
	Needs Addressed	Address and Prevent Homelessness Increase Affordable Housing Inventory/Condition Public Services- Non-Housing Community Development Public Services- Housing Public Facilities and Resources Improvements Expand Business and Employment Opportunities Improve Community Resilience/Ability to Respond
	Funding	CDBG: \$109,904.20
	Description	Within CDBG guidelines, anticipated expenditures include, but are not limited to salaries, wages, benefits, etc. for staff engaged in the delivery and execution of CDBG housing activities; travel expenses associated with project delivery; and other allowable expenses attributable to the delivery and execution of housing activities in general that cannot be sufficiently attributed to the cost of any particular property or properties.
	Target Date	12/31/2027
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	City Wide
	Planned Activities	CDBG funds will be used to pay eligible cost associated with implementing projects and activities in compliance with applicable federal program regulations and policies.
2	Project Name	2026 CDBG Housing Programs
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Improve Access to Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Address and Prevent Homelessness Increase Affordable Housing Inventory/Condition
	Funding	CDBG: \$230,000.00

	Description	This project provides housing rehabilitation assistance to eligible low- and moderate-income homeowners to correct housing deficiencies and improve living conditions. Eligible activities may include HVAC repair or replacement, roofing repairs, electrical and plumbing improvements, accessibility modifications, weatherization measures, and other repairs necessary to eliminate health and safety hazards and preserve the housing stock. The project will help ensure that assisted housing units are decent, safe, sanitary, and suitable for occupancy.
	Target Date	12/31/2027
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	15 households
	Location Description	City Wide
	Planned Activities	
3	Project Name	2026 CDBG Public Services
	Target Area	City Wide
	Goals Supported	Address High Priority Public Service Needs
	Needs Addressed	Public Services- Non-Housing Community Development Public Services- Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$60,000.00
	Description	This project provides public services that benefit low- and moderate-income people and households. Eligible activities may include services that address community needs such as employment assistance, education and youth programs, senior services, housing counseling, health and wellness services, case management, transportation assistance, food assistance, and other eligible public service activities. The project is intended to improve the quality of life, promote self-sufficiency, and address the needs of low- and moderate-income residents in accordance with CDBG regulations.
	Target Date	12/31/2027
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Average of 20 -50 households
	Location Description	

	Planned Activities	Wide range of activities such as fair housing, childcare, job training, services for seniors, homeless and homeless.
4	Project Name	2026 CDBG Public Infrastructure
	Target Area	Low/Mod Census Tracts
	Goals Supported	Provide Residents with Suitable Living Environment
	Needs Addressed	Public Facilities and Resources Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$64,616.80
	Description	This project provides public infrastructure improvements through the construction, reconstruction, repair, and replacement of sidewalks and related pedestrian facilities in eligible service areas. Activities may include sidewalk installation and repair, curb and gutter improvements, curb ramps, drainage improvements, and other associated infrastructure necessary to enhance pedestrian safety, accessibility, and connectivity. The project is designed to improve access to public facilities and services, eliminate barriers to mobility, and benefit low- and moderate-income residents by providing safe and accessible pedestrian infrastructure.
	Target Date	12/31/2027
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	average of 20 - 50 households
	Location Description	Low income neighborhood
	Planned Activities	Installation of ADA compliant sidewalks in low-income neighborhood
5	Project Name	2026 HOME Administration and Planning
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	HOME Administration & Planning
	Needs Addressed	Address and Prevent Homelessness Increase Affordable Housing Inventory/Condition
	Funding	HOME: \$27,837.10

	Description	Within HOME guidelines, anticipated expenditures include, but are not limited to salaries, wages, benefits, etc. for staff engaged in the administration of HOME programs; publications; environmental studies; lead/asbestos hazard analysis; market studies; planning activities; travel expenses related to program administration, implementation, and continuing education.
	Target Date	12/31/2027
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	City Wide
	Planned Activities	HOME Investment Partnership funds will be used to pay eligible costs associated with implementing projects and activities in compliance with applicable federal program regulations and policies.
6	Project Name	2026 Homebuyer Assistance
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Improve Access to Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Address and Prevent Homelessness Increase Affordable Housing Inventory/Condition
	Funding	HOME: \$50,000.00
	Description	This project provides homebuyer assistance to eligible low-income households to promote affordable homeownership opportunities. Assistance may include down payment assistance, closing cost assistance, principal reduction, and other eligible HOME-funded activities that support the purchase of affordable housing. The project is designed to increase access to homeownership, expand affordable housing opportunities, and assist eligible households in obtaining safe, decent, and affordable housing in accordance with HOME Program requirements.
	Target Date	12/31/2027
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	up to 4 low- and moderate-income households
	Location Description	

