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**PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT**

**City of Hattiesburg 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan and  
2023 Annual Action Plan  
for the Community Development Block Grant  
and HOME Entitlement Programs**

**Written Comment Period  
March 25, 2023 to April 23, 2023**

Beginning on Saturday, March 25, 2023, the City of Hattiesburg will accept written comments regarding the Public Review Draft of its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan. Submittal of comments may be through one of the following methods.

All written comments received by 4:00 p.m., Sunday, April 23, 2023 will be considered by the City and incorporated into the final document.

**Email:** [cdbg@hattiesburgms.com](mailto:cdbg@hattiesburgms.com)

**Mail:** City of Hattiesburg  
Community Development Division/  
Urban Development  
P.O. Box 1898  
Hattiesburg, MS  
39403

**Delivery:** Hattiesburg Community Development  
Division/ Urban Development  
200 Forrest Street  
Downtown Hattiesburg

*Information about the City of Hattiesburg's CDBG and HOME Entitlement Programs may be found at <http://www.hattiesburgms.com>*

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## Public Review Draft



### City of Hattiesburg CDBG and HOME Entitlement Programs 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan

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

##### 1. Introduction

Pursuant to the requirements of 24 CFR Part 91, this Five-Year Consolidated Plan serves as the City of Hattiesburg's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnership Entitlement Program planning document; application for Entitlement Program funds; and strategic plan to establish goals and objectives to meet high priority community needs through its CDBG and HOME Entitlement Programs. This document also serves as the City's One-Year Annual Action Plan, which

identifies how the City proposes to allocate CDBG and HOME resources available to fund Program Year 2023 projects to help achieve 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan goals.

The Consolidated Plan provides a framework to support a coordinated approach to addressing the City of Hattiesburg's housing and community development needs, especially those of low- and very low-income households. For each of the five years covered by this Consolidated Plan, the City will develop and submit to HUD an Annual Action Plan that identifies how its CDBG and HOME available resources will be invested in projects to support the on-going effort to address high priority community needs and achieve five-year goals.

The Consolidated Plan's goals and objectives were developed in consultation with residents from a wide range of incomes, non-profit and for-profit agencies, organizations providing housing and non-housing supportive services, the local and regional housing authorities, city and community leaders, special needs populations, religious institutions, local businesses and developers, representatives of protected classes under the Fair Housing Act, those working to narrow the digital divide, state and regional agencies and other interested stakeholders.

The overarching goal of the Hattiesburg Consolidated Plan is to invest its limited CDBG and HOME Investment Partnership resources to provide suitable living environments for all residents, particularly for very- low, low- and moderate-income residents, while enhancing local economic opportunities and supporting the coordinated delivery of housing and non-housing public services.

## **2. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment Overview**

The City of Hattiesburg identifies four goals and objectives in its Consolidated Plan to comprehensively address high priority unmet needs in the community.

**Goal #1 Provide Residents with Suitable Living Environments** - improve residents' quality of life, especially in low- to moderate-income areas, through projects that address infrastructure inefficiencies and gaps in service; enhance public safety, which may include preparing for and responding to nationally-declared emergencies as determined to be HUD eligible; improve City facilities, parks, recreational areas and other public resources to meet residents' diverse needs, particularly those of its low-income and special needs populations.

**Goal #2 Improve Access to Affordable Housing** - support repair and rehabilitation programs to improve the condition of existing housing; participate in public and private efforts to prevent and address homelessness by expanding the capacity of emergency shelters and the inventory of transitional and affordable permanent housing; assist in expanding activities that allow low-income and near-homeless families to remain in their homes; support efforts to increase the affordable housing inventory adapted for those with special needs, including development of group homes; encourage and support home ownership opportunities; and implement actions identified in Hattiesburg's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) to reduce or eliminate local barriers to fair housing.

**Goal #3 Enhance Economic Development Opportunities** – support economic development programs and activities that increase the availability of local jobs that pay a living wage; empower low- and moderate-income persons to achieve self-sufficiency through expanded opportunities for job training and skills improvement; support efforts to expand economic diversity and improve community resilience; participate in public and private partnerships to expand access to affordable, multimodal transportation throughout the City and support projects and activities to improve the quality of and expand participation in the civilian labor force.

**Goal #4 Address High Priority Public Service Needs** – encourage and assist public and private activities that address high priority housing and non-housing community development needs that primarily benefit very-low and low-income residents. These include, but are not limited to, expanding emergency shelter and transitional housing supportive services; expanding access to programs allowing low-income and near-homeless families to remain in their homes; filling the gap in housing assistance and supportive services for special needs populations; counseling for developmentally and mentally-impaired residents and those recovering from substance-abuse; providing supportive services for those who have experienced domestic violence; expanding access to jobs training and skills development programs; expanding access to affordable childcare; developing afterschool and summer programs accessible to children residing in low- to moderate-income areas; improving access to affordable transportation; providing housing and nonhousing services for those exiting the fostercare system and institutions; and addressing community needs in response to nationally-declared emergencies.

### **3. Evaluation of past performance**

The City of Hattiesburg is in good standing with HUD in terms of administering its CDBG and HOME Entitlement Programs. The City evaluates implementation of its CDBG and HOME Entitlement Programs on an on-going basis; systems and procedures are in place to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of CDBG- and HOME-funded projects, including adherence to budget line items, monitoring actual versus projected project beneficiaries and compliance with HUD regulations and policies regarding timeliness of expenditures and overall low/mod benefit.

In addition to its on-going evaluation, the City annually evaluates its past performance and reports to HUD through the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Reports (CAPERs). The City conducts a public hearing to share with the public its progress in achieving CDBG and HOME goals as identified in the CAPER.

The City evaluates its past performance implementing projects and activities during development of its Annual Action Plans as it identifies projects to help achieve its Consolidated Plan goals and meet high priority needs of the community. For instance, the City has experience and success in providing housing programs and is improving the efficiency of project implementation based on what has worked successfully in previous years.

Based on past success and on-going community need, the City of Hattiesburg plans to invest CDBG and HOME resources, as identified in its 2023 Action Plan, to continue offering owner-occupied housing rehabilitation and emergency repair services programs.

#### **4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process**

An approved Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) guided the public outreach process for encouraging participation in development of Hattiesburg's 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan. As part of plan development, residents and interested stakeholders were invited to provide input to identify and prioritize unmet community needs and, in compliance with HUD requirements, the City reached out through a variety of methods to encourage citizen participation. These included letters, emails, surveys, questionnaires, published and posted notices, telephone conversations, public service announcements, consultations, meetings, two public hearings and a designated 30-day written comment period.

Templates PR-10 and PR-15 include detailed information about consultations and citizen participation; an attachment to the final Consolidated Plan will include documentation to verify the City's efforts to invite and encourage participation in development of the Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan.

#### **5. Summary of public comments - The Summary of Public Comments will be completed following the 30-day comment period.**

The Citizen Participation attachment to the final version of the Consolidated Plan will document the City's efforts to invite and encourage public input into development of its Five-Year Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan. Public comments through March 20, 2023 identified the continuing need for the City to partner with local, regional and state agencies to address and prevent homelessness; to expand programs that improve the condition of local housing inventory; to support housing and non-housing projects and activities that improve residents' quality of life.

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

All oral and written comments received during development of the City of Hattiesburg 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan were accepted and considered by the City.

#### **7. Summary**

The City of Hattiesburg's 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan was developed to identify and prioritize the community's high priority housing and nonhousing needs and to establish goals to help address those needs during the five-year period through implementation of eligible projects and activities. Projects proposed to be funded through Program Year 2023 CDBG and HOME allocations and resources carried over from previous years were developed and included in the 2023 Action Plan to support achieving one of the Consolidated Plan goals to improve access to affordable housing, expand economic development opportunities, improve residents' living environments and support high priority public services.

The Mayor reserves the right to designate qualified subrecipients to assist in the City's on-going efforts to address high priority, unmet community needs through specific, HUD-eligible public service activities, subject to the approval of the Hattiesburg City Council and in compliance with HUD's annual budget limits on public service activities.

## **PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies 24 CFR 91.200(b)**

### **1. Describe agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source**

The following are the agencies/entities responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

<b>Agency Role</b>	<b>Department/Agency</b>
CDBG Administrator	Community Development Division/Urban Development Department
HOME Administrator	Community Development Division/Urban Development Department

**Table 1 – Responsible Agencies**

### **Narrative**

The Hattiesburg Community Development Division/ Urban Development Department is responsible for administering the City's CDBG and HOME Investment Partnerships Entitlement Programs, which includes overseeing development and implementation of the 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan.

### **Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information**

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Community Development Division/Urban Development  
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Hattiesburg, MS 39403  
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## **AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)**

**Introduction** - this template will be completed at the end of the 30-Day Comment Period.

In compliance with HUD regulations and the Hattiesburg Citizen Participation Plan, the City invited and encouraged participation in development of the 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan by the general public; nonprofit and for-profit agencies; housing and non-housing service providers;

community organizations; other nearby local units of government; various other stakeholders; and residents.

Letters and an input survey were mailed to local units of government located in the same MSA, which includes three counties and \_\_\_\_ cities/towns. The City consulted with the local and regional Public Housing Authority and requested input through completion of a housing questionnaire; a survey requesting homeless services information was sent to the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness, a regional component of the Balance of State Continuum of Care along with an invitation to participate in the plan development process.

The City invited input from agencies representing protected classes under the Fair Housing Act and special needs populations; for-profits and nonprofits working to improve broadband access and narrow the digital divide throughout Hattiesburg; healthcare industry representatives. Regional agencies with an interest in, or knowledge of, Hattiesburg's housing and non-housing community development issues were invited to consult with the City and to participate in public hearings, as were representatives responsible for managing public land and water resources.

As part of the process to identify and prioritize unmet community needs, all known public service agencies were invited to participate in a February 28, 2023 Roundtable Meeting, which was well-attended and included representatives from several agencies, including the USM Institute of Disability Studies, AIDS Services Coalition-Hattiesburg, R3SM, Salvation Army-Hattiesburg, Pine Belt Mental Health Association and residents. The meeting agenda, sign-in sheet and minutes will be included in the final document in the Citizen Participation attachment.

The City consulted with the Mississippi State Department of Health, Environmental Division about Lead-Based Paint poisoning data pertinent to Hattiesburg residents and mailed MSDH and regional healthcare agencies a lead-based paint survey. Consultation letters and questionnaires were sent to agencies working to prevent and address homelessness in the City.

The City invited Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan input from agency representatives it partners with on an on-going basis as required to plan and implement local, regional and state transportation plans and projects, emergency services plans, and hazard mitigation plans, programs and protocols.

**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))**

On an on-going basis, the City of Hattiesburg works to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies by doing the following:

- Hosting an annual Roundtable Meeting to which public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies are invited to discuss and

consider systematic improvements to improve coordination efforts and to fill identified gaps in services;

- Supporting the efforts of the Hattiesburg Housing Authority, Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII and other organizations to meet the housing and supportive housing service needs of the elderly and others with special needs with HUD program resources and other public/private funding sources;
- Encouraging efforts of the agencies and organizations to eliminate duplication of services to maximize the use of limited resources and to more efficiently meet the housing and nonhousing needs of the homeless, the elderly, the physically and mentally disabled, persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families, and individuals with drug and alcohol addiction who reside in Hattiesburg.
- Continuing to invite all know public service agencies and housing providers to participate in the annual development process for the City of Hattiesburg CDBG and HOME Investment Partnerships Action Plans or Five-Year Consolidated Plan, as applicable.
- Supporting the efforts of local, regional and state public service agencies to address the full Continuum of Care.

**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 maintains good working relationships with the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness, a regional component of the Balance of State Homeless Continuum of Care and actively participates in the multi-county, multi-agency effort to address the full continuum of care for homeless persons in the Hattiesburg area, especially the chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth and persons at risk of homelessness.

The City of Hattiesburg also maintains good working relationships with HHA, MRHA VIII and other housing assistance and supportive services providers, including the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness and ASC-Hattiesburg. Through these on-going partnerships, the City keeps abreast of the needs of homeless, near-homeless and chronically homeless populations in the City.

While the City of Hattiesburg is not a formula entitlement recipient under HUD's ESG or HOPWA CPD programs, it supports local efforts to administer ESG- and HOPWA-funded programs to best meet the needs of Hattiesburg residents, particularly chronically homeless individuals and their families, families with children, veterans, unaccompanied youth and persons at risk of homelessness.

The City of Hattiesburg continues to identify the need for emergency shelters, transitional housing units and permanent, affordable housing units as a high priority. As part of the effort to address this priority need, the City supports applications for funding from local and regional homeless and housing services providers and works with local and regional partners to identify and help them secure other resources to address the needs of the homeless.

The City consulted with MUTEH, the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness and other agencies that provide assistance to homeless populations in Hattiesburg to update current homeless needs in the City, including homelessness caused by institutions and systems of care that discharge persons into homelessness, and how best to address these needs in Hattiesburg.

**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 does not receive or administer ESG funds, but it does provide input about emergency shelter needs in the City and supports efforts of MUTEH, the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness, the Domestic Abuse Family Shelter, Inc. and others to prevent and address homelessness and to support programs and activities assisted with ESG funds.

The City also works collaboratively with local, regional and state housing assistance agencies to maximize the use of limited resources by eliminating duplication of services and providing services on a case-by-case basis, which especially benefits the homeless, chronically homeless, families with children, veterans and unaccompanied youth populations.

**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 participate** – the table identifies participants as of March 20, 2023; agencies participating after March 20, 2023 will be added prior to plan completion

1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness - <b>outreach underway</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services – Housing, Services-Children, Services-Elderly Persons, Services-Persons with Disabilities, Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS, Services-Victims of Domestic Violence, Services-homeless, Services-Health, Services-Education, Services-Employment, Service-Fair Housing, Services – Victims, Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs – Chronically homeless Homeless Needs – Families with children Homelessness Needs – Veterans Homelessness Needs – Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy HOPWA Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy

	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City consulted with the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness in March 2023 to provide current information about homeless and near-homeless populations. Primarily through emails, PBCH provided updated local homeless and near-homeless population data and shared input regarding assessment and case management. As a result, the City has an improved understanding of the high priority need to 1) expand capacity of local emergency shelters, 2) expand the inventory of transitional housing and 3) expand housing supportive services. Improved understanding of the benefits provided to homeless populations is needed to improve efficiency of case management and the accuracy of local homeless data. Consultation will continue in April 2023.
2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Hattiesburg Housing Authority – <b>outreach underway</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	PHA, Services – Housing, Services-Persons with Disabilities, Services-Health, Services-Education Services-Employment, Service-Fair Housing, Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment, Public Housing Needs, Homelessness Strategy, Non-Homeless Special Needs, Anti-poverty Strategy, Lead-based Paint Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Executive Director participated in the Feb. 28, 2023 Roundtable Meeting and was mailed the public housing questionnaire in March 2023 to update information about availability of housing vouchers and the condition of assisted housing units in Hattiesburg, which will be incorporated into the Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan. Consultation will continue in April 2023.
3	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Domestic Abuse Family Shelter, Inc. – <b>outreach underway</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing, Services – Housing, Services-Children Services-Persons with Disabilities, Services-Victims of Domestic Violence, Services-homeless, Services-Health, Services-Education, Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing, Services – Victims, Regional organization

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs – Families with children Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City mailed a questionnaire to the agency in March 2023 to help update local information for inclusion in the 5-Year ConPlan & 2023 Action Plan. Information provided to date verifies the on-going need for emergency shelter beds, transitional housing units & related supportive services to assist individuals & families that have experienced domestic violence. Consultation will continue in April 2023.
4	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Mississippi Center for Justice – <b>outreach underway</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services – Housing, Services-Children, Services-Elderly Persons, Services-Persons with Disabilities, Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS, Services-Victims of Domestic Violence, Services-homeless, Services-Education Service-Fair Housing, Services – Victims, Regional organization, Fair Housing Legal Services
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy Barriers to Fair Housing
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The City will consult with the Mississippi Center for Justice by telephone and emails during development of the 2023 Action Plan and will invite MCJ to consult about fair housing in Hattiesburg, in terms of protected classes under the Fair Housing Act.
5	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	PHA, Services – Housing, Services-Persons with Disabilities, Services-Health, Services-Education Services-Employment, Service-Fair Housing, Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment, Public Housing Needs, Homelessness Strategy, Non-Homeless Special Needs, Anti-poverty Strategy, Lead-based Paint Strategy
	<b>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	An assisted housing questionnaire was sent to and completed by the MRHA VIII Executive Director in March 2023, updating applicable assisted housing voucher information & services it provides for City of Hattiesburg residents.

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

The City of Hattiesburg contacted all known agencies and is not aware of any agency types that it did not attempt to consult with.

**Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan**

<b>Name of Plan</b>	<b>Lead Organization</b>	<b>How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?</b>
Continuum of Care Annual Plan	Balance of State CoC and Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness	The goals are consistent, identifying the continued needs to address and prevent homelessness and expand emergency shelter beds, transitional housing and related supportive housing services.
Region VIII Public Housing Plan	MS Regional Housing Authority VIII	The goals of the Regional Housing Authority are consistent with the City's CDBG Strategic Plan with both identifying the goal to improve living conditions for residents, particularly for very- low, low-income households and those with special needs.
2023-2024 Unified Planning Work Program and Metropolitan Transportation Plan	Hattiesburg, Petal, Forrest and Lamar MPO	Goals in the Strategic Plan component of the Consolidated Plan overlap with the HPFL-MPO in terms of improving public safety and considering the needs of underserved and disadvantaged populations while developing public transportation improvements.
Hattiesburg Land Development Ordinance and Comprehensive Plan	City of Hattiesburg	Goals are consistent , supporting development of affordable housing; providing residents with suitable living environments through code enforcement, flood damage prevention, stormwater management, lead-based paint poisoning prevention efforts and other regulations; and investing resources to protect vulnerable populations including the homeless, those fleeing from domestic violence, the elderly, those with special needs and those exiting from institutions.
	Hattiesburg Area Development Partnership	Outreach to and consultation with economic development agencies, businesses and industry are ongoing.

**Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts**

**Narrative (optional)**

Another plan considered during development of the Hattiesburg 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan is the Hattiesburg Component of the *2019 Statewide Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice*. The City works on an on-going basis to remove barriers to fair housing choice for all residents and has incorporated recommended actions from the A.I. in this document. The AI also

provided HUD-required data regarding vacant housing structures and racial/ethnic concentration areas of poverty (R/ECAPs) in Hattiesburg.

The City has an active working relationship with MUTEH, the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness and other agencies working with housing, health, mental health, employment, education and youth services. This partnership serves as a framework through which they provide and receive information about activities and resources that may help address unmet needs of the homeless, those at risk of becoming homeless and those with special needs.

Letters were sent with questionnaires about homeless facilities and services to AIDS Services Coalition (ASC)-Hattiesburg, Domestic Abuse Family Clinic Inc., the Salvation Army-Hattiesburg, Lighthouse Rescue Mission and the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness.

Letters with questionnaires were mailed to the other local units of government that comprise the Hattiesburg MSA, requesting input about shared transportation, infrastructure and community needs as well as about projects or programs that may warrant a multijurisdictional approach to address. The Hattiesburg-Petal-Forrest-Lamar Metropolitan Planning Organization and South Mississippi Planning and Development District were invited to consult with and participate in development of the plan and to submit written comments. The Mississippi State Department of Health, the Mississippi Mental Health Association, regional healthcare clinics, and agencies assisting those with special needs also were sent letters requesting updated information helpful to development of the Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan.

## **AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200I**

### **1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation**

The City's Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) identifies its processes for inviting and encouraging community wide participation and input into its CDBG and HOME Entitlement Programs, from five-year planning and annual project development through project/program implementation and evaluation.

Accordingly, the CPP guided the City of Hattiesburg during the outreach process to encourage public participation in the development of its 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan to identify, prioritize and develop projects to address housing, supportive public services and non-housing community development needs of its residents, particularly its low- and moderate-income residents.

The City emailed the housing and public services agencies that serve low, very low, and extremely low-income persons, residents of assisted housing developments, homeless populations and those with special needs to encourage their participation in developing the Hattiesburg Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan.

The Citizen Participation attachment will include documentation of compliance with HUD citizen participation regulations, including certified proofs of publication of public notices; verification that a 30-day written comment period was provided; and a copy of each written comment received. Public outreach included posting notices on the City's website and in City Hall and emailing information in the public notices to agencies and organizations that provide public services in Hattiesburg.

The City posted a draft of the Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan for public review and comment on the City's website and made hard copies available at City Hall and in the Hattiesburg Public Library. Copies of the agenda packets, sign-in sheets and minutes of the February 28, 2023 Roundtable Meeting and two public hearings will be included in the Citizen Participation attachment, with copies of letters, emails, surveys and questionnaires.

In compliance with its CPP, the following steps were taken to invite and broaden citizen participation:

- Publishing a *"Notice of Availability of Information Regarding the City of Hattiesburg's 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan"* in the local newspaper and posting the notice on its website and in City Hall;
- Emailing and mailing invitations to residents, housing, non-housing and public service agencies and other interested stakeholders to encourage participation in the March 20, 2023 and March 24, 2023 public hearings and to share information about the 30-day written comment period beginning March 25 and ending April 23, 2023;
- Publishing notices in a local newspaper about the two public hearings, the availability of a draft for public review and the 30-day written comment period; posting the notices on the City's website and providing hard copies for review in City Hall and the Hattiesburg Public Library to encourage public participation; and
- Sending public service announcements to local radio stations to broadcast information to residents about the City's public hearings and comment period for the Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan and inviting residents to provide input.

The City's efforts to broaden citizen participation by emailing public hearing reminders to the housing, non-housing and public service agencies the week before the hearings encouraged participation. \_\_\_\_ oral comments were offered and \_\_\_\_ written comments were submitted to the City during the development process. Placing a public review draft of the Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan at the Hattiesburg Public Library expanded opportunities for residents to review the draft by making it available during evening hours as well as on the weekend.

**Citizen Participation Outreach – this table will be completed at the end of the citizen comment period.\***

Sort Order	Mode of Out-reach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons
1	Public Hearings	Non-targeted/ broad community; Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	____ attended the March 20, 2023 public hearing. ____ attended the March 24, 2023 hearing.	Minutes for both hearings summarize oral comments and will be included in the Citizen Participation attachment. At the 3/20/23 hearing, ____ written comments were received. ____ written comments were received at the 3/24/23 hearing.*	The City accepted all oral & written comments received.
2	Round-table meeting	Housing and agencies that provide supportive housing and non-housing public services	14 people in addition to City staff attended & participated in the meeting; agenda, minutes & sign-in sheet are included in the Citizen Participation attachment. No written comments were received at the meeting.	Addressing & preventing homelessness are high priority needs; providing emergency shelters & transitional housing are high priority needs	The City accepted all oral comments.
3	Posting of Notices in City Hall & Library	Minorities; Non-targeted/ broad community; Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	<u>Three notices were posted:</u> 1) CDBG/HOME Program information availability; 2) Public Hearing Notice #1; and 3) Combined Notice of Public Hearings, Availability of Draft & 30-Day Comment Period.	Not Applicable	All comments were accepted & considered by the City.
4	Internet Outreach	Minorities; Persons with disabilities; Non-targeted/ broad community; Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	The three notices identified above also were posted on the City's website. The Public Review Draft of the 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan & 2023 Action Plan also was posted & available online for review.	Not Applicable	All comments were accepted & considered by the City.

Sort Order	Mode of Out-reach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/ attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons
5	Local News-paper	Minorities; Persons with disabilities; Non-targeted/ broad community; Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	Three notices were published in a local newspaper: 1) 3/2/23 Notice of CDBG/HOME Program information availability; 2) 3/2/23 Notice of Public Hearing Notice #1: 3) 3/9/23 Combined Notice of Public Hearings, Availability of Draft & 30-Day Comment Period (copies of certified proofs of publication <u>will be</u> included in the Citizen Participation attachment)	<u>To be determined</u>	All comments were accepted & considered by the City
6	Emails and Mailed Letters	Minorities; Persons with disabilities; Non-targeted/ broad community; Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	Three emails were sent to known housing & public service agencies; <u>letters were mailed with surveys or questionnaires to:</u> other local units of gov't; agencies serving the homeless; public housing agencies; agencies serving special needs residents; and others to invite participation and consultation with the City.	<u>To be determined</u>	All comments were accepted and considered by the City.
7	Public Service Announcement	Minorities; Persons with disabilities; Non-targeted/ broad community; Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	Attendance not applicable – public service announcements were emailed to broadcast stations within 30 miles of the City of Hattiesburg to encourage participation in Consolidated Plan & Action Plan development.	<u>To be determined</u>	All comments were accepted and considered by the City.

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**

## NA-05 Overview – Needs Assessment Overview

The tables in the Housing Needs Assessment are prepopulated by HUD with 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) data, including special compilations (2013-2017 Comprehensive Housing Affordability Survey (CHAS)) prepared for HUD by the U.S. Census Bureau using HUD's income category breakouts. Unless otherwise noted, all tables and data in them were built into the Consolidated Plan templates and prepopulated by HUD.

The Needs Assessment provides an overview of housing conditions in the City of Hattiesburg and the HUD-provided data allows comparison of housing needs of home owners to the needs of those who rent their homes in categories that include income, household size and race/ethnic group.

The Needs Assessment also identifies housing needs, in terms of housing cost burden, overcrowding and severe housing problems, by population categories to determine if any subpopulation experiences disproportionately greater need than other groups.

## NA-10 Housing Needs Assessment – 24 CFR 91.205 (a,b,c)

### Summary of Housing Needs

The housing needs of Hattiesburg residents are considerable and are impacting residents in all income brackets, regardless of whether they own or rent their homes, of household size or race/ethnicity. Data prepopulated by HUD in the table below was not analyzed; Population and Household numbers in the last two columns are not accurate.

Demographics	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2017	% Change
Population	51,068	20	-100%
Households	19,845	29	-100%
Median Income	\$28,119.00	\$32,009.00	14%

**Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics**

**Data Source:** 2000 Census (Base Year), 2013-2017 ACS (Most Recent Year)

### Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households	3,645	2,560	2,940	1,655	6,875
Small Family Households	1,085	840	980	879	3,055
Large Family Households	275	160	160	23	430
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	380	455	440	179	1,470
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	259	345	393	94	635
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger	675	373	614	181	758

**Table 6 - Total Households Table**

**Data Source:** 2013-2017 CHAS

## Housing Needs Summary Tables

### 1. Housing Problems (Households with one of the listed needs)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	79	80	25	20	204	8	0	4	15	27
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	55	10	4	0	69	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	129	100	10	34	273	0	20	0	0	20
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	1,850	800	144	0	2,794	270	130	135	10	545
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	225	575	1,165	270	2,235	110	125	275	225	735
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	320	0	0	0	320	110	0	0	0	110

**Table 7 – Housing Problems Table**

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

## 2. Housing Problems 2 (Households with one or more Severe Housing Problems: Lacks kitchen or complete plumbing, severe overcrowding, severe cost burden)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	2,120	990	179	49	3,338	280	150	135	25	590
Having none of four housing problems	585	940	1,810	1,020	4,355	240	470	809	560	2,079
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	320	0	0	0	320	110	0	0	0	110

Table 8 – Housing Problems 2

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

## 3. Cost Burden > 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	770	520	430	1,720	100	55	74	229
Large Related	249	109	50	408	4	45	25	74
Elderly	175	239	160	574	144	120	165	429
Other	1,105	680	694	2,479	129	29	150	308
Total need by income	2,299	1,548	1,334	5,181	377	249	414	1,040

Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

## 4. Cost Burden > 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	735	280	35	1,050	85	25	0	110
Large Related	245	65	0	310	4	25	0	29
Elderly	135	94	15	244	89	80	90	259
Other	955	480	99	1,534	89	4	45	138

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Total need by income	2,070	919	149	3,138	267	134	135	536

**Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%**

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

## 5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	174	60	10	34	278	0	20	0	0	20
Multiple, unrelated family households	10	40	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	0
Other, non-family households	0	10	4	0	14	4	0	0	0	4
Total need by income	184	110	14	34	342	4	20	0	0	24

**Table 11 – Crowding Information – 1/2**

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Households with Children Present								

**Table 12 – Crowding Information – 2/2**

## Describe the number and type of single person households in need of housing assistance.

In the tables above regarding “Cost Burden,” the household type “Other, non-family households” likely includes single person households. For renter households, the “other” households are experiencing considerably more housing cost burden compared to other types of households and likely are in need of housing assistance. Among owner-occupied households, single person households fared better than the elderly who own and occupy their homes. The elderly are experiencing more cost burden compared to all other HUD-identified home owner categories in both the greater than 30% of income and greater than 50% of income categories.

**Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance who are disabled or victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.**

Based on information provided from \_\_\_\_\_, over the course of a year there are approximately \_\_\_\_ families in Hattiesburg that are in need of housing and one person with a disability. These families generally are identified as single parent households with an income lower than 30% of Area Median Income. Based on the same source, the City estimates that over the course of a year there are approximately \_\_\_\_ families in need of housing assistance and that have experienced domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. These types of families are generally identified as low- to moderate-income families that need shelter/housing, counseling and support using a trauma-informed approach. To be completed upon receipt of information

**What are the most common housing problems?**

Based on data provided in the preceding tables, housing cost burden is the most common housing problem experienced by Hattiesburg residents, with lower-income households and renters suffering the most from this problem. Basic housing costs, rent and utilities have increased while basic income has not for the majority of residents.

**Are any populations/household types more affected than others by these problems?**

Renters in single person householders and elderly residents who own and occupy their homes are more affected than others by the problem of housing cost burden. Single person households have only one income to rely on to cover all expenses and elderly households typically are on fixed incomes without viable opportunities to secure employment. Small related households that rent also are more affected by housing cost burden than large related households, most likely because large related households benefit from multiple people contributing to household expenses.

Not surprisingly, residents with zero/negative income and extremely low income households are experiencing more housing cost problems than households in other income categories.

**Describe the characteristics and needs of Low-income individuals and families with children (especially extremely low-income) who are currently housed but are at imminent risk of either residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered 91.205(c)/91.305(c)). Also discuss the needs of formerly homeless families and individuals who are receiving rapid re-housing assistance and are nearing the termination of that assistance**

Extremely low and low-income individuals and families with children who are currently housed but are at imminent risk of either residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered generally also suffer from housing cost burden, lack of a high education diploma or GED equivalent and/or have a special need (mental or physical disability, hearing or sight impairment, or substance abuse issue).

These individuals and families generally need rent and utility assistance; assistance paying rental arrears in order to catch up and remain housed; assistance obtaining and maintaining employment; access to

affordable childcare; access to affordable and reliable transportation; and work appropriate clothing. For those who have experienced domestic violence, there may be need for counseling and linkage with other supportive services agencies.

According to \_\_\_\_\_ Homeless Coalition, households with rapid rehousing assistance receive case management services to ensure they are able to exit the program successfully. About 30% of the rapid rehousing assistance recipients need longer term rental assistance; they may be linked with mainstream rental assistance through the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII. Generally, the period of RRH assistance has been adequate to move through the MRHA VIII waiting list. Approximately 30% of RRH recipients reconnect with family resources and 40% are able to obtain and maintain employment and live independently.

**If a jurisdiction provides estimates of the at-risk population(s), it should also include a description of the operational definition of the at-risk group and the methodology used to generate the estimates:**

The City of Hattiesburg does not provide estimates of its at-risk population.

**Specify particular housing characteristics that have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness**

Housing cost burden, consistently delinquent rental payments, more than three moves in a year and low-income have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness.

### **Discussion**

The City of Hattiesburg will work throughout the five-year period of this Consolidated Plan with MUTEH, Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness, its other housing and supportive services partners as well as state and other nearby local units of government to address and prevent homelessness.

## **NA-15 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)**

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

### **Introduction**

In three of the four income categories, from extremely-low income (0%-30% of Area Median Income (AMI)) to low-income households (50%-80% AMI), Black/African American households have a disproportionately greater need in terms of having one or more of the four housing problems than the other races or ethnic groups. As household income increases for Black/African American households, the number of households with housing problems decreases, as one would expect. However, as household income increases for White households, the number with housing problems increases.

In the 0%-30% AMI category, 2,735 households citywide have one or more of the four housing problems and of that total, 1,645 (60%) are Black/African American households and 795 (29%) are White households. Asian, American Indian, Alaska Native, Pacific Islander and Hispanic households

In the 30%-50% AMI category, 1,845 households in Hattiesburg have one or more of the housing problems and of that total, 1,080 (58.5%) are Black/African American households and 605 (37.7%) are White households.

In the 50%-80% AMI category, 1,749 households in the City have one of more or the housing problems and of that total, 930 (53%) are Black/African American households and 733 (42%) are White households.

In the 80%-100% AMI moderate-income category, there are proportionately more White households, 309 (53%), with one or more housing problems compared to 275 (47%) of Black/African American households.

Regardless of income category, Pacific Islanders are not living with the HUD-identified housing problems. As household income levels increase, Asian, American Indian, and Alaska Native households have proportionately fewer housing problems.

#### 0%-30% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	2,735	500	430
White	795	129	154
Black / African American	1,645	305	190
Asian	20	40	45
American Indian, Alaska Native	55	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	10
Hispanic	59	15	30

**Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI**

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

\*The four housing problems are: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

#### 30%-50% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,845	720	0

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
White	605	205	0
Black / African American	1,080	460	0
Asian	10	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	4	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	145	35	0

**Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI**

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

\*The four housing problems: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

#### 50%-80% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,749	1,179	0
White	733	319	0
Black / African American	930	810	0
Asian	4	20	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	30	25	0

**Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI**

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

\*The four housing problems: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

#### 80%-100% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	580	1,080	0
White	309	405	0
Black / African American	275	585	0
Asian	0	60	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	35	0

**Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI**

**Data Source:** 2013-2017 CHAS

\*The four housing problems: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

## Discussion

The number of White households in the City of Hattiesburg with one or more of the four housing problems remains at a fairly consistent level for those in the lower three income categories and only significantly decreases for the households in the 80%-100% AMI category.

## NA-20 Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

## Introduction

In Hattiesburg, 2,400 (65.6%) of the 3,655 total households in the extremely low income (0-30% AMI) category have severe housing problems. In this income category, 1,078 (69%) of White households suffer from severe housing problem while 2,145 (64.5%) of Black/African American households experience severe housing problems. Of the 104 Hispanic households in this income category, 59 (56.7%) are suffering with severe housing problems. For Asian households, which total 105 in this category, 20 (19%) suffer from severe housing problems while none of the Pacific Islanders households have any of the four severe housing problems.

In the 30-50% AMI category, 44.7% of households have one of more severe housing problem. 59.6% of White households have a severe housing problem compared to 36.7% of the Black/African American households in this income category.

314 or 10.7% of all Hattiesburg households in the 50%-80% AMI category experience a severe housing problem. 17.4% of White households have severe housing problems while 7.4% of Black/African American households in this income category have one or more severe housing problems. An

insignificantly low number of households in the other four race/ethnic categories experience a severe housing problem.

In the moderate income category, 1,580 or 4.4% of households in Hattiesburg experience a severe housing problem. Of these, 44 or 6.3% of the 694 White households and 35 or 4.0% of the 860 Black/African American households experience a severe housing problem. None of the remaining four race/ethnic categories experience severe housing problems.

### 0%-30% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	2,400	825	430
White	745	179	154
Black / African American	1,385	570	190
Asian	20	40	45
American Indian, Alaska Native	55	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	10
Hispanic	59	15	30

**Table 17 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI**

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

\*The four severe housing problems: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

### 30%-50% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,140	1,410	0
White	480	325	0
Black / African American	560	965	0
Asian	0	10	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	4	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	94	89	0

**Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI**

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

\*The four severe housing problems: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

### 50%-80% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	314	2,619	0
White	184	869	0
Black / African American	129	1,610	0
Asian	4	20	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	55	0

**Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI**

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

\*The four severe housing problems: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

### 80%-100% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	74	1,580	0
White	44	650	0
Black / African American	35	825	0
Asian	0	60	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	35	0

**Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI**

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

\*The four severe housing problems: 1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

## NA-25 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens – 91.205 (b)(2)

**Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.**

In three of the four income categories, from extremely low income (0%-30% of Area Median Income (AMI)) to low income (50%-80% AMI), Black/African American households have a disproportionately

greater need in terms of having one or more of the four housing problems than the other races or ethnic groups. As household income increases for Black/African American households, the number of households with housing problems decreases, as one would expect. However, as household income increases for White households, the number with housing problems increases.

### Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	10,158	3,370	3,684	450
White	5,025	1,259	1,345	169
Black / African American	4,725	1,910	1,995	195
Asian	160	14	10	55
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	59	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	10
Hispanic	138	95	138	30

**Table 21 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI**

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

### Discussion:

Approximately 57.5% of the 17,662 households in the City of Hattiesburg experience a housing cost burden of less than 30% of household income, based on 2013-2017 Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data provided by HUD in Table 21. No racial or ethnic group appears to have a disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

In the severe housing cost burden category where households pay 50% or more of their combined incomes for housing costs, 1,995 (22.6%) of 8,825 Black/African American households have severe cost burden; 1,345 (17.2%) of 7,798 White households have severe cost burden; while 138 (49%) of the 281 Hispanic households suffer from 50% or higher housing cost burdens. Based on this data, Hispanics have a disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

### NA-30 Disproportionately Greater Need: Discussion – 91.205(b)(2)

#### Are there any Income categories in which a racial or ethnic group has disproportionately greater need than the needs of that income category as a whole?

According to the CHAS data provided by HUD, Hispanics have a disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole, with 49% of Hispanic households spending 50% or more of their combined household incomes on housing costs.

**If they have needs not identified above, what are those needs?**

Rent and utility assistance would help decrease the severe housing cost burden on almost half the Hispanic population in Hattiesburg.

**Are any of those racial or ethnic groups located in specific areas or neighborhoods in your community?**

Yes, the R/ECAP map excerpts that will be attached to the final document from the *2019 Hattiesburg Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice* identify the location of race/ethnic concentrated areas and poverty in the City.

(Note: attach here if IDIS allows)

**NA-35 Public Housing – 91.205(b)**

– this template will be completed upon receipt of information

**Introduction**

The Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII (MRHA VIII) does not own or manage any public housing units in the City of Hattiesburg. The Hattiesburg Housing Authority (HHA) owns and operates three public/assisted housing developments in Hattiesburg.

**Totals in Use** – does not yet include HHA

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers in use	0	0	0	899	6 (new)	891	32	0	0

**Table 22 - Public Housing by Program Type**

**\*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**

Data Source: MRHA VIII

**Characteristics of Residents**

	Program Type							
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers				
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher	
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
Average Annual Income	0	0	10,774	11,251	9,606	11,300	8,912	0
Average length of stay	0	0	4	3	1	3	0	0
Average Household size	0	0	2	2	2	2	1	0
# Homeless at admission	0	0	5	1	0	1	0	0
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	0	0	106	759	54	703	1	0
# of Disabled Families	0	0	169	1,495	60	1,416	7	0
# of Families requesting accessibility features	0	0	756	5,911	293	5,567	13	0
# of HIV/AIDS program participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of DV victims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 23 – Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type**

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

### Race of Residents

Race	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
White	0	0	165	1,399	80	1,307	4	0	0
Black/African American	0	0	589	4,467	211	4,218	8	0	0
Asian	0	0	2	26	0	25	1	0	0

Program Type									
Race	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	0	18	1	17	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition									

**Table 24 – Race of Public Housing Residents by Program Type**

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

### Ethnicity of Residents

Program Type									
Ethnicity	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	0	0	40	56	9	47	0	0	0
Not Hispanic	0	0	716	5,855	284	5,520	13	0	0
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition									

**Table 25 – Ethnicity of Public Housing Residents by Program Type**

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

### Section 504 Needs Assessment: Describe the needs of public housing tenants and applicants on the waiting list for accessible units in the City of Hattiesburg:

The Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII does not own or administer any public housing units in the City of Hattiesburg. HHA information will be inserted upon receipt.

### Most immediate needs of residents of Public Housing and Housing Choice voucher holders in the City of Hattiesburg

According to MRHA VIII, its Hattiesburg/Forrest County housing choice voucher holders have indicated a need for increased access to participating private residential units; particularly units that meet the payment standards established by the Agency.

HHA information will be inserted upon receipt.

## **How do the needs of public housing tenants and voucher holders compare to the housing needs of the Hattiesburg population at large?**

MRHA VIII reported that with the noticeable growth in the greater Hattiesburg area, particularly in Forrest and Lamar Counties, it lacks the funding to adequately meet the affordable housing needs of the region. As growth trends within the Hattiesburg area continue, the needs will proportionately grow within that market. In February 2022, MRHA VIII opened its HCV waiting list for approximately 45 minutes and received over 3,800 applicants. The agency capped the applications at 3,500 due to a software conversion.

MRHA VIII currently administers a total of thirty-two (32) Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers in the greater Hattiesburg area. There are mainstream vouchers available to persons with disabilities but there are currently no participants in Hattiesburg within the program. Persons with disabilities would benefit from a stronger referral partnership in Hattiesburg as MRHA VIII has not yet solidified agreements with such agencies.

According to MRHA VIII, the housing needs for those renting RAD units and the remainder of Hattiesburg's residential population are similar, with the need for additional affordable housing options and the most common requested unit size is two bedroom along with common requests for three-bedroom units.

HHA information will be inserted upon receipt.

### **NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.2051** – this template will be completed upon receipt of information

#### **Introduction**

The City of Hattiesburg is located with the region served by the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness (PBCH), a regional network of agencies supporting the 71-county MUTEH Balance of State (BOS) Continuum of Care in Mississippi. MUTEH and the PBCH members focus on addressing the full continuum of care for homeless populations with the goal of eventually living independently. The CoC coordinates housing assistance and supportive services provided by a range of public and private agencies, organizations and local units of government. The City of Hattiesburg will continue to work actively with MUTEH, the PBCH and agency partners during the five-year period of this Consolidated Plan to secure additional HUD funding and other federal, state and local resources to comprehensively support the community's high priority goals of addressing and preventing homelessness and expanding access to affordable housing.

**Homeless Needs Assessment** – this table will be completed upon receipt of requested information in the homeless questionnaire

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Persons in Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)						
Persons in Households with Only Children						
Persons in Households with Only Adults						
Chronically Homeless Individuals						
Chronically Homeless Families						
Veterans	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unaccompanied Child						
Persons with HIV						

**Table 26 – Homeless Needs Assessment**

**Data Source**

**Comments:** Source: \_\_\_\_\_ 2023 PIT Count

**Indicate if the homeless population is:**

Has No Rural Homeless

**If data is not available for the categories “number of persons becoming and exiting homelessness each year,” and “number of days that persons experience homelessness,” describe these categories for each homeless population type (including chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth):**

According to MUTEH, an estimated \_\_\_ people become unsheltered each year and remain homeless for an average of \_\_\_ months. People remain homeless longer than 30 days usually because they need to get identity documents, like a social security card, state id and birth certificate, in order to be approved for housing by landlords. The Salvation Army assists people in obtaining the necessary documents.

In 2018, the U. S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Department of Veterans Affairs confirmed that the Mississippi Balance of State Continuum of Care, with MUTEH being the lead agency, effectively ended homelessness among Veterans. The Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program provides temporary housing and supportive services to very low-income Veteran families that are currently in or transitioning to

permanent housing. SSVF is designed to promote housing stability by rapidly re-housing homeless Veteran families and preventing homelessness for those at imminent risk.

**Nature and Extent of Homelessness: (Optional)**

– this table will be completed upon receipt of information

<b>Race:</b>	<b>Sheltered:</b>	<b>Unsheltered (optional)</b>
White	0	0
Black or African American	0	0
Asian	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0
<b>Ethnicity:</b>	<b>Sheltered:</b>	<b>Unsheltered (optional)</b>
Hispanic	0	0
Not Hispanic	0	0

Data Source Comments:

**Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance for families with children and the families of veterans.**

Generally families with children and families of veterans do not experience unsheltered homelessness in the City of Hattiesburg; homelessness among veterans and their families was effectively ended in 2018 (see response to preceding question). If a family is identified as unsheltered, it is immediately placed in a hotel until housing can be obtained. This usually occurs within two weeks. Families that are fleeing domestic violence are served by the \_\_\_\_\_ in one of their two shelters (one in Hattiesburg and one in Laurel) or in transitional housing units.

**Describe the Nature and Extent of Homelessness by Racial and Ethnic Group.**

Generally, about \_\_\_\_% of the persons experiencing homelessness in Hattiesburg/Forrest County are White and \_\_\_\_% are Black or African American, according to MUTEH.

**Describe the Nature and Extent of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness.**

\_\_\_\_ reported in the \_\_\_\_ 2023 PIT Count, \_\_\_\_ households were unsheltered and \_\_\_\_ homeless persons were sheltered in the \_\_\_\_-county region. Over the course of a year, approximately \_\_\_\_ people become homeless in Hattiesburg/the Greater Hattiesburg area. Unsheltered persons are identified by outreach teams, are linked to services and housing assistance, and housed as quickly as possible.

In the 2022 PIT Count, the City of Hattiesburg was among the top 3 cities with the highest number of homeless persons at 71, according to the Balance of State CoC report. (Tupelo recorded 89 and Meridian had 80 homeless persons.)

**Discussion:**

MUTEH serves the “Balance of State CoC” as Lead Agency for both the AWARDS Database (HMIS) and the Continuum of Care (CoC). MUTEH works with the City of Hattiesburg, Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness and other partner organizations and agencies to serve and house vulnerable populations locally and across the state. HMIS is the database used by member agencies in the community to document homeless populations and housing and services activities. The database maintains confidentiality of the recipient of assistance while ensuring that no duplication of services occurs in the area. Data measure client-level progress through the homelessness services system, program level performance, and system effectiveness.

## **NA-45 Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment – 91.205 (b,d) – this template will be completed upon receipt of information**

### **Introduction**

#### Provide HUD definition of “special needs” population

To maximize the efficient and effective use of its CDBG and HOME Investment Partnerships Entitlement Program resources, the City of Hattiesburg partners with numerous public and private agencies, organizations and volunteers from local faith-based organizations and the University of Southern Mississippi to meet the housing and supporting services needs of its non-homeless special needs residents. The City’s special needs populations include the frail elderly; elderly; people with mental, physical and developmental disabilities; people with HIV/AIDS; and people with drug and alcohol addictions.

According to the 2017-2021 ACS 5-year estimate, 15% of all Hattiesburg residents under the age of 65 are disabled. This is higher than the statewide rate of 12.3% and the U.S. rate of 8.7% of people under the age of 65 having a disability. In Hattiesburg, an estimated % of those with a disability are females, compared to % males. By age group, Hattiesburg residents with disabilities under 18 years of age account for 4.7% of the disabled population; 61.6% are ages 18 to 64; and 33.7% are 65 and over. This includes those with ambulatory, cognitive, hearing, independent living, self-care and/or vision disabilities.

#### **Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:**

Special needs populations in the City are not limited to a specific demographic category or family type. The elderly, people living with HIV/AIDS, those with disabilities (physical and/or cognitive), and others have a variety of needs that are difficult to categorize. Regardless of the type of special need, those who can rely on family assistance generally have an advantage over those with no local family or friends.

#### **What are the housing and supportive service needs of these populations and how are these needs determined?**

Needs generally are assessed by an agency that serves a special needs population specifically. If those with special needs are homeless, MUTEH/Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness will conduct an assessment & link the individual to agencies with resources to meet identified needs. Supportive services available from qualified agencies for special needs populations vary widely but include services such as counseling, case management, health services and mental/behavioral health services; however, transportation to and from appointments can be problematic, especially in low-income households.

A variety of affordable, low maintenance housing is needed to accommodate the City of Hattiesburg's special needs populations, including transitional housing, permanent housing, single- and multi-family housing and group homes. Funding assistance to adapt existing housing to meet the specific disabilities of each occupant also may be needed if the housing hasn't already been appropriately adapted. Housing adaptation may include construction of wheelchair ramps, various interior accessibility improvements such as wider interior door spaces, and enhanced safety measures in the bathroom, which may include replacing a tub with a walk-in shower.

In addition to the need for HUD Section 811 assisted housing, the physically disabled population generally needs access to facilities and services for counseling, physical therapy and recreational programs.

\_\_\_\_\_ provides housing stability case management and the Pine Belt Mental Health Center or \_\_\_\_\_ provides mental health services appropriate to individuals based on their needs. Services to support re-integration of mentally or developmentally disabled residents back into the community following release from institutions also may be needed. Mississippi Home Corporation, Mississippi Department of Mental Health, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, Mississippi United to End Homelessness (MUTEH), and Mississippi's Community Mental Health Centers collaborate to meet the housing and supportive services needs of the mentally disabled who also are homeless or near-homeless.

Frail elderly and elderly residents need supportive housing services to reduce housing costs (especially utility assistance & housing maintenance); rental assistance through increased Section 8 voucher allocations; access to additional RAD housing units & Section 202 units; financial management counseling; and expanded services for the homebound elderly such as home healthcare, Meals on Wheels, housekeeping and lawn services. If housing is not already adapted for elderly occupants, services to install bathroom safety bars and exterior ramps usually are needed.

Expanded programs and facilities to support successful rehabilitation, including job training, is needed for people with alcohol or drug dependency. \_\_\_\_\_ operates the \_\_\_\_\_ Center, a \_\_\_\_-day residential \_\_\_\_\_ treatment center in Hattiesburg.

**Discuss the size and characteristics of the population with HIV/AIDS and their families within the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area:**

The AIDS Services Coalition (ASC)-Hattiesburg has been contacted to provide the size and characteristics of the population with HIV/AIDS and their families living in the City and within the Hattiesburg MSA.

Eligible MSA? The needs of persons with HIV/AIDS and their families generally include transitional or permanent housing assistance and supportive services such as access to affordable public transportation and medical facilities. The City of Hattiesburg does not receive HOPWA funding but ASC receives an annual HOPWA allocation.

According to the Mississippi State Department of Health, there were \_\_\_\_ cases of an adult or adolescent living with an HIV diagnosis in Forrest County, MS in \_\_\_\_2019; this is a decrease from the previous two years. In 2019, Mississippi had a total of 396.7 adults and adolescents living with an HIV diagnosis on a statewide basis, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP). However, the CDC and MSDH indicate that rate of new HIV/AIDS cases may have increased during the pandemic.

#### **Discussion:**

There is a need for expanded housing assistance and supportive services to adequately serve special needs populations in the City of Hattiesburg; the City will continue to work with local, regional, state and federal agencies and organizations to meet these needs and provide a suitable living environment for all households.

### **NA-50 Non-Housing Community Development Needs – 91.215 (f)**

**Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities:** - this template will be completed following completion of consultations

The City has considerable need for rehabilitation of existing public facilities located in low- to moderate-income areas of the City, including community centers to support multiple uses that include job fairs and educational seminars and webinars, in addition to recreational and social activities. The City's public buildings generally are in good condition but due to storm damage, limited resources and \_\_\_\_\_, the needs for public facilities improvements include \_\_\_\_\_. System upgrades needed for City facilities (electrical, plumbing, HVAC and/or security) include \_\_\_\_.

#### **How were these needs determined?**

Public facility needs for the City of Hattiesburg were identified during the Consolidated Plan development process in consultation with City officials and staff, based on a City-maintained list of needed public facility improvements.

#### **Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Improvements:**

Infrastructure improvements are a high priority need, especially in low- to moderate-income neighborhoods. This includes streets and sidewalk repairs and stormwater drainage system improvements, particularly in residential areas located in lower elevations. Various parks and

recreational amenities including lighting and security need upgrading, especially in areas that primarily serve low-to moderate-income neighborhoods.

In some residential areas that abut commercial corridors or are in close proximity to a school or church, installation of ADA-compliant sidewalks and crosswalks are needed. Transportation corridor improvements in LMAs are needed to improve public safety and stimulate redevelopment, including replacing street lighting, traffic signage, improving pedestrian pathway connectivity, and upgrading major intersections to improve the flow of vehicular traffic and the safety of pedestrians with designated crosswalks and broader sidewalks to accommodate modern wheelchairs, which typically are wider.

### **How were these needs determined?**

Public improvement needs for the City of Hattiesburg were identified during the Consolidated Plan development process and in consultation with City officials and staff.

### **Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:**

The City's need for public services is extensive in spite of on-going efforts of public and private agencies and organizations to address them. High priority needs include: emergency shelter(s), transitional and permanent affordable housing for homeless and near-homeless populations; affordable educational and recreational after school and summer programs; no-cost financial literacy and housing maintenance classes; Fair Housing Act and homebuyer education programs; workforce development and jobs training/retraining programs; adult literacy and English as a Second Language programs; improved access to affordable daycare for children and seniors; utility/rent/deposit assistance; affordable public transportation services especially for the elderly and those with special needs; supportive services for those aging out of foster care, including affordable housing and employment opportunities; and affordable healthcare, mental/behavioral health assessments and services.

### **How were these needs determined?**

Public service needs were identified through consultation with City staff, the February 28, 2023 Roundtable meeting and community needs survey.

## **MA-05 Overview**

### **Housing Market Analysis Overview:**

The Housing Market Analysis provides information about the Hattiesburg housing market including the availability of public and private housing; the typical cost and condition of housing; barriers to housing; and homeless and special needs facilities. The Market Analysis section also includes information about related supportive services needs identified during analysis of demographic data.

As identified during development of prior years' CDBG Action Plans and consultations with local and regional agencies regarding development of the 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan, there continues to be a high priority need for emergency shelter beds and supportive services for the homeless. There is a high priority need for affordable transitional and permanent housing located in close proximity to grocery stores and other community services. There is a high priority need for transitional housing for those aging out of the fostercare system, those exiting substance abuse rehabilitation programs, and those recently discharged from institutions, until they are prepared and able to move into permanent housing.

There also is a high priority need for transitional and permanent housing adapted to accommodate those with special needs that includes group homes or nontraditional multi-unit facilities with centralized kitchen/laundry facilities. Affordable housing that has been adapted for the frail elderly and elderly that includes access to affordable/reliable transportation services to and from healthcare appointments and grocery stores is a high community priority.

