

2020 - 2024
CONSOLIDATED
PLAN



This Consolidated Plan establishes the priorities for the City of Odessa and outlines the goals and objectives for the use of CDBG and HOME funds over the next five years.

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Table of Contents

Executive Summary	1
The Process	6
PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies	6
PR-10 Consultation	7
PR-15 Citizen Participation	21
Needs Assessment	24
NA-05 Overview	24
NA-10 Housing Needs Assessment	25
NA-15 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Problems	29
NA-20 Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems	31
NA-30 Disproportionately Greater Need: Discussion	34
NA-35 Public Housing	35
NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment	36
NA-45 Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment	41
NA-50 Non-Housing Community Development Needs	43
Housing Market Analysis	45
MA-05 Overview	45
MA-10 Number of Housing Units	46
MA-15 Housing Market Analysis: Cost of Housing	48
MA-20 Housing Market Analysis: Condition of Housing	50
MA-25 Public and Assisted Housing	52
MA-30 Homeless Facilities and Services	54
MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services	59
MA-40 Barriers to Affordable Housing	63

MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets.....	64
MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion.....	67
MA-60 Broadband Needs of Housing occupied by Low- and Moderate-Income Households	69
MA-65 Hazard Mitigation	70
Strategic Plan	71
SP-05 Overview	71
SP-10 Geographic Priorities	72
SP-25 Priority Needs.....	73
SP-30 Influence of Market Conditions.....	77
SP-35 Anticipated Resources.....	78
SP-50 Public Housing Accessibility and Involvement.....	91
SP-55 Barriers to affordable housing	92
SP-60 Homelessness Strategy	94
SP-65 Lead based paint Hazards	98
SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy.....	99
SP-80 Monitoring.....	101

Executive Summary

ES-05 Executive Summary

Introduction

The City of Odessa has prepared the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and the 2020 Action Plan for the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Consolidated Plan identifies the needs in the community, establishes five-year goals and strategies and identifies the resources available in the community to address these needs.

Major categories of priority needs addressed in the Consolidated Plan are:

- Housing
- Public Facilities and Improvements
- Public Service
- Community Development/Infrastructure

The 2020 Annual Action Plan identifies the City of Odessa's goals and objectives for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment Overview

High, medium and low priorities for the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and the 2020 Action Plan were established from the analysis of available data and information received during the citizen participation process. The strategic plan is divided into five (5) categories with each category containing the level of priority for several different activities. These five (5) categories include housing, public facilities improvements, public services, community & infrastructure development and economic development. The priorities were established as a direct result of public hearings, community meetings, citizen comments and surveys. The priorities established in the Consolidated Plan will serve as a guide for the allocation of CDBG funds for the next five (5) years with a focus on activities with a high priority designation.

Based on the priorities established in the Consolidated Plan, the City is required to establish goals and strategies for meeting the needs identified by the community. Goals and strategies have been developed for meeting the needs within each of the five (5) categories. The following is a summary that includes the most important goals and strategies identified in the Consolidated Plan. CDBG and HOME funds will be directed to fund as many of the high priority activities as possible in order to meet the established goals.

HOUSING

The City of Odessa's goal for the following housing activities is to provide decent housing for its citizens.

Goal #1 - Preserve Existing Housing Stock through the Housing Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, Minor Repair and Emergency Assistance Programs. The outcome of this activity is the sustainability of existing homeownership.

Goal #2 - Expand Homeownership Opportunities for Low-Income Families. The outcome of this activity is the affordability of decent housing.

Goal #3 - Expand the number of newly constructed affordable homes. The outcome of this activity is the availability of affordable housing.

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS

The objective of providing improvements to the public facilities within the community will achieve the goal of providing suitable living environments.

Goal – Provide CDBG funds to any two of the high priority public facility and improvement needs during the next five years.

PUBLIC SERVICES

The objective of providing funding to public service agencies within the community will achieve the goal of providing suitable living environments.

Goal – Provide CDBG funds to any two of the high priority public service needs during the next five years.

COMMUNITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

The objective of providing funding to these activities will help achieve the goal of providing suitable living environments.