	Planned Activities	Provide financial down payment assistance to eligible low and moderate income homebuyers to purchase affordable housing in the City of Hattiesburg.
7	Project Name	2026 HOME Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Improve Access to Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Increase Affordable Housing Inventory/Condition
	Funding	HOME: \$100,000.00
	Description	This project provides Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) to eligible low-income households in accordance with HOME Program requirements. Assistance may include rental subsidies, security deposits, utility deposits, and other eligible housing-related costs designed to help households obtain and maintain affordable housing. The project is intended to increase housing stability, expand access to decent, safe, and sanitary housing, and assist eligible households in securing affordable rental housing within the community.
	Target Date	12/31/2028
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	approximately 30 - 49 tenants to be assisted
	Location Description	City Wide
	Planned Activities	The goal of this activity is to assist tenants who are at risk of losing their housing.
8	Project Name	2026 HOME CHDO Set-Aside
	Target Area	Citywide
	Goals Supported	Improve Access to Affordable Housing CHDO Set-aside
	Needs Addressed	Address and Prevent Homelessness Increase Affordable Housing Inventory/Condition
	Funding	HOME: \$41,755.65

Description	This project utilizes HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds reserved for Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) to support the development and preservation of affordable housing for low-income households. Eligible activities may include the acquisition, rehabilitation, new construction, and development of affordable rental and homeownership housing, as well as other eligible CHDO-sponsored housing activities. The project is intended to expand the supply of decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing and strengthen the capacity of CHDOs to address local housing needs in accordance with HOME Program requirements.
Target Date	12/31/2027
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 low- and moderate-income households
Location Description	
Planned Activities	Funding to be awarded to a CHDO for an affordable housing activity that benefits a low and/or very low-income household.

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

All housing related CDBG and HOME projects and public service projects and assistance are eligible city-wide to low and moderate-income residents. All public facilities and public infrastructure projects are located in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods as per the Census Tract and Block Group designation of a minimum of 51% low-and moderate income. All housing related projects are 100% low-and moderate income eligible. Funds provided to Public Services agencies will assist eligible low-and moderate-income citizens of Hattiesburg.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Citywide	92
Low/Mod Census Tracts	8

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

The City of Hattiesburg overall meets the 51% low-and moderate-income designation. 100% of the CDBG and HOME funds are eligible city-wide as all proposed residents of the housing units will be low and very low-income households. Public Service Agencies are required to benefit households of a least 70% - 100% low and moderate income. The city is required by HUD to provide at least 70% of its CDBG funding to low-and-moderate-income citizens. The City feels these projects and activities will assist the greatest portion of eligible low-income citizens in Hattiesburg.

Discussion

not applicable

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

To help achieve its goals of providing suitable living environments and improving access to affordable housing for its low to moderate income residents, the city historically has invested a majority of its CDBG and HOME resources in housing rehabilitation and emergency repair programs. These activities benefit the owner occupants, improve the conditions of the city’s housing stock and enhance the general environment of lower income neighborhoods. The city also has a history of supporting first time homebuyers through its down payment assistance program that it will continue as resources and community priorities allow. This year the city will include a program for tenant based rental assistance to assist low-income renters in maintaining affordable housing.

The City of Hattiesburg’s Lead-SAFE Program Grant was eliminated fiscal year 2025 as part of the current federal administration’s cuts to grants and programs. The Lead-SAFE Hattiesburg Program purpose was to encourage rehabilitation of housing built prior to 1979 by providing no-cost inspections to identify the presence of lead-based paint (LBP) that can permanently impair the health of children ages six and under. Educating and alleviating fears of pregnant women and parents with young children about LBP Hazards is an effective tool for protecting public health and safety while encouraging the acquisition and improvement of older houses located throughout the community. Lead-SAFE Hattiesburg also provided a variety of no-cost LBP hazard safety training courses that can lead towards EPA certification that will allow local contractors and others performing residential rehabilitation activities to perform LBP inspections, assessments and abatement. If the program and grant are restored in the future the City of Hattiesburg will re-apply for this needed program.