Housing repair, rehabilitation and weatherization assistance is a high priority need for both renter-occupied and owner-occupied housing. With a \_\_\_\_\_ % rental unit vacancy rate in Hattiesburg, construction of new affordable housing is needed, especially affordable multi-family rental units.

Address # of vacant structures RE: potential for residential redevelopment to expand housing inventory.

## MA-10 Number of Housing Units – 91.210(a)&(b)(2)

### Introduction

According to input provided during development of the Consolidated Plan, there is need in the City of Hattiesburg to improve the condition and expand the inventory of affordable housing.

### All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	11,365	54%
1-unit, attached structure	170	1%
2-4 units	2,665	13%
5-19 units	4,610	22%
20 or more units	2,020	10%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc	129	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,959</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 27 – Residential Properties by Unit Number**

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

## Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	4	0%	250	2%
1 bedroom	25	0%	2,325	21%
2 bedrooms	900	13%	4,215	39%
3 or more bedrooms	5,793	86%	4,154	38%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,722</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>10,944</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 28 – Unit Size by Tenure

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

### **Describe the number and targeting (income level/type of family served) of units assisted with federal, state, and local programs.**

The Hattiesburg Housing Authority owns and operates three developments in the City of Hattiesburg and will provide information to describe the number of units assisted with federal, state and local programs. Generally, this housing is restricted to households with low- to moderate-incomes but not targeted by type of family served.

### **Provide an assessment of units expected to be lost from the affordable housing inventory for any reason, such as expiration of Section 8 contracts.**

The City does not anticipate the loss of affordable housing units at this time.

### **Does the availability of housing units meet the needs of the population?**

Based on HHA's closed waiting list, there is need for additional units to meet the needs of Hattiesburg's lower income households and for special needs and elderly populations.

### **Describe the need for specific types of housing:**

Consultation with various housing and housing service providers during development of the Hattiesburg Consolidated Plan identified a variety of housing needs, including adapted housing for special needs and elderly households, group homes with single room occupancy units for mentally and physically impaired residents, emergency shelter bed facilities and transitional housing for previously homeless individuals and families.

### **Discussion**

Assistance is needed to alleviate the housing cost burden of many residents, including rent and utility assistance and down payment assistance, based on input provided during development of the Hattiesburg Consolidated Plan.

## MA-15 Housing Market Analysis: Cost of Housing - 91.210(a)

### Introduction

During the 2013-2017 period, an estimated 21.8% of all renter households in the nation were cost burdened, spending between 30 and 49% of their income on rent, and 22.9% were severely cost burdened, spending more than 50% of income toward rent, according to HUD's January 2021 National Comprehensive Housing Market Analysis.

According to 2013-2017 CHAS data prepopulated in Tables 9 and 10 of Template NA-10 of this document, the most significant housing problem among home owners and those who rent homes in Hattiesburg is housing cost burden. Data identifies that elderly home owners are experiencing more cost burden compared to all other home owners in both the greater than 30% of income and greater than 50% of income categories.

### Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2017	% Change
Median Home Value	\$97,800	\$104,200	7%
Median Contract Rent	\$478	\$579	21%

**Table 29 - Cost of Housing**

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2013-2017 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than \$500	3,793	34.7%
\$500-999	6,379	58.3%
\$1,000-1,499	570	5.2%
\$1,500-1,999	130	1.2%
\$2,000 or more	65	0.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,937</b>	<b>99.9%</b>

**Table 30 - Rent Paid**

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

### Housing Affordability

% Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	740	No Data
50% HAMFI	2,410	875
80% HAMFI	7,055	1,706
100% HAMFI	No Data	2,379
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,205</b>	<b>4,960</b>

**Table 31 - Housing Affordability**

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

## Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent (\$)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	660	785	949	1,212	1,343
High HOME Rent	515	625	768	993	1,101
Low HOME Rent	515	589	707	816	911

**Table 32 – Monthly Rent**

**Data Source:** HUD FMR and HOME Rents

## Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

Consideration of assisted housing information received from MRHA VIII and others, indicates that the inventory of affordable housing in Hattiesburg is not sufficient, especially for very low and low-income households and households moving through transitional housing to permanent housing arrangements. Rental rates have significantly increased during the last five to ten years, with the actual average monthly rent of a one-bedroom apartment in Hattiesburg \$\_\_\_\_ and for a two-bedroom apartment \$\_\_\_\_.

## How is affordability of housing likely to change considering changes to home values and/or rents?

With increasing interest rates and the looming potential for a national recession, the definition of “affordable housing” will continue to change. Consideration of housing affordability should take into account the price of ever-increasing property insurance premiums.

## How do HOME rents / Fair Market Rent compare to Area Median Rent? How might this impact your strategy to produce or preserve affordable housing?

HOME rents and Fair Market rents are higher than the average actual monthly rental rate in 2017, even with the 21% rent rate increase between 2009 and 2017, according to HUD provided data.

## Discussion:

## MA-20 Housing Market Analysis: Condition of Housing – 91.210(a) – to be completed upon receipt of information

### Introduction

### Definitions

A home in a “substandard condition” is one in which there is any code violation, any health or safety deficiency or one that is lacking any properly functioning system including roof, electrical, plumbing, full bathroom and kitchen.

“Substandard condition but suitable for rehabilitation” is a property that can be rehabilitated within the City’s existing codes, regulations or manuals for Housing Rehabilitation, Repair and Reconstruction.

## Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	1,520	23%	5,400	49%
With two selected Conditions	33	0%	410	4%
With three selected Conditions	4	0%	15	0%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	5,180	77%	5,115	47%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,737</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>10,940</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 33 - Condition of Units

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

## Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	688	10%	2,585	24%
1980-1999	910	14%	3,025	28%
1950-1979	3,609	54%	4,110	38%
Before 1950	1,525	23%	1,220	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,732</b>	<b>101%</b>	<b>10,940</b>	<b>101%</b>

Table 34 – Year Unit Built

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

## Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	5,134	76%	5,330	49%
Housing Units build before 1980 with children present	1,341	20%	189	2%

Table 35 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS (Total Units) 2013-2017 CHAS (Units with Children present)

## Vacant Units

	Suitable for Rehabilitation	Not Suitable for Rehabilitation	Total
Vacant Units			
Abandoned Vacant Units			
REO Properties			
Abandoned REO Properties			

Table 36 - Vacant Units

## Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation

Suitable for Rehabilitation – are inspections available, citywide, to determine?

## Estimated Number of Housing Units Occupied by Low or Moderate Income Families with LBP Hazards

76% of owner-occupied housing built before 1980; 49% rental housing

1,341 children in owner-occupied housing + 189 in rental units

1,530 max, but unlikely 100% of the owner-occupied houses & rental units have LBP (MSDH estimate?)

## Discussion

### MA-25 Public and Assisted Housing – 91.210(b) – this template will be completed upon receipt of information

Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII and the Hattiesburg Housing Authority both operate within the Hattiesburg City limits.

MRHA VIII has committed a total of six (6) project-based vouchers to the third phase of the Village at the Beverly in Hattiesburg. Gulf Coast Housing Partnership is the development team for the multi-phase redevelopment effort.

### Totals Number of Units

	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers available	0	0	799	6,678	299	6,379	60	0	0
# of accessible units									

\*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition

Table 37 – Total Number of Units by Program Type

Data Source: MRHA VIII, PIC (PIH Information Center)

### Describe the supply of public housing developments:

- information provided by HHA will address this

**Describe the number and physical condition of public housing units in the jurisdiction, including those that are participating in an approved Public Housing Agency Plan:**

- information provided by HHA will address this

**Public Housing Condition**

Public Housing Development	Average Inspection Score

**Table 38 - Public Housing Condition**

**Describe the restoration and revitalization needs of public housing units in the jurisdiction:**

- information provided by HHA will address this

**Describe the public housing agency's strategy for improving the living environment of low- and moderate-income families residing in public housing:**

- information provided by HHA will address this

## **MA-30 Homeless Facilities and Services – 91.210I**

### **Introduction**

The City of Hattiesburg does not have facilities from which homeless individuals and families are served. Due to damage from a 1917 tornado, the Salvation Army-Hattiesburg's shelter is closed; discussions are ongoing regarding the location and funding for a new shelter. Numerous agencies and organizations collaborating on efforts to prevent and address homelessness in the City of Hattiesburg and Greater Hattiesburg Area, including:

- MUTEH, the Balance of State Continuum of Care;
- Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness;
- Community Care Network;
- Salvation Army-Hattiesburg;
- AIDS Services Coalition (ASC)- Hattiesburg
- Mississippi Department of Mental Health
- Pine Belt Mental Healthcare Resources (Region 12's Community Mental Health Center) ;
- Domestic Abuse Family Shelter, Inc.; and
- Many faith-based organizations.

While these nonprofits work together to provide a comprehensive range of homeless services for local homeless populations, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth, the current need for emergency shelter beds and transitional housing units exceeds resources available to provide them.

The Domestic Abuse Family Shelter, Inc. provides emergency shelter and transitional housing beds for individuals and families fleeing domestic violence. \_\_\_\_\_ supports crisis beds for youth and young adults and transitional housing. It also provides scattered site permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless persons. The Fieldhouse provides day shelter services for homeless populations, including food, clothing, access to showers and telephones.

AIDS Services Coalition (ASC)-Hattiesburg provides emergency shelter and transitional housing to those with HIV/AIDS and their families and assists with accessing permanent housing; it also provides numerous supportive services to its clients.

**Facilities & Housing Targeted to Homeless Households – to be completed upon receipt of information**

	Emergency Shelter Beds		Transitional Housing Beds	Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	
	Year Round Beds (Current & New)	Voucher/ Seasonal Overflow Beds	Current & New	Current & New	Under Development
Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)					
Households with Only Adults					
Chronically Homeless Households					
Veterans					
Unaccompanied Youth					

**Table 39 – Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households**

Data Source

Information provided by the

Comments:

**Describe mainstream services, such as health, mental health, and employment services to the extent those services are used to complement services targeted to homeless persons**

MUTEH is Mississippi's Lead Agency for both the AWARDS Database (HMIS) and the Continuum of Care (CoC), working with partner organizations and government agencies to serve and house vulnerable populations across the state. Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness is a regional component of MUTEH and links homeless individuals with health and mental health services, employment services and other resources based on intake assessments.

A variety of services and support are available for adults with mental illness. The CHOICE Program works collaboratively with the Mississippi Department of Mental Health (MDMH), Mississippi State Department of Health, Mississippi's Community Mental Health Centers, and Mississippi Home Cooperation to provide intensive case management and temporary rental assistance to make housing affordable throughout the state for individuals with serious mental illness.

Mississippi's regional community mental health centers (CMHCs) operate under the supervision of regional commissions appointed by county boards of supervisors in their respective service areas. Hattiesburg/Forrest County are located in Region 12 and are served by Pine Belt Mental Healthcare Resources, with an office in Hattiesburg. The CMHC provides health and mental health services to the homeless who are mentally or physically disabled or addicted to drugs or alcohol.

Pearl River Valley Opportunities, Inc. (PRVO) is the local community action agency and offers counseling and job training to the homeless and low-income residents. PRVO also offers free transportation services, a Head Start program, and assistance paying for utilities and security deposits. Federal funding through the Community Services Block Grant also helps pay for some prescription medications for low-income residents, the elderly, disabled and homeless populations. PRVO also administers the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance grant program that provides resources for purchase air conditioners, heaters and other energy related items for disabled and elderly clients who have serious medical emergencies or conditions.

**List and describe services and facilities that meet the needs of homeless persons, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth. If the services and facilities are listed on screen SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure or screen MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services, describe how these facilities and services specifically address the needs of these populations.**

Hattiesburg's homeless, chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth populations are served by MUTEH, the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness and its member agencies. Based on initial assessments, homeless individuals and families in all categories are linked with emergency shelter and transitional housing to meet immediate needs. The Coalition then links the homeless, chronically homeless, families with children, veterans and their families to services and support provided by many public and private services agencies to assist the homeless, including those with special needs.

The AIDS Services Coalition (ASC) provides emergency shelter, transitional housing facilities and assistance toward permanent housing for individuals with HIV/AIDS and their families as well as provides meals, counseling, medical, drug and alcohol services to homeless individuals with HIV/AIDS and families.

#### **Other Mainstream Services**

Pine Belt Mental Healthcare Resources provides community-based alcohol/drug abuse services, community services for persons with intellectual/developmental disabilities, and community services for children with mental illness or emotional problems.

With an office in Hattiesburg, LIFE (Living Independence for Everyone, Inc.) assists those with disabilities to live independently, including homeless individuals and families.

The Domestic Abuse Family Shelter, Inc. assists individuals and families who are fleeing domestic violence with emergency shelter, transitional housing and with permanent housing when possible. Supportive services available to the homeless individuals and families include meals, clothing, transportation assistance, employment access assistance and childcare.

Mississippi Center for Legal Services-Hattiesburg Office and Mississippi Center for Justice assist in filing Fair Housing Act complaints with HUD for those who have experienced discrimination while seeking housing, including homeless persons.

The United Way of Southeast Mississippi helps families meet basic needs of shelter, food and clothing through its member agency, Christian Services, Inc., and provides access to affordable healthcare and supports families' efforts to achieve financial stability.

Many faith-based organizations in Hattiesburg provide supportive services to the community and also to homeless individuals and families in all categories. These services include food, rent and utility assistance, transportation services, linkage to job skills development education and employment opportunities.

## **MA-35 Special Needs Facilities & Services**

### **Introduction**

The City of Hattiesburg does not have facilities or provide direct services to those with special needs but refers individuals and families to local agencies and organizations that provide the needed services.

**Including the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities (mental, physical, developmental), persons with alcohol or other drug addictions, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, public housing residents and any other categories the jurisdiction may specify, and describe their supportive housing needs**

The City of Hattiesburg refers the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities (mental, Physical, developmental), persons with alcohol or other drug addictions, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, public housing residents to local or regional agencies and organizations best prepared to meet the supportive housing needs.

The South Mississippi Planning and Development District's Area Agency on Aging provides extensive services to assist the elderly and frail elderly populations, from housing assistance to meals, linkage to medical and therapeutic services, and recreational activities. Pearl River Valley Opportunities, Inc. provides Weatherization, LIHEAP and transportation services and assists with paying bills and food; Forrest County Health Department provides home health care services.

Hattiesburg-based Pine Belt Mental Health Clinic, administered through the Commission on Mental Health & Retardation, Region 12, provides diagnostic, treatment, and prescriptive services related to mental and behavioral disorders. The clinic also provides health and mental health services to those who are mentally or physically disabled, helping them remain in their homes through supported living and day service programs and assistance securing employment. The clinic also offers services for those who are addicted to drugs or alcohol.

The National Alliance on Mental Health Hattiesburg is another nonprofit organization providing services to those affected by mental illness in the Mississippi Pine Belt Region through advocacy, education, research and support.

Hope Community Collective provides access to mental health care services in English and Spanish, serving as a community advocate for Hattiesburg residents who speak English as a second language.

Persons with HIV/AIDS and their families are comprehensively served by the AIDS Services Coalition (ASC)- Hattiesburg, from emergency shelter to transition housing and permanent housing. Access to food, clothing, medical services and healthcare are among the supportive services offered.

In spite of the considerable supportive services available to assist those in Hattiesburg with a wide spectrum of special needs - from the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities (mental, physical, developmental), persons with alcohol or other chemical addictions, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, public housing residents – the need for on-going assistance to lower housing cost burdens and to enhance stability to live independently is shared by all.

**Describe programs for ensuring that persons returning from mental and physical health institutions receive appropriate supportive housing**

According to the Mississippi Center for Justice, the State of Mississippi remains under a federal court order to program a program to ensure the persons returning from mental and physical health institutions receive appropriate supportive housing. The court-ordered program is anticipated to identify supportive services the state must make available to comply with applicable laws and meet the needs of this special needs population.

**For entitlement/consortia grantees: Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215I with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. (91.220(2))**

In compliance with 24 CFR 91.215I and 91.220(2)), the City will continue to support the efforts of local and regional agencies and organizations that assess and link residents who are not homeless but have other special needs with available housing and supportive services.

As it becomes aware of federal and state grant and resource availability during PY2023, the City will continue to share information about funding opportunities with local and regional agencies and organizations that serve residents with special needs but who are not homeless. The City will support the grant applications submitted by these local agencies and organizations to expand their capacity to better meet the housing assistance and supportive services needs of these residents. This on-going effort supports the City's goal to address or eliminate barriers that serve as impediments to fair housing choice, as protected under the Fair Housing Act, which is identified as a 2023 Action Plan activity under the CDBG Administration and Planning Project in template AP-38.

**MA-40 Barriers to Affordable Housing – 91.210I** – this template will be completed following consultation with City Planning

#### **Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment**

Based on consultations with the City of Hattiesburg's Planning staff, the City's zoning and land use ordinances reasonably allow by right the location and development of single and multi-family "affordable housing" throughout the city. Residential regulations allow construction of single family (individual, subdivision) and multifamily (boarding, institutional, dormitory and group housing) citywide on a variety of lot sizes, with defined processes for allowing conditional uses and variances to accommodate limited waivers. The City Planning Department participates in professional planning organization activities and continuing education opportunities, supporting their flexibility to consider, incorporate and adapt to federal and state regulatory and public policy changes.

The City of Hattiesburg partnered with the Mississippi HOME Corp, public housing authorities and other CDBG Entitlement Cities in the state to develop the first statewide Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice in 2018 – 2019. According to the A.I., there continues to be a need in Hattiesburg and throughout the state for public education about the rights of protected classes and the responsibilities

of homeowners, landlords, lending institutions, realtors and others under the Fair Housing Act, as amended. And, without a designated agency in Mississippi to enforce the Fair Housing Act, seeking resolution when a violation has occurred can be an arduous and expensive process.

The Mississippi Center for Justice offers a “hotline” for answering Fair Housing Act questions and assisting Mississippi residents with filing a complaint with HUD. The City partners with the USM Center for Disabilities Studies, MCJ and other organizations to provide Fair Housing Act educational information and workshops on a periodic basis as part of the effort to eliminate lack of knowledge about the Fair Housing Act as an impediment to Fair Housing Choice in Hattiesburg.