Goal - Provide CDBG funds to the Demolition Program for the removal of slum and blight. The outcome of this activity is to promote the sustainability of the area.

Evaluation of past performance

During the 2015 to 2019 Consolidated Plan period, the City of Odessa substantially met the major goals outlined in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. The City of Odessa expends CDBG and HOME funds in a timely manner and has been able to meet the requirements for the expenditure of funds.

Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

The planning process for the Consolidated Plan included consultation with citizens, City departments, social service agencies, housing providers, health & human service providers, governmental agencies, internet providers and many other area non-profit agencies in order to obtain information regarding the priority needs of the community. The City consulted with the Local Housing Authority to collaborate on the current housing needs of the community. Needs Assessments were also provided to other partner agencies in order to obtain information on the type and number of services required to address the needs of the low to moderate income citizen of Odessa.

The City of Odessa began to notify the citizens of the community meetings and public hearings in April 2020. The public hearings and community meeting dates were posted on the Government Access Channel, notices were sent out to organizations/agencies and surveys were distributed and available on the internet. Newspaper ads were placed in English and Spanish in the Odessa American. In addition, a television interview was conducted on local news stations.

As part of the Consolidated Plan development process, surveys were distributed to the public in both English and Spanish formats. The survey was also available to citizens on the City's Website.

A total of 22 citizens attended the one community meeting and two public hearings. In addition, approximately 45 citizens attended the final public hearing at the regular City Council meeting in which CDBG and HOME funds were allocated on June 9, 2020.

The Community Development Department published a notice in the local newspaper, the Odessa American, Sunday, June 28, 2020, to detail the accessible locations where citizens were able to view the proposed 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and the 2020 Action Plan. The Plan was available for review at the following locations:

1. City Hall – City Secretary’s Office
2. Ector County Library
3. Community Development Department
4. Community Development Web Site

Summary of public comments

The 30-day review and comment period for the 2020 Action Plan and the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan occurred from June 29, 2020 through July 28, 2020. There were no written comments received.

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

There were no comments or views not accepted.

Summary

The City of Odessa and its housing partners in the Odessa Housing Consortium have been responsible for the construction of the new homes constructed in the Target Area within the last 5 years. The consortium partners including the City of Odessa, Odessa Housing Finance Corporation, Odessa Affordable Housing, Inc., and Odessa Housing Authority, have constructed new homes built in the Target Area within the last five (5) years.

Many of the City’s older homes are located in the City’s Target Area and a significant number of them have moderate to severe deterioration. The CHAS data shows a clear association between income and household size with the

rate of housing problems increasing as the number in the household increases. The rate of housing problems is substantially high for low-income persons earning less than 50% of Median Family Income.

The Process

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies

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.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	ODESSA	
CDBG Administrator	ODESSA	Community Development Department
HOME Administrator	ODESSA	Community Development Department

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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PR-10 Consultation

Introduction

The City of Odessa Community Development Department is the lead agency responsible for the coordination, planning and preparation of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and the 2020 Action Plan for U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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

The planning process for the Consolidated Plan included consultation with city residents, city departments, social service agencies, housing providers, health & human service providers, broadband internet service providers, governmental agencies and many other area non-profit agencies in order to obtain information regarding the priority needs of the community. The city consulted with the Local Housing Authority to collaborate on the current housing needs of the community. Staff of the Odessa Housing Authority provided surveys to the public to obtain information on the needs of the Community.

The Texas Homeless Network was consulted regarding the homeless population.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness

The City of Odessa in collaboration with the United Way and the Odessa Housing Authority established the Odessa Homeless Coalition in 1999 in response to the growing need of the community to comprehensively address the issues of the City’s homeless population.

Odessa Links, the lead agency, along with the Executive Committee, City of Odessa, United Way, Odessa Housing Authority and the Crisis Center, coordinate the activities of the Odessa Homeless Coalition. The Executive Committee is responsible for recruiting and developing new Coalition members, overseeing all planning and development of the Continuum of Care, facilitating the development of goals, establishing strategies and priorities of the Coalition and overseeing all grant applications. The Homeless Coalition attracts a broad range of representatives from local government agencies, service providers, advocates and formerly homeless persons.