In Program Year 2026, the city will help build capacity of Community Development Organizations (CHDOs) to assist in meeting

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	46
Special-Needs	0
Total	46

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

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	10
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	32
Acquisition of Existing Units	4

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Total	46

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

Discussion

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Hattiesburg Housing Authority manages a diverse range of public housing developments with a mix of town homes and single-family homes. The Hattiesburg Housing Authority manages 296 Public Housing units in the City of Hattiesburg. Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII (Now South Mississippi Housing Authority) does not own or operate assisted/public housing in Hattiesburg.

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

Hattiesburg Housing Authority is continuing to seek to secure funding to rehabilitate the 1940s Briarfield Homes development from 120 functionally obsolete public housing units into assisted housing units through the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) Program and its associated long-term project-based vouchers. Utilizing the City of Hattiesburg's existing HOME funds is no longer a viable option.

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

Hattiesburg Housing Authority encourages residents to be involved in management, which includes participating in development of capital improvement plans and serving on the Resident Advisory Board (RAB). Hattiesburg Housing Authority also encourages residents to participate in homeownership opportunities and to attend on site workshops that include homeowner education and financial literacy programs, among other topics. Resident engagement initiatives include community meetings, social events and volunteer opportunities.

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

Not Applicable

Discussion

Optional

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

Introduction

In collaboration with MUTEH, the Southeast Coalition on Homelessness and other local, regional and state housing service agencies, the city will continue working to address and prevent homelessness in Hattiesburg. The city will continue to pursue additional resources to support an increased number of transitional housing units and to increase the inventory of and access to permanent affordable housing throughout Hattiesburg.

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

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless people

Emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless populations are met by various agencies, including MUTEH, ASC-Hattiesburg, the Domestic Abuse Family Shelter and the Shafer Center. The City of Hattiesburg does not receive an annual ESG allocation but provides input regarding use of ESG funds to benefit with emergency and transitional housing needs within the City. The city supports expanding affordable housing options and helping homeless and near homeless individuals and families achieve self-sufficiency.

The city will provide letters of support for grant applications submitted by the Southeast Coalition on Homelessness, ASC, the Domestic Abuse Family Shelter, Inc., the Salvation Army-Hattiesburg and other agencies and organizations to assist in their efforts to provide emergency shelter and transitional housing in the city. The city also will continue working with these agencies to identify opportunities to expand local emergency shelter and transitional housing resources.

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 supports the on-going work of the agencies and organizations providing housing assistance services for all homeless populations in Hattiesburg, 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. Hattiesburg's Homeless Coordinator will continue working with housing assistance providers to assist homeless and near-homeless populations with access to emergency shelter, transitional and permanent housing and supportive housing services, as needed, to meet an individual's and a family's needs. The Homeless Coordinator also helps link the near-homeless with available housing resources so they may avoid becoming homeless and helps individuals and families make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, to shorten the period that individuals and families experience homelessness. She also works with MUTEH and the Southeast Coalition on Homelessness to facilitate access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units and to prevent individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

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.

During PY2026, the City of Hattiesburg will continue working with MUTEH, the Southeast Coalition on Homelessness, the Lighthouse Rescue Mission, ASC-H, and other housing assistance providers to help meet the housing and supportive services needs of 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 so they may avoid becoming homeless.

In PY2026, the City will continue working with the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII to expand the number of housing assistance vouchers available to the homeless and near homeless in Hattiesburg and supports the Hattiesburg Housing Authority's plan to rehabilitate one of their multifamily public housing developments.

Discussion

The City's HOME and CDBG Programs will continue to support housing rehab and repair activities for low- and moderate-income homeowners. Historically, many of the households served by these activities include disabled and/or senior family members. Though there are no activities proposed in the 2026 action plan for the direct purpose of serving special needs populations other than the homeless, all other activities will inevitably provide indirect benefit to other special needs populations such as those with disabilities, people with HIV/AIDS, and the elderly.

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

Introduction:

Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice is a component of the statewide Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing, which identifies local barriers to affordable housing that will require considerable resources and many years to eliminate. By working with a growing network of housing agencies, housing assistance providers, faith-based and other nonprofit organizations and residents, the city has begun the process of eliminating affordable housing barriers and is committed to providing suitable living environments for all its residents, particularly to low- to moderate-income individuals and households.