## **MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets – 91.215 (f) – this template will be completed following completion of consultations**

The source of data pre-populated by HUD in the tables is US Census data estimates, 2013-2017 ACS. The City of Hattiesburg has experienced significant economic growth since that five-year period. HUD provided data identifies the unemployment rate as 43.52% for those ages 16-24 in the Hattiesburg Civilian Labor Force and 8.91% for those ages 25-65, for an overall rate of 14.59%. According to 2015-2019 ASC data, it is \_\_\_\_% for those ages 16-24 and \_\_\_\_% for those ages 25-65. US Census QuickFacts for \_\_\_\_ identifies unemployment rates at \_\_\_\_%.

### **Economic Development Market Analysis**

#### **Business Activity**

#### **Business Activity**

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	140	39	1	0	-1
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	2,491	6,194	19	18	-1
Construction	536	1,027	4	3	-1
Education and Health Care Services	2,331	7,355	17	21	4
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	639	1,942	5	6	1
Information	159	319	1	1	0
Manufacturing	1,550	3,199	12	9	-2
Other Services	306	688	2	2	0
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	707	2,071	5	6	1
Public Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	2,100	5,858	16	17	1
Transportation and Warehousing	665	1,814	5	5	0

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Wholesale Trade	354	1,293	3	4	1
Total	11,978	31,799	--	--	--

**Table 40 - Business Activity**

**Data Source:** 2013-2017 ACS (Workers), 2017 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (Jobs)

## Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	23,928
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	20,470
Unemployment Rate	14.59
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	43.52
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	8.91

**Table 41 - Labor Force**

**Data Source:** 2013-2017 ACS

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	3,885
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	1,014
Service	2,259
Sales and office	5,890
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	1,390
Production, transportation and material moving	1,139

**Table 42 - Occupations by Sector**

**Data Source:** 2013-2017 ACS

## Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	17,105	86%
30-59 Minutes	1,965	10%
60 or More Minutes	925	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,995</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 43 - Travel Time**

**Data Source:** 2013-2017 ACS

## Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	695	305	1,375

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	3,045	755	1,570
Some college or Associate's degree	5,040	650	1,660
Bachelor's degree or higher	5,340	245	1,080

**Table 44 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status**

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

**Educational Attainment by Age** – this table was not pre-populated by HUD for the 2013-2017 period; footnotes to the ASC data recommend against comparing the ASC data to other sources

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade					
9th to 12th grade, no diploma					
High school graduate, GED, or alternative					
Some college, no degree					
Associate's degree					
Bachelor's degree					
Graduate or professional degree					

**Table 45 - Educational Attainment by Age**

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

#### **Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months**

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	\$ 58,360
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	112,485
Some college or Associate's degree	137,595
Bachelor's degree	256,500
Graduate or professional degree	200,980

**Table 46 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months**

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

**Based on the Business Activity table above, what are the major employment sectors within your jurisdiction?**

Based on the Business Activity Table, major employment sectors in the City of Hattiesburg are Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations (19% share of workers); Education and Healthcare Services (17% share of workers) and Retail Trade (16% share of workers).

**Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:**

Like most other cities in Mississippi, the City of Hattiesburg needs a well-educated, well-trained workforce to support the continued growth and diversification of its economy. The State of Mississippi provides a comprehensive Workforce Education Program through its community college system that offers customer-designed and pre-employment training, post-employment training and upgrade/retraining services.

The U.S. government's on-the-job-training program through the Workforce Investment Act allows employers to be reimbursed up to 50% of new workers' wages for up to six months. Upon training completion, the employer may realize additional savings through a tax credit through the Targeted Job Tax Credit Program.

To meet the business community's need for a well-educated workforce, the University of Southern Mississippi (USM) has expanded and strengthened its degree programs, offering two-year and four-year degree programs and numerous graduate degree programs, including \_\_\_\_\_. In addition to the Workforce Education Program offered at nearby Pearl River Community College, the community college offers a more affordable, close-to-home educational opportunity to those already employed in or who plan to participate in Hattiesburg's business community.

**Describe any major changes that may have an economic impact, such as planned local or regional public or private sector investments or initiatives that have affected or may affect job and business growth opportunities during the planning period. Describe any needs for workforce development, business support or infrastructure these changes may create.**

USM research opportunities from BP Oil Spill \$

Jones Companies building new 80,000 s.f. headquarters in Hattiesburg's Midtown area, adding 200 new jobs.

Recent I-59 Supply Chain grant

**How do the skills and education of the current workforce correspond to employment opportunities in the jurisdiction?**

Data for the Educational Attainment by Age Table was not pre-populated by HUD, and for a consistent basis of comparison ASC does not recommend comparing data from other sources with its five-year estimated data developed for HUD.

**Describe any current workforce training initiatives, including those supported by Workforce Investment Boards, community colleges and other organizations. Describe how these efforts will support the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan.**

The State of Mississippi provides a comprehensive Workforce Education Program at little or no cost, through the community college system that is designed to guarantee a new or expanding company has

the workers it needs to succeed. The program includes customer-designed pre-employment training, post-employment training and upgrade/retraining services.

USM and PRCC work with businesses/industries in the City of Hattiesburg and throughout the Hattiesburg MSA to develop and provide job training and continuing education programs to meet specific workforce training needs. Hattiesburg is home to the University of Southern Mississippi, which offers degree programs and certifications to support residents' efforts to advance or diversify their employment potential. A Small Business Development Center also is located on campus, providing access to additional business development resources.

Improved employment potential, workforce training and educational opportunities available through USM and PRCC supports the City of Hattiesburg's goal identified in the 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan to expand economic development and employment opportunities for residents.

**Does your jurisdiction participate in a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)?**

**If so, what economic development initiatives are you undertaking that may be coordinated with the Consolidated Plan? If not, describe other local/regional plans or initiatives that impact economic growth.**

**Discussion**

Will be completed upon completion of consultations

**MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion**

**Are there areas where households with multiple housing problems are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")**

Pre-populated ACS data for this Consolidated Plan does not identify specific areas of the City where households with multiple housing problems are concentrated. According to the HUD data, there are \_\_\_\_ households with **multiple** housing problems, with only \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_ total households (\_\_\_\_ owner-occupied and \_\_\_\_ renter-occupied) having two or more substandard conditions. The data also identifies that \_\_\_\_% of owner-occupied households and \_\_\_\_% of renter-occupied households have one substandard condition; no information is available identifying the location of housing units with one substandard condition.

Racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty (R/ECAPs) are defined as Census tracts with relatively high concentrations of non-white residents living in poverty. Formally, an area is designated an

R/ECAP if two conditions are satisfied: 1) the non-white population, whether Hispanic or non-Hispanic, must account for at least 50% of the Census tract population and 2) the poverty rate in that Census tract must exceed a certain threshold, at least 40%.

The maps to be attached to the final document the City's 2019 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, illustrate there are \_\_\_\_ R/ECAPs in the City of Hattiesburg, based on 2000, 2010 and 2016 Census data. More current Census information is not yet available.

**Are there any areas in the jurisdiction where racial or ethnic minorities or low-income families are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")**

Maps to be generated through HUD mapping tools to identify census tracts where the City of Hattiesburg has a majority of Black/African American residents that may be considered "majority-minority" areas in terms of the Black/African-American population is the majority race compared to the White population.

Maps also will identify if low-income households are concentrated in some of the census tracts where Black/African American residents are the majority; very low- and low-income households live in residential units located throughout the City and are not concentrated in one geographic area.

According to the City's 2019 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, there are two racial/ethnic minority population concentrations (R/ECAP) in the City of Hattiesburg as supported by the maps from the City's 2019 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice that will be attached to the final document.

For the purpose of this needs and market analysis, "concentration" is defined as an area where more than 60% of households are identified as one racial or ethnic group or as low-income households.

**What are the characteristics of the market in these areas/neighborhoods?**

The areas where racial or ethnic minorities or low-income families are concentrated generally include blighted and abandoned structures, overgrown lots, and housing for both owner-occupied and renter-occupied units that is deteriorated. Neighborhoods where low-income residents are concentrated generally are not well maintained and the infrastructure typically is old and in a state of disrepair (cracked sidewalks and streets with more than the usual number or size of potholes). Residents in these areas generally do not have the financial resources and/or the ability to adequately maintain their homes on an on-going basis.

**Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?**

Community assets located in low- to moderate-income areas/neighborhoods include churches, parks, and convenience and service stores. Some of the low-income areas have vacant land or lots that would support infill development.

## **Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?**

In areas zoned to allow mixed uses, opportunities exist for neighborhood commercial and small business development/redevelopment services businesses.

### **MA-60 Broadband Needs of Housing occupied by Low- and Moderate-Income Households – 91.210(a)(4), 91.310(a)(2)**

**Describe the need for broadband wiring and connections for households, including low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods.**

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, broadband service needs of Hattiesburg residents, businesses – especially including healthcare services, public and private schools, institutions of higher learning, as well as nonprofits and local governments have increased. Service providers are investing in broadening their bandwidths to support faster service and increased access.

According to U.S. Census 2017-2021 ACS Census data, 90% of households in the City of Hattiesburg had a computer and 82% had a broadband internet subscription during that five-year period. This compares to 88.4% of households with a computer statewide and the 93.1% of households in the nation for the same period. In the State of Mississippi, 78% of households had a broadband internet service subscription while 82% of households across the USA had one, for the same 5-year period.

The City of Hattiesburg’s need for broadband wiring and connections for housings, including housing for low- and moderate-income households and lower-income neighborhoods, isn’t identified as a high priority need, when considering that 32%\* of all persons in Hattiesburg live in poverty. (2017-2021 ACS)

5,285 of the 11,325 (46.6%) households that rent their homes in Hattiesburg and 930 of the total 6,450 (14.4%) households that own their homes are experiencing housing cost burdens greater than 30% of combined household incomes, according to 2015-2019 ACS/CHAS data.

The low- and moderate-income households included in the 18% of the Hattiesburg population that did not have a broadband internet subscription during the 2017-2021 period now may enroll in the FCC’s Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) that provides income-eligible households up to \$30 in monthly subsidies for Internet connection services and up to \$100 toward the one-time purchase of an Internet connection device from a local participating Internet Service Provider (ISP).

HUD is participating in the national effort to increase participation of income-eligible households in the ACP program to help close the digital divide. According to FCC data generated through its ACP Enrollment and Claims by Zip Code Tracker, 3,711 households in the City of Hattiesburg already were enrolled in ACP as of January 1, 2023.

**Describe the need for increased competition by having more than one broadband Internet service provider serve the jurisdiction.**

Concurrent with expanding participation in ACP to benefit income-eligible households, funding assistance through the Connect America Fund (CAF) is encouraging ISPs to expand broadband services into less populated areas such the City of Hattiesburg to further narrow the digital divide. Through the ACP, CAF and ConnectHomesUSA initiatives, all of which support comprehensive digital access to the Internet, the federal government is helping improve the quality of life for low- to moderate-income households by expanding economic and educational opportunities and access to healthcare services. Increased competition among ISPs not only is bringing down connectivity costs in relatively small cities, but it is allowing ISPs to offer residents a wider range of services that include higher Internet speeds.

Through a link on the FCC website, the Connect America Fund Broadband Map and correlating data set identify that, as of July 13, 2022, AT&T had expanded to \_\_\_\_\_ specific, fixed locations in Hattiesburg as part of its overall effort to build out mass market, high-speed Internet service sites to meet increasing Internet service needs and to improve Internet technology to better serve the existing economy, attract new businesses and support residential service at a variety of speeds.

The impact of CAF funding is improving the availability and variety of Internet services in Hattiesburg by expanding price options as well as the speed of Internet access for businesses, local industry and households in all income brackets. There is no doubt that in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century a strong broadband network is a powerful economic tool, especially in a region like Mississippi's Pine Belt Region, which is targeting recruitment of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ businesses. The City of Hattiesburg and the Hattiesburg Area Development Partnership (ADP) can improve business recruitment efforts when technology infrastructure already is in place. Likewise, the quality of life for Hattiesburg residents will continue to improve as more affordable Internet connectivity is made available to support reliable access to employment, educational and healthcare opportunities and services.

**Supporting documentation to be attached in the JPEG Box in IDIS.**

**MA-65 Hazard Mitigation – 91.210(a)(5), 91.310(a)(3)** – this template will be completed upon receipt of information & following consultations

**Describe the jurisdiction's increased natural hazard risks associated with climate change.**

Hazard risks from tornados, high wind and \_\_\_\_\_ are identified as high risk \_\_\_\_\_ for the Hattiesburg area, according to the Forrest Count Hazard Mitigation Plan (insert official name & date FEMA/MEMA approved).

MEMA, Forrest County and municipalities within MEMA's Region \_\_\_\_, which includes Forrest, Lamar and Perry and \_\_\_\_\_ (Covington?) Counties, work cooperatively to develop and implement a multi-year Hazard Mitigation Plan that comprehensively identifies potential hazards and proposes projects and activities to prevent and/or minimize damage should any of the hazards become a reality.

Climate change forecasts call for more frequent and more severe storms\_\_\_\_\_.

Trains/hazardous material – MDOT lists

Access to FEMA/MEMA funding/eligibility to apply for funding with approved Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**Describe the vulnerability to these risks of housing occupied by low- and moderate-income households based on an analysis of data, findings, and methods.**

More affordable housing generally is available in less desirable, lower elevated areas in Hattiesburg because of increased vulnerability of frequent flooding. The increased frequency of severe storms increases the risk of damage from high winds and flying debris for most households, but if low- and moderate-income households can't afford to make necessary repairs following each storm, their vulnerability to future damage likely will increase.

## **SP-05 Overview**

The Strategic Plan component of the City of Hattiesburg's Consolidated Plan identifies specific needs within the broad categories of affordable housing, supportive services and community development, prioritizes them and identifies how CDBG, HOME and other resources may be invested to address the highest priority needs to improve the living environments of all residents, but especially of low- and moderate-income households.

Reviewing input provided during development of this Consolidated Plan, considering what progress was made toward addressing similar high priority needs identified for the previous five-year period and recognizing that public needs will continue to exceed resources available to address them, the City of Hattiesburg identified the following among its highest priority community needs:

- Addressing and preventing homelessness by expanding the community's capacity to provide emergency shelter and transitional housing;
- Expanding availability of housing assistance services to alleviate housing cost burden, especially for low-income and near-homeless households;
- Improving the living environment for all residents, especially for low- and moderate-income and special needs households, through comprehensive code enforcement; improved public safety; infrastructure and transportation improvements; and strengthening community resilience; and

- Decreasing the number of persons in Hattiesburg living in poverty by supporting efforts to increase participation in job skills training, workforce development/redevelopment programs, certificate and degree programs.

## SP-10 Geographic Priorities – 91.215 (a)(1)

– to be completed following completion of consultations

### Geographic Area

The City of Hattiesburg invests the majority of its CDBG and HOME Investment Partnership resources in projects and activities that provide citywide benefit rather than on geographic priorities. Considerable effort goes into developing projects and activities that meet an identified high priority community need while maximizing use of public resources to benefit the highest number of low- to moderate-income residents possible.

### General Allocation Priorities – Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction

By investing the majority of its CDBG and HOME resources in housing rehabilitation, emergency housing repairs, and other affordable housing activities for low- to moderate-income households on a citywide basis, the City is improving the living environments of its lower-income residents and helping the near-homeless remain in their homes. While it does not prioritize funding by geographic area at this time, there are areas in Wards 2, 4 and 5 in which a majority of households are low- to moderate-income. These include U.S. Census tracts 001, 002, 003, 004, 005, 006, 011 and 105.

## SP-25 Priority Needs – 91.215(a)(2)

- to be completed upon receipt of additional information

Table 47 – Priority Needs Summary

1	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Address and Prevent Homelessness
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low, Low, Moderate, Large Families, Families with Children, Elderly, Public Housing Residents, Chronic Homelessness, Individuals, Families with Children, Mentally Ill, Chronic Substance Abuse, veterans, Persons with HIV/AIDS, Victims of Domestic Violence, Unaccompanied Youth
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Citywide

	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Improve Access to Affordable Housing
	<b>Description</b>	The capacity of existing emergency shelters and inventory of transitional housing units is inadequate to meet community needs. Assistance is needed to provide shelter and temporary housing for homeless and near-homeless populations, including those who are transitioning out of institutions such as those aging out of fostercare.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Addressing and preventing homelessness is a high priority in the City of Hattiesburg, based on input provided on an on-going basis by residents, housing and supportive services agencies and others during development of the Consolidated Plan, 2023 Action Plan and previous Action Plans. City residents generally seem to agree that all residents deserve a suitable living environment, which includes shelter/ housing on a permanent basis, and that investment of limited public resources is warranted to meet this need.
2	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Increase Inventory and Condition of Affordable Housing
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low, Low, Moderate – Income, Large Families, Families with Children Elderly, Public Housing Residents, Chronic Homelessness, Individuals, Families with Children, Mentally Ill, Chronic Substance Abuse, veterans, Persons with HIV/AIDS, Victims of Domestic Violence, Unaccompanied Youth, Elderly, Frail Elderly, Persons with Mental Disabilities, Persons with Physical Disabilities, Persons with Developmental Disabilities, Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions, Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families, Victims of Domestic Violence, Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Citywide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Improve Access to Affordable Housing
	<b>Description</b>	Programs and activities that support efforts of home owners and rental housing owners to maintain their property in compliance with code and provide energy efficiency improvements is needed. Support for housing rehabilitation and emergency repairs will help those on low- and fixed-incomes avoid deferred maintenance problems, adapt housing to accommodate special needs residents or alleviate housing cost burden through weatherization improvements to reduce utility expenses. Improving housing affordability may allow near-homeless and those with special needs, including the elderly, to remain safely in their homes.