The Homeless Coalition determined the most efficient method for directing such a large group to meet its goals of addressing the homeless issue was to develop teams that were responsible for specific areas of the process. Along with the Executive Committee the following teams were developed to oversee different aspects of the Coalitions activities:

- **Survey Team** - responsible for developing and conducting the homeless survey, the surveying of agencies and organizations, identifying community resources and data collection.
- **Fundraising Raising Team** - responsible for the financial accounting system of the coalition by developing operational budgets and seeking and securing outside sources of funding.
- **Project Task Force** - responsible for developing a comprehensive strategy to meet the needs identified as gaps, identify all available services including facilities, personnel, equipment, materials and supplies which will be required to implement homeless project.

Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdictions consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

1	Agency/Group/Organization	ODESSA HOUSING AUTHORITY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Odessa Housing Authority participated in all public hearings and community meetings. The staff at the Odessa Housing Authority completed surveys.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	ABLE CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	PERMIAN BASIN REGIONAL COUNCIL ON ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Services-Education Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. Agency attended public hearings. They

	anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	ODESSA COLLEGE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	ODESSA MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Homeless Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	ADULTS AND CHILDREN WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	AMERICAN RED CROSS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Services - Victims

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CITIZENS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency participated in Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.

11	Agency/Group/Organization	CATHOLIC CHARITIES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Education Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
12	Agency/Group/Organization	CENTERS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey. Agency participated in meetings.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	FIRST METHODIST CHURCH: CHILDREN'S CLOTHES CLOSET
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
14	Agency/Group/Organization	CRISIS CENTER
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Victims of Domestic Violence

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
15	Agency/Group/Organization	DESERT HAVEN
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
16	Agency/Group/Organization	DISCIPLES VILLAGE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
17	Agency/Group/Organization	ECTOR COUNTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT - SAS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings.

	anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
18	Agency/Group/Organization	ECTOR COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Health Agency Other government – County
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation	Public Health
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
19	Agency/Group/Organization	FAMILY PROMISE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey. Agency attended Public Hearings and requested CDBG funding.
20	Agency/Group/Organization	DOOR OF HOPE MISSION
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.

21	Agency/Group/Organization	HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF ODESSA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
22	Agency/Group/Organization	HARMONY HOME
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
23	Agency/Group/Organization	HEAD START
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey. Agency participated in Public Hearings
24	Agency/Group/Organization	HEXT FOUNDATION
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Regional organization Foundation
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy

	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
25	Agency/Group/Organization	HIGH SKY CHILDREN’S RANCH
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Homeless Services – Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
26	Agency/Group/Organization	HOPE CHEST
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
27	Agency/Group/Organization	TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the

		Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
28	Agency/Group/Organization	DOWNTOWN ODESSA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
29	Agency/Group/Organization	MEALS ON WHEELS OF ODESSA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey. Agency attended Public Hearings and requested CDBG funding.
30	Agency/Group/Organization	PERMIAN BASIN COMMUNITY CENTERS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
31	Agency/Group/Organization	PERMIAN BASIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health

		Services-Education Services - Victims Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
32	Agency/Group/Organization	ODESSA FAMILY YMCA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Childcare and Health
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
33	Agency/Group/Organization	ODESSA HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency was sent a letter inviting them to Community Meeting and Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey.
34	Agency/Group/Organization	ODESSA LINKS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans

		Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Agency participated in all Public Hearings. They were also invited to take the Consolidated Plan needs assessment survey. Links is the primary agency for the Odessa Homeless Coalition and was consulted with to develop the Homeless Assessment.
35	Agency/Group/Organization	HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Business Leaders Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency, Group, Organization consulted? What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or improved coordination?	Consulted on funding and community needs.

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

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Odessa Links	

PR-15 Citizen Participation

Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation

Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

The City of Odessa began to notify the citizens of the community meetings and public hearings in April 2020. The public hearings and community meeting dates were posted on the Government Access Channel, notification to 64 agencies & organizations and ads were placed in English and Spanish in the Odessa American. In addition, television interviews were conducted.

As part of the Consolidated Plan development process, surveys were distributed to the public in both English and Spanish formats. The survey was also available to citizens on the City's Website.