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 reviews and updates its policies on an on-going basis, including land use and zoning regulations, building codes, schedule of fees and charges, and it has not identified any that need to be removed or ameliorated because they serve as a growth limit, adversely affect the return on residential investment or otherwise serve as barriers to affordable housing in Hattiesburg. The City's official zoning district map allows for a mixture of single- and multi-family residential units on varying lot sizes throughout the City as well as group homes in a variety of areas. Other land use regulations support sustainability and community resilience measures; promote preservation and enhancement of natural resources; and require stormwater management to improve the living environment of residents in every ward. The City complies with current building codes, which requires compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act and Fair Housing Act provisions.

With many housing units in the City constructed prior to 1979, the City not only complies with 24 CFR Part 35 in terms of lead-based paint (LBP) assessment and abatement, but it also requires homeowners and rental housing owners who participate in any of Hattiesburg's housing programs likewise to comply.

Historically, lower-income housing tended to be in areas subject to recurring flooding since they were considered less desirable and thus more affordable. Hattiesburg, like many cities across the USA, requires new housing to be constructed at or above a specified base flood elevation to protect public health and minimize flood damage to property, which generally increases the cost of a home.

In recent years, a barrier to affordable housing was created when FEMA placed a limit on the total cost or value a homeowner may invest in repairs or rehabilitation of his/her home over a specified number of years. In some cases, this precludes homeowners from being able to protect their investment by repairing or replacing roofs and windows in between storm events. More recently, changes to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) now factors in a structure's proximity to water bodies that may

flood, regardless of the property's elevation, history of flooding, or whether it is in a flood prone zone. Thus, both FEMA regulations and the new NFIP rating system have decreased the affordability of many residences. FEMA, the insurance industry and lending institutions that require property insurance for houses with mortgages, cannot identify how many years insurance premiums will continue to increase annually for houses not in a flood zone, not at a low elevation and not having previously flooded. As one insurance industry representative stated, the only thing that is known is that the cost of residential insurance premiums will continue to increase. Unlike construction costs and property insurance premiums, which the City has no control over, Hattiesburg property taxes have not been increased recently, and permit fees and related use charges remain reasonable. The City will continue to work with the USM Institute for Disability Studies, the Mississippi Center for Justice, Mississippi Legal Services and other fair housing advocates to remove barriers identified in the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing

Discussion:

During PY2026, the City will continue its community outreach efforts to educate residents about their rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act and will continue to work with local lending institutions, the United Way of SE MS, the Hattiesburg Public School District and volunteers to offer no-cost financial literacy workshops to improve residents' understanding of how to make their money work effectively to achieve their housing goals.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The City of Hattiesburg will continue working to eliminate duplication of services to maximize benefits from its investment of public resources and will continue to work collaboratively with local, regional and state agencies and organizations to meet the considerable needs of its residences in all income brackets, but particularly the needs of its very low and low-income residents and those with special needs.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The city will continue to work with local faith-based organizations and other community organizations to identify and address obstacles to meeting underserved needs in Hattiesburg. The city also will work with local, regional, state and federal agencies to expand resources available to meet the growing needs of its very low and low-income residents and homeless populations with recent increases in inflation and interest rates.

Efforts to recruit and organize volunteers to help address some of the unmet needs of the underserved, such as assisting low-income special needs residents with minor home repairs, conducting no-cost financial literacy classes, and will be made by the City and its collaborating partners to better meet the needs of the underserved.

Broadband Access for low-income neighborhoods. The City is utilizing CDBG-CV funding and has initiated a program with C-Spire, to install broadband access to Nine (9) different low-income neighborhoods within the City. The broadband will be installed on City public parks and land which accesses the low-income neighborhoods. Funding for the projects will pay for equipment and installation.

The nine areas include: 9th Street Ball Park; C E Roy Walking Trail; Dewitt Sullivan Park; Duncan Lake; Eastside Park; Hattiesburg Boxing Gym and Club; Vernon Dahmer Park; and Tatum Park.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The city will research ownership of vacant lots as a first step toward exploring opportunities for residential infill development, which will depend on resource availability, zoning and overall site suitability among other things. The city will encourage owners of vacant lots with abandoned structures to sell them “as is” to a nonprofit housing organization or developer for redevelopment into affordable rental housing. The City of Hattiesburg will continue to work with housing developers and realtors to encourage housing development and to provide supportive zoning that supports a diverse range of affordable housing units throughout the City, especially to meet the needs of the low-income, elderly

and those with special needs.