	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	This priority has consistently been identified as a high priority by on-going citizen input and based on affordable housing reports and data from federal, state and local sources.
3	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Public Services- Non-Housing Community Development
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low, Low, Moderate Large Families, Families with Children Elderly, Public Housing Residents, Chronic Homelessness, Individuals, Families with Children, Mentally Ill, Chronic Substance Abuse, veterans, Persons with HIV/AIDS, Victims of Domestic Violence, Unaccompanied Youth, Elderly, Frail Elderly, Persons with Mental Disabilities, Persons with Physical Disabilities, Persons with Developmental Disabilities, Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions, Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families, Victims of Domestic Violence, Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Citywide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Address High Priority Public Service Needs
	<b>Description</b>	Public service programs are needed to: support workforce development/ redevelopment and improve job skills; expand availability of financial & digital literacy programs; improve access to affordable daycare; provide transportation services to special needs populations; fill the mental health assessment and treatment healthcare gap; and _____.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Non-housing public services activities consistently are identified as a high priority need by residents and local nonprofit agencies.
	<b>Description</b>	Through input provided during development of its Consolidated Plan, 2022 Action Plan and previous Action Plans, the City has identified supporting activities provided by agencies to Addressing this priority will generally improve residents' quality of life, reduce duplication of services and maximize the investment of limited CDBG resources.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Support for non-housing public services activities consistently is identified as a high priority need by residents and local service providers. Investing public resources to improve the affordability of daycare, transportation services, educational opportunities and healthcare is a high priority need of very-low and low-income households.

4	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Public Services- Housing
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low, Low, Moderate, Large Families, Families with Children, Elderly, Public Housing Residents, Chronic Homelessness, Individuals, Families with Children, Mentally Ill, Chronic Substance Abuse, veterans, Persons with HIV/AIDS, Victims of Domestic Violence, Unaccompanied Youth, Elderly, Frail Elderly, Persons with Mental Disabilities, Persons with Physical Disabilities, Persons with Developmental Disabilities, Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions, Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families, Victims of Domestic Violence, Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Citywide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Address High Priority Public Service Needs
	<b>Description</b>	Support public service activities that improve access to affordable housing and improve residents' living environments, especially for homeless and near-homeless populations, limited clientele and special needs populations; support rent and utility assistance programs to help near-homeless, very-low and low-income households remain in their homes; continue fair housing education outreach efforts, in compliance with the City's Analysis of Impediments, to improve access to affordable housing for minorities and those with special needs; expand educational opportunities for home owners regarding housing maintenance, basic repairs & financial literacy; partner with agencies and religious organizations to fill service gaps and eliminate duplication of services to maximize use of limited resources.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Support for public services to housing-related activities consistently is identified as a high priority need by residents and agencies that provide housing assistance
5	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Public Facilities and Resources Improvements
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low, Low, Moderate, Middle, Large Families, Families with Children Elderly, Public Housing Residents, Chronic Homelessness, Individuals, Families with Children, Mentally Ill, Chronic Substance Abuse, veterans, Persons with HIV/AIDS, Victims of Domestic Violence, Unaccompanied Youth, Elderly, Frail Elderly, Persons with Mental Disabilities, Persons with Physical Disabilities, Persons with Developmental Disabilities, Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions, Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families, Victims of Domestic Violence, Non-housing Community Development

	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Citywide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Provide Suitable Living Environments
	<b>Description</b>	The City may invest CDBG funds to acquire, upgrade, expand and otherwise improve public facilities and resources, including but not limited to infrastructure, parks and recreational areas, community centers, to improve residents' living environments and quality of life. Improvements also may include construction and rehabilitation projects to meet the needs of special needs populations and low- to moderate-income residents.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Based on citizen input provided during development of the Consolidated Plan, 2023 Action Plan and previous Action Plans, the City has identified the high priority need to upgrade and improve public facilities and resources that directly benefit those with special needs and low- to moderate-income residents by improving their living environment.
6	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Enhance Economic Development Opportunities
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low, Low, Moderate, Middle, Large Families, Families with Children Elderly, Public Housing Residents, Chronic Homelessness, Individuals, Families with Children, Chronic Substance Abuse, veterans, Persons with HIV/AIDS, Victims of Domestic Violence, Unaccompanied Youth, Elderly, Persons with Physical Disabilities, Persons with Developmental Disabilities, Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families, Victims of Domestic Violence, Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Citywide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Enhance Economic Development Opportunities
	<b>Description</b>	By strengthening partnerships and collaborating with local and regional businesses, state and local business development agencies, USM, William Carey, PRCC and regional healthcare providers, the City will support efforts to enhance economic development opportunities to expand availability of local jobs that pay a living wage. The City will continue to work with chambers & business organizations to stimulate the startup of new businesses and improve the success rate of small businesses; the City also will support networking and mentoring activities to improve the quality of the civilian labor force and improve residents' employability. The City will work with federal, state and regional agencies and organizations to improve access to existing business resources, including technical assistance and affordable job skills training and workforce development.

	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Through input provided during development of its Consolidated Plan, 2023 Action Plan and previous Action Plans, the City has identified the high priority need to enhance local and regional economic development opportunities by increasing participation in the local civilian labor force and improving residents' employability.
6	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Improve Community Resilience
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low, Low, Moderate, Middle, Large Families, Families with Children Elderly, Public Housing Residents, Chronic Homelessness, Individuals, Families with Children, Mentally Ill, Chronic Substance Abuse, veterans, Persons with HIV/AIDS, Victims of Domestic Violence, Unaccompanied Youth, Elderly, Frail Elderly, Persons with Mental Disabilities, Persons with Physical Disabilities, Persons with Developmental Disabilities, Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions, Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families, Victims of Domestic Violence, Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Citywide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Provide Suitable Living Environments
	<b>Description</b>	The City will continue to work with its local, regional, state and federal partners to plan and be prepared to respond to manmade and natural emergencies and disasters, such as a pandemic or tornado. The City will support projects and activities that help protect residents and minimize property damage. Activities that enhance emergency response by providing special needs populations, low-income residents and homeless populations with evacuation and transportation services will significantly benefit those who can least protect themselves. Activities may include but are not limited to identifying the need for and confirming availability of specific response resources and preparing/disseminating public information.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Lessons from hurricanes, tornados and the more recent COVID-19 pandemic have taught the City and its residents to be prepared and that information is an important tool. Having resources and procedures in place before an emergency event or natural disaster will help minimize injuries and reduce property damage. This is an especially high priority for those with special needs, low incomes and homeless populations.

### Narrative (Optional)

The City's priorities were developed in concert with identification of broad goals for the 5-year period addressed in the Consolidated Plan. With its limited resources, the City intends to collaborate and coordinate with existing agencies, organizations and others to plan and implement projects and

activities that address high priority community needs to benefit all residents, but especially its low- to moderate-income residents and those with special needs.

**SP-30 Influence of Market Conditions – 91.215 (b)** - this template will be completed upon receipt of information

Affordable Housing Type	Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	MRHA VIII issues Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) vouchers in Hattiesburg & indicated there were no market characteristics that would influence funds available for this type of housing assistance. However, market characteristics such as increased interest rates & the high cost of construction material are impacting the availability of residential rental units. With a ____% apartment vacancy rate in Hattiesburg, the inventory of available rental units is _____. Renters continue to explore available rental housing options in unincorporated areas, although that increases transportation costs and rental rates tend to be higher.
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	Market characteristics that influence the use of TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs populations does not differ significantly from the characteristics that influence decisions on using TBRA in general, according to MRHAVIII. Availability of rental housing is limited.
New Unit Production	Private development of new affordable housing units will be negatively impacted by higher interest rates for construction loans and mortgage financing as well as increasing costs for and unreliable supply of construction material. The increased cost of building materials due to inflation and supply challenges are increasing the production cost of affordable housing by approximately 30%, according to MRHA VIII. Under the new NFIP Risk Rating 2.0 system, higher flood insurance premium costs, based on a property's proximity to water bodies that flood, may negatively impact new residential construction in some areas of the City.
Rehabilitation	Depending upon interest rates, a Hattiesburg rental rehabilitation program that offers forgivable loans to property owners who commit to limiting occupancy to income qualified residents for a specific number of years may be warranted. However, increased cost of property insurance and mortgage interest rates, increased material costs, combined with restrictions on housing rehabilitation in special flood zones, may preclude the program's viability on a citywide basis.
Acquisition, including preservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interest rate increases generally have a negative impact on home ownership</li> <li>- New FEMA Risk Rating 2.0 may lead to further increases in property insurance</li> <li>- Other market issues influencing use of public funds for acquisition, rehabilitation &amp; preservation of affordable housing in Hattiesburg include increased costs of building materials due to inflation and building material supply challenges.</li> </ul>

**Table 48 – Influence of Market Conditions**

## SP-35 Anticipated Resources - 91.215(a)(4), 91.220(c)(1,2) –

### Introduction

In Program Year (PY) 2023, HUD awarded the City a CDBG allocation of \$546,730.00 and a HOME allocation of \$348,273.00. The City does not anticipate generating any program income during PY2023. The City anticipates an estimated \$477,468.02 in CDBG funds, which were previously allocated but not expended, will be carried over and reallocated to 2023 projects and an estimated \$544,433.12 in HOME Investment Partnerships funds, which were allocated in previous years but not expended, also will be carried over and reallocated to 2023 projects. This brings total resources anticipated to be available to fund the City of Hattiesburg's PY2023 projects and activities to an estimated \$1,917,174.14

During the next four years, the City anticipates annual CDBG and HOME allocations from HUD will be approximately the same.

### 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	546,730	0	477,468	1,024,198	2,186,920	The City anticipates its annual CDBG and HOME allocations will be about the same for the next 4-year period.
HOME	public-federal		348,273	0	544,433	892,976	1,393,092	

Table 49 - Anticipated Resources

### 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 CDBG Entitlement Program does not require a match or leveraging of funds while the HOME Program requires a 12.5% match of nonfederal funds for every dollar of HOME funds expended. The City will meet this match requirement by continuing to invest nonfederal resources to support housing assistance activities that benefit low- to moderate-income households.

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

During the five-year period of the Consolidated Plan, the City will consider using property it owns to address high priority community needs if the new use serves a public purpose; if resources are available for maintenance and staffing (if applicable); and if using the property/facility for the proposed purpose is determined to be in the best interest of the City.

## Discussion

The City anticipates it will continue working in partnership with MUTEH, the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness and other agencies to address community issues and mutual concerns while maximizing investment of limited resources. The City anticipates that its Homeless Coordinator will work directly with the agencies that work to address and prevent homelessness in Hattiesburg, especially veterans and the chronically homeless populations.

The City also plans to continue pursuing funding opportunities to support additional affordable housing assistance activities through the Federal Home Loan Bank and the Mississippi HOME Corporation.

## **SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure – 91.215(k)** - this template will be completed upon receipt of information

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
MUTEH/ Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness	Continuum of Care and regional network	Homelessness	Region
Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII	PHA	Assisted/Public Housing	Region
Hattiesburg Housing Authority	PHA	Assisted/Public Housing	City
Domestic Abuse Family Shelter	Nonprofit	Emergency and transitional housing; related supportive services	<u>Region</u>
AIDS Services Coalition (ASC)- Hattiesburg	Nonprofit	Housing & supportive services for those with AIDS/HIV and their families	City
The Salvation Army - Hattiesburg	Community/ Faith-based organization	Homelessness Non-homeless special needs, food pantry, youth activities	City/County

<b>Responsible Entity</b>	<b>Responsible Entity Type</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Geographic Area Served</b>
Pine Belt Mental Health Resources	Mississippi Community Health Care Clinic	Non-homeless special needs public services	Region 12, Community Health Care Clinic
USM – Institute for Disability Studies	Higher education	Special needs services	
Edwards Street Fellowship Center	Faith-based organization	Faith-based supportive services	
Pearl River Valley Opportunity Inc.	Community Action Agency	Supportive services	
Lighthouse Rescue Mission	Community organization	Homeless population services	

**Table 50 - Institutional Delivery Structure**

## Assess of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

An assessment of the strengths in the Institutional Delivery System identified there are many well-organized agencies in Hattiesburg and Forrest County working together to meet the needs of low- and moderate-income residents as well as homeless and special needs populations. Hundreds of local volunteers support the programs and activities of these agencies on an on-going basis. Information was not available to add several other entities that form the institutional delivery structure, such as the United Way of Southeast Mississippi; Pine Belt Mental Healthcare; Pearl River Valley Opportunity, Inc.; Pine Belt Mental Health Care, Hope Community and many faith-based organizations.

Gaps in the Institutional structure include the following:

- The lack of code compliant, affordable rental housing for very-low and low-income households;
- The lack of resources and programs to fully address the need for residential rehabilitation for owner-occupied housing and owners of rental units;
- The lack of programs to support sustainable home ownership through home maintenance and basic repair skills classes to benefit home owners and owners of rental property;
- The need to expand emergency shelter capacity to meet local homeless populations needs;
- The need to increase the inventory of affordable transitional housing and permanent housing for homeless individuals and families, those recently discharged from institutions, those participating in substance abuse programs and those with special needs;
- The lack of programs and resources to adapt owner-occupied housing and rental units to more fully meet the needs of the elderly and others with special needs;
- The need for additional supportive services for those aging out of fostercare, those discharged from institutional care, those participating in substance abuse rehabilitation programs, and homeless individuals and families; and
- The need for transitional and permanent housing that may include group homes for those with special needs including the elderly, those with physical or mental impairments, and those in rehabilitation programs for substance abuse.

**Availability of services targeted to homeless persons and persons with HIV and mainstream services** – this table will be completed upon receipt of information

Homelessness Prevention Services	Available in the Community	Targeted to Homeless	Targeted to People with HIV
<b>Homelessness Prevention Services</b>			
Counseling/Advocacy	X	X	X
Legal Assistance	X	X	X
Mortgage Assistance	X		
Rental Assistance	X	X	X
Utilities Assistance	X		X

Street Outreach Services			
Law Enforcement	X	X	
Mobile Clinics	X	X	X
Other Street Outreach Services	X	X	
Supportive Services			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X	X	
Child Care	X	X	X
Education	X	X	X
Employment and Employment Training	X	X	X
Healthcare	X	X	X
HIV/AIDS	X	X	X
Life Skills	X	X	X
Mental Health Counseling	X	X	X
Transportation			X
Other			

Table 51 - Homeless Prevention Services Summary

**Describe how the service delivery system including, but not limited to, the services listed above meet the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth)**

Housing and supportive services assistance is available for a broad spectrum of needs, particularly for chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families and unaccompanied youth. With an organizational framework provided by the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness/Balance of State CoC, the service delivery system is improving in Hattiesburg, with improved communication, less duplication of services and improved coordination of resource delivery.

**Describe the strengths and gaps of the service delivery system for special needs population and persons experiencing homelessness, including, but not limited to, the services listed above**

Strengths include well-organized agencies, with a wealth of volunteers and basic resources. However, with the need for emergency shelter and access to affordable housing increasing, available resources aren't adequate to fully meet the needs of the various homeless and special needs populations. Gaps include the lack of emergency shelter facilities with an adequate number of beds; insufficient number of transitional housing units; and a lack of rental assistance to access permanent housing for homeless individuals and families and those with special needs.

There is a need for additional supportive services for homeless individuals and families as they transition from emergency shelter to transitional and permanent housing.

**Provide a summary of the strategy for overcoming gaps in the institutional structure and service delivery system for carrying out a strategy to address priority needs**

The City will continue to work with MUTEH, the Pine Belt Coalition on Homeless and other local agencies to overcome gaps in the institutional structure to meet the high priority needs of homeless populations and residents who are at-risk of becoming homeless. Access to transitional and permanent affordable rental housing that is code compliant continues to be a challenge that the City is working to address.

The City will continue to partner with housing organizations to identify opportunities for affordable rental housing development, redevelopment and rehabilitation. The City will continue to support its efforts to assist home owners with rehabilitation and emergency repair services.

The City also will support HHA's efforts to improve availability of assisted housing in the City by rehabilitating/redeveloping its \_\_\_\_\_ development.

**SP-45 Goals Summary – 91.215(a)(4) -**

This table will be completed pending receipt of requested information.

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Enhance Economic Development Opportunities	2023	2027	Non-Housing Community Development	Small business assistance	CDBG: \$150,000	Microenterprise Assistance Program? Jobs created/retained: _____ Jobs _____ Businesses assisted: _____ Businesses Assisted _____
2	Improve Access to Affordable Housing	2023	2027	Affordable Housing Assistance	Housing Rehab & Emergency Housing Repairs to Improve Access to Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$293,600  CDBG: \$293,600  HOME: \$305,000 HOME: \$1,000,000	100% L/M benefit # Owner-occupied houses rehabilitated _____ # Owner-occupied houses repaired: _____ # Owner-occupied houses rehabilitated _____ or # Rental Units rehabilitated _____

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
3	Address High Priority Public Service Needs	2023	2027	Public Services - Housing	Public Services – Affordable Housing (includes services to assist homeless)	CDBG: \$225,000	# of Households served ____ 100% L/M benefit  # Persons served 100% L/M benefit
4	Address High Priority Public Service Needs	2023	2027	Public Services - Non-Housing	Public Services - Non-Housing	CDBG: \$225,000	# Persons Served ____ # LMI Persons Served ____ 100% L/M benefit
5	Provide Residents with Suitable Living Environments	2023	2027	Non-Housing Community Development	Improved Public Facilities and Resources; Improve Public Safety Improve Community Resilience	CDBG: \$1,000,000  CDBG: \$ ____	# Persons Served ____ # LMI Persons Served ____% L/M benefit  # Persons Served ____ # LMI Persons Served ____% L/M benefit
6	CHDO Set Aside	2023	2027	HOME	Improved Access to Affordable Housing	HOME: \$260,000	# of Households served ____ 100% L/M benefit or # houses/units ____ assisted
7	Administration & Planning	2023	2027	Administration		CDBG: \$545,000 HOME: \$175,000	Not applicable FYI - will identify "Other: 1" as space holder (for IDIS to work)

Table 52 – Goals Summary

## Goal Descriptions

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	Enhance Economic Development Opportunities
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Improve long-term community viability by collaborating with business/civic organizations to maximize opportunities for small business success, especially owned by low/mod residents; improve access to small business start-up and expansion resources, job skills training opportunities and other services available through federal/state agencies & regional business organizations; collaborate with USM, William Carey, PRCC and the Public School District to improve success of local civilian labor force in securing jobs that pay a living wage.
2	<b>Goal Name</b>	Improve Access to Affordable Housing
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Improve access to code-compliant, affordable housing for all residents; support rehabilitation and weatherization programs for owner-occupied houses and residential rental units; improve code enforcement in residential areas, especially LMAs; support projects and activities to adapt rental and owner-occupied housing for elderly and special needs populations; support partnerships to expand capacity of emergency shelters and expand transitional and permanent housing inventory; support rent & utility assistance for low-income and special needs/limited clientele populations; work with community partners to address fair housing impediments identified in the City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice; expand fair housing education outreach; expand activities to support homeowner sustainability.
3	<b>Goal Name</b>	Provide Suitable Living Environments for Residents
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Improvement of Public Facilities & Resources will support the comprehensive effort to provide suitable living environments for all residents, particularly low/mod households and special needs populations. These projects include but are not limited to acquiring, developing, improving & expanding City parks, recreational areas, community/recreation centers; improving public safety; constructing/rehabilitating infrastructure such as streets, waterlines, stormwater systems, sidewalks; installing complete streets projects; acquiring/constructing/rehabilitating facilities owned by nonprofits to benefit the homeless, special needs and low/mod income residents; improving access to affordable transportation services; clearing public property, including demolition; improving community resilience through emergency planning/response projects that may be given sudden high priority resulting from natural disasters, terrorist acts, &/or healthcare emergencies (pandemics). Preparing resources & equipment to improve the City's ability to better protect the public health & safety.

4	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Services Non-Housing
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Non-Housing public services activities may support the Consolidated Plan goals to enhance economic opportunities, provide suitable living environments, improve access to affordable housing and improve community resilience. Non-housing service activities may include but are not limited to supporting job skills training, financial management & digital literacy programs; filling gaps in public healthcare programs, especially for the homeless; supporting access to affordable daycare; improving the affordability of public transportation services for the homeless, low-income households, the elderly and special needs residents; and services to assist those exiting institutional care.
5	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Services Housing
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Housing public services activities support improved access to affordable housing that may include but is not limited to rent/utility assistance; emergency/transitional housing services to prevent and address homelessness; programs to teach home maintenance and repair; first-time homebuyer education programs; fair housing education outreach activities; and housing assistance for those exiting institutional care.
6	<b>Goal Name</b>	CHDO Set Aside
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Support comprehensive housing development organizations through HOME-eligible projects
7	<b>Goal Name</b>	Administration & Planning
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Costs associated with administering the CDBG and HOME Entitlement Programs, may include but aren't limited to a portion of staff salaries, equipment, supplies, training, legal, environmental review and consulting services, travel, publication and reproduction costs, lead-based paint poisoning prevention and fair housing education outreach efforts, and planning activities, as identified as eligible.

**Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.315(b)(2)**

The City of Hattiesburg's CDBG and HOME resources for housing projects and activities are available on a citywide basis and not limited to low- to moderate-income areas or census tracts with a specified percentage of extremely low-income, low-income and moderate-income families. The City cannot determine or predict the incomes of each household that will benefit from these funds but assistance will be limited to those households under the 80% of AMI.

**SP-50 Public Housing Accessibility and Involvement – 91.215(c)**

– this template will be completed upon receipt of information

### **Need to Increase the Number of Accessible Units (if Required by a Section 504 Voluntary Compliance Agreement)**

Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII (MRHA VIII) does not own or operate assisted housing developments in the City of Hattiesburg. The Hattiesburg Housing Authority (HHA) is not required by a Section 504 Voluntary Compliance Agreement to increase the number of accessible units in its three occupied developments. Currently, \_\_\_\_ units are accessible in its \_\_\_\_ of its three developments.

### **Activities to Increase Resident Involvements**

HHA identified \_\_\_\_\_ to increase resident involvement. This is not applicable to MRHA8.

### **Is the public housing agency designated as troubled under 24 CFR part 902?**

Neither MRHA8 nor HHA are designated as troubled.

### **Plan to remove the ‘troubled’ designation**

Not applicable

### **SP-55 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.215(h)**

- this template will be completed following consultation with City Planning

The City of Hattiesburg’s land use and related zoning regulations and policies were reviewed and support development of affordable housing on a citywide basis with reasonable conditions and limited waivers.

During 2018 - 2019, the City of Hattiesburg participated with the Mississippi HOME Corp, public housing authorities and other CDBG Entitlement Cities in the state, to develop the first statewide Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. There continues to be a need for public education about rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act. Without a designated agency in Mississippi to enforce the Act, seeking resolution when a violation has occurred can be an arduous process. The Mississippi Center for Justice and Mississippi Legal Services offer a “hotline” for residents to call when they have questions about the Fair Housing Act or if they need assistance filing a discrimination complaint with HUD.

**Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing – to be completed upon receipt of information**

No barriers have been identified in the City’s zoning and land use ordinances that should be addressed to minimize or eliminate the negative impact they have as barriers to fair housing choice and affordable housing development. The City will continue to support activities of the Mississippi HOME Corporation, the Mississippi Center for Justice, Mississippi Legal Services, USM Institute for Disability Studies and AIS to educate the general public, particularly residents who are in a protected class under the Fair Housing Act as amended, of rights and responsibilities covered by the Act.

In addition to encouraging community organizations, faith-based groups and others to implement housing assistance programs to assist elderly and special needs populations with minor repairs, the City will continue to pursue funding for housing rehabilitation programs to bring rental housing into code compliance. Currently, the City of Hattiesburg limits use of its CDBG resources to provide rehabilitation and emergency services to owner-occupied houses. With its HOME resources, the City provides a CHDO set aside to support additional housing projects that may include rehabilitation of rental units.

All of the City’s CDBG and HOME Program resources are available on a citywide basis to qualified low- to moderate-income households.

The City supports expanding availability of financial literacy programs for high school students and adults; home sustainability activities to encourage home maintenance and minor repairs; and promoting participation in jobs training and workforce development activities, all of which help address barriers individuals may have in accessing affordable housing.

The ASC-Hattiesburg offers legal services and access to employment opportunities in addition to shelter, housing, food and clothing.

Hope Community Collective works with Hattiesburg’s Hispanic residents to support access to available resources, provides mental and behavioral health care counseling in English and Spanish, with the goal of strengthening relationships between the community and its Spanish-speaking population.

**SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.215(d) – this template will be completed upon receipt of information**

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

The City is fully vested in addressing and preventing homelessness in Hattiesburg and employs a Homeless Coordinator who organizes volunteer outreach activities; shares useful information to the local agencies that provide shelter, affordable housing assistance and offer a wide variety of supportive housing services; and works to help prevent near-homeless residents from becoming homeless.

The City reaches out to homeless persons through its Homeless Coordinator. Links are updated on the City website so that volunteers and participating agencies working to address homelessness in the City are aware of available resources. The City will continue to collaborate with MUTEH, the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness, other homeless assistance agencies and faith-based organizations to reach out to homeless persons, especially unsheltered persons, and assess their individual needs so they may be linked with shelter and supportive services.

### **Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons**

The City encourages broad participation of public and private agencies and organizations in the on-going effort to address the emergency and transitional needs of homeless persons.

Extensive tornado damage resulted in the temporary closing of the Salvation Army-Hattiesburg emergency shelter until such time as plans are finalized and resources gathered to rehabilitate or reconstruct the facility to meet code.

The City works with the MUTEH, the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness, the Domestic Abuse Family Shelter, AIDS Services Coalition (ASC), faith-based organizations and others who participate in local efforts to prevent and address homelessness. The City supports the work of the Domestic Abuse Family Shelter, which provides emergency shelter and transitional housing assistance through two facilities, one in Hattiesburg and one in Laurel, assist those fleeing domestic violence. It also provides counseling, employment assistance and many other supportive services.

ASC provides a full continuum of care for Hattiesburg residents with AIDS and their families, including emergency shelter, transitional and permanent housing.

Shelter services for those with disabilities (mental and physical) or families with children who are not fleeing domestic violence are assisted on a case-by-case basis by \_\_\_\_\_/MUTEH and typically are provided with hotel/ motel vouchers. The agency conducts an assessment to identify what resources are needed to comprehensively address them through direct services and linkage to other housing assistance and service providers to prevent their return to homelessness. Case management services are provided by MUTEH and other agencies to assist each household in successfully transitioning to permanent housing and living independently.

**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.**

To help homeless populations, 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, the City collaborates with local and regional public and private agencies and organizations to shorten the period of time 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.

Local emergency shelters are not able to meet existing need for shelter, but through the network of agencies, assistance generally can be provided so the homeless may avoid being unsheltered, particularly homeless families with children and veterans, who have access to VASH vouchers through the VA. The Domestic Abuse Family Shelter supports its clients through the transition to permanent housing as does the ASC-Hattiesburg.

Minor children who are unaccompanied immediately are connected with the Mississippi Department of Child Protective Services to address shelter and care needs.

According to 2022 and 2023 PIT data \_\_\_\_\_

If there are no other options for a family, the \_\_\_\_\_ may be able to provide emergency motel/hotel vouchers until other housing is located. On average, homeless families generally stay in a motel/hotel about \_\_\_\_\_ weeks. \_\_\_\_\_ Coalition usually can provide rental assistance up to 24 months, based on the family's needs and availability of housing. If the family needs longer-term assistance, they are assisted in obtaining mainstream rental assistance through Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII resources.

By working with the Veterans Administration, local police departments and other agencies, chronic homelessness and homelessness among veterans essentially has been ended. This means that both veterans and chronically homeless veterans have relatively quick access from homelessness to permanent housing through a variety of resources. Outreach services identify veterans or chronically homeless veterans who are then prioritized and moved into scattered site housing and supported by case management.

Local agencies work collaboratively with the foster care system, the juvenile justice system, and the public school system to identify and assist youth and young adults who may be homeless or may be exiting the system of care without housing or resources to obtain housing.

**Help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families who are likely to become homeless after being discharged from a publicly funded institution or system of care, or who are receiving assistance from public and private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education or youth needs**

Many local and regional nonprofit agencies and organizations work with the City on an on-going basis to assist extremely low-income individuals and families who are likely to become homeless after being discharged from a publicly funded institution or system of care, or who are receiving assistance from

public and private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education or youth needs.

The City, local agencies and organizations also:

- maintain good working relationships with public school districts, the juvenile justice system and others to identify youth who may aging out of the foster care system without housing or resources to obtain housing to prevent them from becoming homeless;
- encourage participation of low-income residents in financial and digital literacy programs, rent and utility assistance programs, and job skills training programs to help them maintain employment;
- help link low-income individuals and families with local mental health hospital care and/or in-patient rehabilitation services for substance abuse, when needed;
- support assistance provided by the Mississippi Department of Mental Health, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, Mississippi United to End Homelessness and Mississippi's Community Mental Health Centers to help those who live with mental illness avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families;
- support efforts to refer previously homeless individuals and families to the appropriate state or healthcare agency at the completion of a hospital stay or rehabilitation stay, to help them avoid a return to homelessness;
- Assist in linking homeless and near-homeless veterans and veterans with families to the VA for housing and supportive services available to them;

**SP-65 Lead based paint Hazards – 91.215(i)** - this template will be completed upon receipt of information

**Actions to address LBP hazards and increase access to housing without LBP hazards**

The City of Hattiesburg works collaboratively with the MSU Environmental Programs and Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) to achieve the Mississippi Lead Poisoning Prevention and Healthy Homes Program (MLPPHHP) goal of reducing the number of children exposed to lead and environmental hazards by increasing public awareness of the hazards and facilitating prevention activities.

Based on input from MSDH, it appears that collaborative public education and outreach efforts are working to decrease the number of lead paint poisonings across the state. Of the \_\_\_\_ children, ages 6 or younger, living in a Hattiesburg zip code area tested in 2020, \_\_\_\_ were identified with elevated blood lead levels higher than thresholds considered to be of concern from a public health standpoint.

To sustain this level of success, the City will continue to require testing and abatement of lead-based paint in repair and/or rehabilitation of housing programs it may implement and continue to require residential rehabilitation projects involving structures built prior to 1979 conduct EPA-compliant lead-based paint testing and contain or remove lead-based paint in accordance with federal regulations.

### **How are the actions listed above related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards?**

The actions listed above are appropriate to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards in Hattiesburg. The LeadSAFE Hattiesburg training and outreach program continues to be an important and effective tool in the City's efforts to improve residents' living environments and general health.

### **How are the actions listed above integrated into housing policies and procedures?**

The City requires testing and abatement of lead-based paint in housing repair activities and/or rehabilitation programs it may implement. It also requires residential rehabilitation projects on structures built prior to 1979 to undergo EPA-compliant lead-based paint testing and to contain or remove lead-based paint in accordance with federal regulations.

The City of Hattiesburg provides no-cost educational brochures regarding the permanent health hazards of lead-based paint, especially to young children and pregnant women. The City works with Mississippi State University Environmental Programs to offer lead-based paint hazard safety training courses leading to EPA certification to meet federal requirements for testing, containment or abatement and proper disposal of lead-based paint for companies and individuals providing renovation and rehabilitation services in the City.

The City of Hattiesburg's policy is to collaborate with the Mississippi State Department of Health and the MSU Environmental Programs to improve awareness of LBP hazards and educate pregnant residents and parents of young children about what to look for in terms of lead-based paint if living in housing that predates 1979.

## **SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy – 91.215(j)**

### **Jurisdiction Goals, Programs and Policies for reducing the number of Poverty-Level Families**

The City works on an on-going, collaborative basis with numerous public and private agencies in the community to maximize its limited resources, avoid duplication of services and address high priority community needs, including addressing and preventing homelessness. The City will encourage local faith-based and civic organizations to assist low-income elderly and special needs households with home repairs and transportation to financial and digital literacy classes.

To achieve its goal of expanding economic development opportunities for Hattiesburg residents, which will help reduce the number of poverty-level families, the City will encourage increased participation in existing jobs skills training opportunities, vocational technology programs, enrollment in degree and certification programs at USM, William Carey and Pearl River Community College and attendance at local job fairs.

## **How are the Jurisdiction poverty reducing goals, programs, and policies coordinated with this affordable housing plan**

While the City understands the value of homeownership to a strong community, it also recognizes the challenges that face lower-income households in achieving and maintaining homeownership, especially considering recent increases in interest rates, inflation and cost of construction materials. Working in collaboration with housing assistance providers, the City supports a “sustainable homeownership” approach to help ensure first-time buyers are able to stay in their homes. By participating in first-time homebuyers’ education classes, enrolling in financial literacy programs and home maintenance/repair programs, very low and low-income households are being positioned to succeed.

Through ongoing partnerships with the business community, Pearl River Valley Opportunity Inc., and other nonprofit educational organizations and social service agencies, the City will:

- support expanded availability of affordable financial and digital literacy programs for adults and high school youth;
- improve utility affordability and efficiency through weatherization activities and other programs;
- encourage able bodied, age appropriate residents to enter and remain in the civilian labor force and to position themselves for advancement opportunities in the local job market.
- support the success of small business owners by linking them with existing resources;
- support programs that prepare job applicants for interviews and success in the work environment;
- encourage those without high school diplomas to enroll in GED programs; and
- collaborate with USM, William Carey and PRCC to identify and improve awareness of affordable higher education opportunities.

The City will explore partnerships with affordable housing agencies and developers with the goal of stimulating residential infill development and redevelopment, expanding affordable housing inventory; and putting vacant lots back onto the tax rolls.

## **SP-80 Monitoring – 91.230**

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

The City is in the process of reviewing and updating its standard operating procedures for the CDBG and HOME Programs so that it remains in compliance with HUD regulations, policies and guidance regarding self- monitoring. In addition to its annual evaluation of performance through development of the CAPER

and SOPs, the City at least annually reviews actions identified in Hattiesburg’s 2019 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and discusses fair housing education outreach with its housing partners, including the Hattiesburg Housing Authority, MUTEH, the Balance of State CoC and the USM Institute for Disability Studies.

The City generally monitors its CDBG subrecipients on an annual basis in compliance with HUD’s “Managing CDBG - Subrecipient Oversight” guide and uses the guide’s subrecipient agreement checklist to ensure each subrecipient agreement complies with HUD requirements.

Compliance with code requirements and quality standards are monitored at various stages throughout CDBG and HOME construction projects. Prior to scheduled technical inspections by the Building Official, City inspectors visit construction projects periodically to ensure on-going compliance with applicable sections of the Building Code, review progress, confirm work and materials claimed on funding reimbursement requests, verify postings of required notices and discuss issues of concern. All construction and rehabilitation projects are required to comply with the City’s regular permitting process, which includes complying with testing for lead-based paint, if applicable.

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

### **Introduction**

In Program Year (PY) 2032, the City was awarded a CDBG allocation of \$546,730 from HUD and it a HOME Investment Partnerships allocation of \$348,543. The City does not anticipate generating any program income during PY2023 but it anticipates carrying forward previously allocated but unexpended CDBG funds from PY2022 in the estimated amount of \$477,468.02 and previously allocated but unexpended HOME funds in the estimated amount of \$544,433.12, also from PY2022. These carried over funds will be de-obligated and reallocated to support PY2023 projects and activities.

During the next four years, the City of Hattiesburg anticipates receiving annual CDBG and HOME allocations from HUD in the same approximate amount as awarded in PY2023.

## 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 & Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	546,730	0	477,468	1,024,198	2,186,920	For the next 4 years, the City anticipates its annual allocations of CDBG and HOME funds to be approximately the same as in PY2023.
HOME			348,543	0	544,433	892,976	1,393,092	

Table 53 - 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 CDBG Entitlement Program does not require a match or leveraging of funds. Match for the HOME Program will be documented to verify City-invested resources in affordable housing activities to benefit low- to moderate-income households.

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

During the five-year period of the Consolidated Plan, the City will consider using property it owns to address high priority community needs if: the new use serves a public purpose; resources are available for insurance, maintenance and staffing; and using the property/facility for the proposed purpose is determined to be in the best interest of the City.