The city also will continue to explore the feasibility of developing less traditional housing, including group homes and tiny or small homes. The city will invest its HOME and CDBG resources to maximize benefits provided to residents and it will continue to lobby MRHAVIII for an expanded number of housing vouchers to assist Hattiesburg residents, especially low-income, elderly and special needs populations.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City of Hattiesburg's Lead-SAFE Program Grant was eliminated in 2025 fiscal year as part of the current federal administration's cuts to grants and programs. Through the hazard reduction program, the City offered no-cost paint inspections for income-eligible households whose homes were built before 1979 to determine if LBP is present. The city worked collaboratively with MSDH and local health service providers to educate parents, pregnant women, landlords and those working in housing rehabilitation or repair businesses about LBP hazards. The city will continue to check for LBP within its housing repair and rehabilitation programs, as required by HUD. No-cost brochures are available in City Hall, identifying typical sources of LBP poisoning and related information to improve awareness of this health hazard, which may permanently impair children ages six and under.

Based on information from MSDH, the public education and outreach efforts that were provided over the last several years appear to be working to decrease the number of LBP poisonings across the state.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

While the issue of poverty is far more complex than any one symptom or circumstance, financial literacy and an understanding of traditional banking and traditional (non-predatory) lending can at least serve as pieces to the puzzle of fighting poverty. Efforts like this are beneficial to people of any income group.

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 Southeast Coalition on Homelessness, and 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 discussion.

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

The City of Hattiesburg will continue to collaborate with the HHA, MRHA VIII, Mississippi Home Corp, local service providers and community groups to eliminate duplication of services, more

comprehensively address public and private affordable housing issues and invest its limited resources to maximize benefits to residents.

The City will continue to collaborate with other agencies and organizations to educate residents, in both public and private housing, about their rights under the Fair Housing Act and responsibilities of landlords to respond to reasonable requests.

Discussion:

By continuing to share and efficiently use resources, eliminating duplication of services and expanding the community's network of supportive services agencies, organizations and volunteers, the City of Hattiesburg is making progress toward addressing high priority needs. Through continued collaboration, work will continue to improve and expand delivery of supportive services and housing assistance to Hattiesburg's low- to moderate-income households throughout the city.

The Consolidated Plan development process has re-enforced awareness of the community's extensive needs and prioritization of those needs has been constructive. Implementation of projects and activities identified through this process will improve living environments for residents, particularly the low- and moderate-income households with improved access to affordable housing.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 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(I)(2)

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

There are no additional forms of investment identified used or proposed during this fiscal year.

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:

The City of Hattiesburg Utilizes the Recapture Provisions of HOME funds for its Homebuyer Assistance Program. A copy of the Recapture Provisions is attached to this report.

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:

Not currently applicable

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:

Not currently applicable

5. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of the preference for persons with special needs or disabilities. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(i) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).

Preferences, policies and procedures will be documented and approved prior to program funding.

6. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of how the preference for a specific category of individuals with disabilities (e.g. persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness) will narrow the gap in benefits and the preference is needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(ii) and 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).

Preferences, policies and procedures will be documented and approved prior to program funding.

7. If applicable, a description of any preference or limitation for rental housing projects. (See 24 CFR 92.253(d)(3) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)). Note: Preferences cannot be administered in a manner that limits the opportunities of persons on any basis prohibited by the laws listed under 24 CFR 5.105(a).

Not currently applicable

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 \$226,000, effective 12/1/2025, as per HUD single family purchase price for the City of Hattiesburg.

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 from 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.



COMMENT SHEET

**City of Hattiesburg
Proposed 2026 Annual Action Plan
CDBG and HOME Entitlement Programs**

The City of Hattiesburg is in the process of soliciting citizen and stakeholder input for its proposed **2026 Annual Action Plans** for use of CDBG and HOME Program funding. Any input you have concerning the housing and/or non-housing community development needs of the City of Hattiesburg is valued and will be considered during this process, and will be included in the final plan for submission to the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Name: _____ Phone _____

Address: _____ E-mail: _____

Organization Represented (if applicable): _____

COMMENTS: _____

Comments on the Action Plan will be received until July 20, 2026, 5:00 p.m. Comments may be mailed or delivered to the Community Development Division, 200 Forrest Street, or emailed to cdbg@hattiesburgms.com. If you have any questions, please contact Community Development at 601-554-1006.