## Discussion

## AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

### Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Microenterprise Assistance	2023	2024	Economic Development	Enhance Economic Development Opportunities	CDBG: \$30,000.00	# Jobs Created/ Retained or # businesses assisted
2	Provide Suitable Living Environments	2023	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Public Facility Improvements	CDBG: \$125,000.00	# persons served
3	Improve Access to Affordable Housing	2023	2024	Housing	Home-Owner Rehabilitation	CDBG: \$344,852.02	# households assisted
3	Improve Access to Affordable Housing	2023	2024	Housing	Emergency Repairs – Owner Occupied Housing	CDBG: \$325,000.00	# households assisted
4 & 5	Public Services Housing & Non-Housing	2023	2024	Public Services Housing & Non-Housing	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$90,000.00	Public service activities LMI Housing # or Persons Assisted
6	CHDO Set Aside	2023	2024	Access to Affordable Housing	Improved Access to Affordable Housing	HOME: \$52,281.45	L/M Benefit
7	Administration & Planning	2023	2024	Administration	Not applicable	CDBG: \$109,346.00	Not applicable
7	Administration	2023	2024	Administration	Not applicable	HOME: \$34,854.30	Not applicable

Table 54 – Goals Summary

### Goal Descriptions –

1	Goal Name	Enhance Economic Development Opportunities
	Goal Description	The project will benefit a total of _____ businesses, of which ____ # & ____ % qualify as low- to moderate income. (or will create/retain ____ jobs, ____ # & ____ % of which will be made available to LMI residents.
2	Goal Name	Provide Suitable Living Environments
	Goal Description	Through this project, an existing City-owned public facility will be improved to expand benefits to residents in the area it serves, a majority of whom are low- to moderate-income.

3	<b>Goal Name</b>	Improve Access to Affordable Housing
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Home-Owner Rehabilitation Program for qualified home owners
3	<b>Goal Name</b>	Improve Access to Affordable Housing
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Emergency Repairs to Owner-Occupied Housing
4	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Services Housing & Non-Housing
& 5	<b>Goal Description</b>	Public services to be determine through the City's regular application process.
6	<b>Goal Name</b>	CHDO Set Aside
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Capacity building of and support for Community Housing Development Organizations through the annual set aside
7	<b>Goal Name</b>	Administration & Planning – CDBG Program
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Administration & planning funds are budgeted to pay for costs required to effectively administer the CDBG Entitlement Program
7	<b>Goal Name</b>	Administration – HOME Program
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Administration funds are budgeted to pay for costs required to effectively administer the HOME Entitlement Program.

## AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

### Introduction

For Program Year 2023, the City of Hattiesburg will invest the majority of its CDBG and HOME resources to help achieve the Consolidated Plan goal to improve living environments of residents by expanding access to affordable housing, improving the condition of the existing housing inventory and \_\_\_\_\_.

#	Project Name
1	2023 CDBG Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program
2	2023 CDBG Owner-Occupied Housing Emergency Repairs Program
3	2023 CDBG Microenterprise Assistance Program
4	2023 Public Facility Improvements
5	2023 CDBG Public Services – Housing & Non-Housing
6	2023 CHDO Set Aside (HOME)
7	2023 HOME Multifamily Residential Rehabilitation Program
8	2023 CDBG and HOME Program Administration

**Table 55 – Project Information**

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

Allocation priorities were identified through input provided during development of the Consolidated Plan and 2023 Action Plan, input from City of Hattiesburg elected officials and staff, and based on Hattiesburg Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis information. Obstacles to addressing underserved needs include the lack of available resources to address those needs and challenges filling key staff positions.

### AP-38 Project Summary

1	<b>Project Name</b>	2023 CDBG Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve Access to Affordable Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Improve Condition of Existing Housing inventory
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$344,852.02
	<b>Description</b>	This project involves rehabilitation owner-occupied housing for qualified residents. (PY2023 funds & carry over).
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2023
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	To qualify for this program, a household must meet eligibility requirements and comply with program guidelines and requirements. The City estimates that ___ houses will be rehabilitated with 100% low/mod benefit.
	<b>Location Description</b>	To be determined
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Concurrent with environmental assessment, rehabilitation activities will be identified, plans developed and permits applied for.
2	<b>Project Name</b>	2023 CDBG Owner-Occupied Housing Emergency Repairs Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve Living Environments
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Improve Access to Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$325,000.00
	<b>Description</b>	This project improves residents' living environments through emergency repairs to owner-occupied housing for income-qualified households.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2023

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The City estimates that \$___ houses will be repaired with 100% low/mod benefit.
	<b>Location Description</b>	To be determined
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Concurrent with environmental assessment, rehabilitation activities will be identified, plans developed and permits applied for.
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	2023 CDBG Microenterprise Assistance Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Enhance Economic Development Opportunities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Assist small businesses
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$30,000.00
	<b>Description</b>	This economic development activity will provide with assistance to existing small businesses (five or fewer employees) in the City of Hattiesburg. Small business owners must apply and comply with program requirements to document benefits.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2023
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	This project is projected to benefit ___ # small businesses that in compliance with program requirements. Business owners must be income-qualified as part of the application process.
	<b>Location Description</b>	To be determined
<b>4</b>	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Following environmental review, completion of a business plan to identify needs for use of funds, the City will support efforts of selected businesses to create/retain jobs that will be made available to low/mod income residents or otherwise comply with program low/mod benefit requirements.
	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Facility Improvements
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide Suitable Living Environments
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Primarily benefit low- to moderate-income households' quality of life
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$125,000
	<b>Description</b>	Rehabilitate a City-owned facility to expand benefits for low- to moderate-income households.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2023

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	To be determined; a majority of beneficiaries will qualify as low- to moderate-income.
	<b>Location Description</b>	To be determined
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Rehabilitation of an existing City-owned facility to expand benefits available to low- to moderate-income residents.
5	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Services – Housing and Non-Housing
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve Access to Affordable Housing or Improve Living Environments
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Address High Priority Housing or Non-Housing Supportive Services Needs
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$90,000.00
	<b>Description</b>	Funding for public service activities will support eligible nonprofit agencies' and organizations' efforts to meet high priority supportive services needs of low- to moderate-income residents, especially limited clientele, special needs and homeless or near-homeless populations.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2023
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Estimates of the number and types of beneficiaries will be provided following the application and selection of agencies and organizations to provide needed services/activities. The City estimates 100% low/mod benefit.
	<b>Location Description</b>	To be determined
6	<b>Planned Activities</b>	After subgrant agreements are executed, the City will conduct an environmental review of each activity, familiarize agencies with program implementation requirements and restrictions on use of funds and provide program SOPs and applicable forms for use during implementation.
	<b>Project Name</b>	CHDO Set Aside
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve Access to Affordable Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Improve condition and availability of affordable housing
	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$52,281.45
	<b>Description</b>	Support capacity building of local CHDOs while expanding access to affordable housing and improving the condition of Hattiesburg's existing housing inventory.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2023

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	To be provided following identification of participating CHDOs.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Hattiesburg Point City Hall 200 Forrest Street
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Provide CHDO set aside to eligible CHDOs and support activities to help achieve goal of improving access to affordable housing.
7	<b>Project Name</b>	HOME Multifamily Residential Rehabilitation Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve Access to Affordable Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Improve condition and availability of affordable housing
	<b>Funding</b>	HOME: \$805,840.37
	<b>Description</b>	Rehabilitate existing multifamily units and make them available for rent to eligible low- to moderate-income households, in compliance with HOME regulations and policies.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2023
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	To be determined.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Hattiesburg Point City Hall 200 Forrest Street
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Rehabilitate existing multifamily residential units for rent to eligible low- to moderate-income households.
8	<b>Project Name</b>	CDBG and HOME Entitlement Program Administration
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Not applicable
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Not applicable
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG Program: \$109,346.00 and HOME Program : \$34,854.30
	<b>Description</b>	Costs associated with administering the CDBG and HOME Entitlement Programs in compliance with applicable regulations and policies.
	<b>Target Date</b>	12/31/2023

<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Not applicable
<b>Location Description</b>	Hattiesburg Point City Hall 200 Forrest Street
<b>Planned Activities</b>	Administer the CDBG and HOME Programs in compliance with regulations and policies, as applicable.

**AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)** - this template will be completed following on-going consultations

**Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed**

The City of Hattiesburg primarily focuses investment of its CDBG and HOME resources on providing suitable living environments to improve low- to moderate-income residents' quality of life. Geographic distribution of these resources generally corresponds with areas in the City where there are concentrations of low- to moderate-income residents these activities have historically taken place in areas of low-income and minority concentration, such as 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. Public services funds, however, generally are invested by the City to provide high priority services to eligible residents on a citywide basis.

**Geographic Distribution**

Target Area	Percentage of Funds

**Table 56 - Geographic Distribution**

**Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically**

While the City does not require geographic allocation of its CDBG and HOME resources annually, it generally invests these funds to provide suitable living environments and improve the quality of life of residents by meeting high priority needs in primarily residential areas located in \_\_\_\_\_

## Discussion

The City of Hattiesburg generally invests its CDBG and HOME funds to meet high priority needs in residential areas where a majority of households are low – to moderate-income. Geographically, this tends to be areas located in \_\_\_\_\_

### **AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)** - this template will be completed upon completion of outreach

#### **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 of Hattiesburg invests a majority of its CDBG and HOME resources in programs that improve the condition of the local housing stock, such as residential rehabilitation and housing repair programs, or that assist first-time homebuyers in purchasing a home.

In PY2023, the City will continue to fund housing programs and support housing services to meet high priority unmet needs in the community.

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

**Table 57 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement**

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

**Table 58 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type**

## Discussion

### **AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)** - this template will be completed following completion of consultations with the Hattiesburg Housing Authority

Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII (MRHA8) does not own or operate assisted/public housing in Hattiesburg; the Hattiesburg Housing Authority owns and operates three developments that were

converted from public housing to project-based voucher developments in \_\_\_\_\_. There are \_\_\_\_\_ applicants on the waiting list for one of HHA's \_\_\_\_\_ units, \_\_\_\_\_ # of which have been adapted for the elderly or for those with special needs. Planning is underway for rehabilitation of some units.

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

During 2023, HHA plans to \_\_\_\_\_ to address the needs of public housing.

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

HHA encourages residents of its developments to be involved in management and participate in opportunities for homeownership \_\_\_\_\_.

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

Not applicable

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

#### **Introduction**

Working in collaboration with MUTEH, the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness and other local, regional and state housing service agencies, the City will continue its efforts to address and prevent homelessness in Hattiesburg. The City will continue to pursue additional resources to expand the inventory of and improve access to affordable housing affordable housing in 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**

During PY2023, the City will continue to work with its partner agencies and will support on-going efforts to reach out to homeless persons, especially unsheltered persons, and assess individual needs. The City will continue to support the annual Point in Time Count. It also will encourage local agencies and organizations to take advantage of HIMS training opportunities and use the homeless information system to comprehensively improve case management and efficiency in delivery services.

#### **Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons**

The City of Hattiesburg emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of Moss Point's homeless populations are met by various agencies, including Open Doors, the Salvation Army and the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence. The City of Moss Point does not receive an annual ESG allocation but provides

Open Doors with 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 self-sufficiency for the homeless and near homeless.

The City will provide letters of support for grant applications submitted by the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness, ASC, the Domestic Abuse Family Shelter, Inc., the Salvation Army-Hattiesburg and other agencies and organizations to assist 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 to assist 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 access 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 of time that individuals and families experience homelessness. She also works with MUTEH and the Pine Belt 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 PY2023, the City of Hattiesburg will continue working with MUTEH, the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness, the Lighthouse Rescue Mission, ASC, 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 PY2023, 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.

### **Discussion**

As part of its PY2023 effort to address and prevent homelessness in Hattiesburg, the City will continue to work with MUTEH, the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness, ASC, and other housing assistance providers to eliminate duplication of services and maximize use of limited housing assistance resources. The City's Homeless Coordinator will share information and data, encourage Hattiesburg individuals and organizations to volunteer time and resources to better meet the needs of low-income residents so they may avoid becoming homeless, especially the extremely low-income, 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.

In PY2023, the City also will continue working to strengthen partnerships with regional and state housing agencies as part of its overall efforts to address and prevent homelessness and improve residents' access to affordable housing.

## **AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j) - this template will be completed following consultations**

Hattiesburg's 2019 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice is a component of the statewide A.I., 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 of its residents.

**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 its land use and zoning regulations, tax policies affecting land, 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.

Hattiesburg'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 measures and provide for density bonuses when combined with natural resource preservation and/or other public benefits.

The City has adopted the \_\_\_ year/most recent version of the International Building Code, which requires compliance with Americans With Disabilities Act and Fair Housing Act provisions. There are no specific growth limitations or other public policies in place that would affect return on residential investment. Unlike construction costs and property insurance premiums, which the City has no control over, Hattiesburg property taxes \_\_\_\_\_.

Recent changes in the National Flood Insurance Program, which factor in a structure's proximity to water bodies that flood, will exacerbate the barrier created by having an inadequate number of affordable housing units available for residents in all income brackets, but particularly for very low and low-income households and those with special needs.

To remove barriers identified in the Analysis of Impediments, the City will continue working with the USM Institute for Disability Studies, the Mississippi Center for Justice and other fair housing advocates to educate residents about their rights under the Fair Housing Act. The City also will work with local lending institutions, the public school district and volunteers to offer no-cost financial literacy workshops to improve residents' understanding of how to make their money work to achieve their goals.

#### **Discussion:**

During PY2023, the City will continue its community outreach efforts to educate residents about their rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act and will collaborate with local lending institutions and others to host financial literacy workshops for first-time home buyers. The City will continue to celebrate the month of April as Fair Housing month by providing fair housing educational materials to residents and local housing services and assistance organizations.

#### **AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k) – this template will be completed upon receipt of information**

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.

### **Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing**

With the current economy driving up interest rates and the price of food, gas and rent, among other things, the City will continue working to secure additional funding from state, regional and federal sources to improve the condition and expand the local inventory of affordable housing in Hattiesburg.

The City will research ownership of vacant lots as a first step toward exploring opportunities for residential infill development, which will depend on resources available, 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 infill 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 for an expanded number of housing vouchers available to Hattiesburg residents, especially for low-income, elderly and special needs populations.

### **Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards**

Through its LeadSAFE Hattiesburg outreach program, the City will continue to educate parents, landlords and those working in housing rehabilitation, redevelopment or repair about lead-based paint hazards especially to children aged 6 and under and to pregnant women. Brochures identifying typical sources of lead-based paints and related information to improve awareness of this hazard are available to the general public in City Hall.

During PY2023, the City will continue to participate in the Mississippi Lead Poisoning Prevention and Healthy Homes Program (MLPPHHP) with the Mississippi State Department of Health to achieve the goal of reducing the number of children exposed to lead and environmental hazards by increasing public awareness of the hazards and facilitating prevention activities.

Based on data provided to the City by the MSDH, it appears that collaborative public education and outreach efforts are working to decrease the number of lead paint poisonings locally. Of the \_\_\_\_ children, ages 6 or younger, living in Hattiesburg, \_\_\_\_ were identified with elevated blood lead levels higher than thresholds considered of concern from a public health standpoint.

To sustain this level of success, the City will continue in PY2023 to require testing and abatement of lead-based paint in its housing repair and/or rehabilitation programs and will continue to require residential rehabilitation projects for structures built prior to 1979 comply with EPA lead-based paint testing and containment or removal of lead-based paint in accordance with federal regulations.

#### **Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families**

The City will continue to work with the Small Business Administration, SCORE, a business resource partner for the U.S. Small Business Administration, and other business assistance agencies to provide counseling services to local businesses so they may thrive and retain existing local jobs. The City also will continue to:

- improve awareness of numerous no-cost services available through the Hattiesburg-Petal-Forrest County Regional Library System, including access to the Internet via the library's computers, computer literacy programs and \_\_\_\_\_
- assist in marketing regarding no cost or low cost access to jobs training programs;
- encourage the public school district and lending institutions to collaborate in offering no cost or low cost financial and digital literacy classes for adults and high school age students;
- assist in efforts to expand availability of affordable childcare services to support parents' pursuit of jobs that pay a living wage;
- encourage faith-based organizations and community groups to offer basic housing repair and maintenance workshops conducted in facilities easily accessible to low-income neighborhoods;
- collaborate with other government and public service agencies, faith-based organizations and civic associations to provide supportive services to address the needs of very low and low-income households.

#### **Actions planned to develop institutional structure**

To help fill gaps in the institutional structure, the City will:

- maintain a strong working relationship with the Hattiesburg Housing Authority and Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VIII based on the shared goal of providing suitable housing for very low- and low-income residents;

- support efforts of faith-based organizations to expand outreach to elderly residents, those with special needs and homeless populations;
- continue to support the efforts of MUTEH, the Pine Belt Coalition on Homelessness and collaborating agencies to prevent and address homelessness;
- encourage efforts of existing supportive service providers to identify and address the needs of individuals and families who may be at-risk of becoming homeless;

### **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 local public and private housing issues and invest limited resources to maximize benefits to residents.

The City will continue to collaborate with other agencies and organizations to education 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 agencies, organizations and volunteers, the City of Hattiesburg is making progress toward addressing high priority needs. Work will continue to improve and expand delivery of supportive services and housing assistance.

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.

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

### **Introduction:**

In Program Year (PY) 2023, the City was awarded a CDBG allocation of \$546,730.00 and a HOME Investment Partnership allocation of \$348,543.00 from HUD. It does not anticipate generating any program income in PY2023. The City anticipates it will carry forward an estimated \$477,468.02 in previously allocated but unexpended CDBG funds and an estimated \$544,433.12 in previously allocated but unexpended HOME funds and reallocating those funds to PY2023 projects (CDBG funds are from PY\_\_\_\_ and HOME funds are from PY\_\_\_\_).

In PY2023, the City proposes to invest its CDBG and HOME resources as follows:

- 1) CDBG Administration of the CDBG Entitlement Program \$109,346.00
- 2) CDBG Public Services Activities (Housing & Non-Housing) \$90,000.00;
- 3) CDBG Emergency Housing Repairs Program \$325,000.00;
- 4) CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program \$344,852.02;
- 5) CDBG Microenterprise Assistance \$ 30,000.00;
- 6) CDBG Public Facilities Improvements \$ 125,000.00
- 7) HOME Administration of the HOME Program \$34,854.30;
- 8) HOME CHDO Set Aside \$52,281.45; and
- 9) HOME Multifamily Residential Rehabilitation Program \$805,840.37.

### **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
<b>Total Program Income:</b>	<b>0</b>

#### **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.	100.00%

The City of Hattiesburg has identified the one-year period of 2023 for determining Overall Benefit of CDBG funds to persons of low- and moderate-income.

## **ATTACHMENTS TO FINAL DOCUMENT:**

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION DOCUMENTATION**

**MAPS**

**HUD FORMS AND CERTIFICATIONS**