The Community Development Department published a notice in the local newspaper, the Odessa American, Sunday, June 28 2020, to detail the accessible locations where citizens were able to view the proposed 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and the 2020 Action Plan. The Plan was available for review at the following locations:

- City Hall
- Ector County Library
- Community Development Department
- Community Development Website

The 30-day review and comment period for the 2020 Action Plan and the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan was conducted from June 29, 2020 through July 28, 2020. There were no written comments received.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received
1	Public Hearing	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	8 persons attended	Comments were received regarding community needs and priorities for the next five years in housing, public facilities and improvements, public services and community and infrastructure development
2	Public Meeting	Public Service Agencies	Public service agencies attended this public hearing to discuss applying for CDBG funding and what the allocation process entails. The public service agencies were also invited to share and comment on their observations of the needs within the community.	<p>More affordable housing</p> <p>Rent too high</p> <p>Rental/Utility assistance</p>

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received
3	Public Meeting	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Organizations & Agencies	12 persons attended	Comments received included public facilities needing improvements, assistance for rental payments and access to affordable housing, and the need to beautify and clean up parts of the city.
4	Internet Outreach (Surveys)	Minorities Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Spanish Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Agencies and Organizations	110 persons responded to the Citizen Participation Survey.	The survey gathered feedback from the community regarding low-income needs and priorities existing within the city. In addition, feedback was gathered regarding barriers to fair housing within the city.

Needs Assessment

NA-05 Overview

Needs Assessment Overview

This portion of the Consolidated Plan will focus on identifying current conditions and the projected housing needs of the low- and moderate-income citizens of Odessa for the next five-years.

The housing and household data analysis includes data elements from the U. S. Census Bureau, the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Texas Workforce Commission and research conducted by the City of Odessa Community Development Department.

NA-10 Housing Needs Assessment

Summary of Housing Needs

Data on the type, number and the percentage of low-income families was used to estimate the housing needs in Odessa. The 2011-2015 updated Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data was used in the housing assessment prepared for the Consolidated Plan.

- 25% of all Low-Income Households have housing problems as compared to 12% of non-Low-Income households
- 35% of Renters at 80% of AMI or less have a Cost Burden greater than 30% of whom, 30% are within the Extremely Low Income (0%-30%) category.
- 18% of Renters at 80% of AMI or less have a Severe Cost Burden greater than 50% of whom, 45% are within the Extremely Low Income (0%-30%) category.
- 17% of Owners at 80% of AMI or less have a Cost Burden greater than 30% of whom, 31% are within the Extremely Low Income (0%-30%) category.
- 7% of Owners at 80% of AMI or less have a severe Cost Burden (>50%), of whom, 45% are within the Extremely Low Income (0%-30%) category.

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

There is a direct correlation between low incomes and family size with higher rates of housing problems. The rate of housing problems is substantially higher for low income persons and in particular for large families, earning less than 80% of Median Family Income (MFI).

- Twenty-eight percent (28%) of all Odessa households are single person households.
- Thirty-eight percent (38%) of all low-income households are small family households. This population suffers most from cost burdens and other housing problems.

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.

The elderly comprise ten percent (10%) of Odessa’s population and fifty-seven percent (57%) are low-income needing housing assistance.

What are the most common housing problems?

Results from the Community Needs Assessment revealed the public considers lack of affordable housing the most common housing concern within the City of Odessa. Also of great concern were the lack of homeownership assistance, lack of senior housing, and lack of facilities for battered women and children.

The most common housing problem in Odessa, according to the analyzed data is households paying greater than 30% of their income towards housing costs. 4,455 renter households and 2,218 owner-occupied households in Odessa is paying greater than 30%.

Households paying more than 50% of their income towards housing costs would be the next most common problem. This is considered a Severe Cost Burden. There are currently 2,345 renter households and 1,149 owner-occupied households experiencing severe cost burden.

- 35% of **Renters** at 80% of AMI or less have a **Cost Burden greater than 30%**. And, 30% of these are within the Extremely Low Income category.
- 18% of **Renters** at 80% of AMI or less have a **Severe Cost Burden greater than 50%** of whom 45% are within the Extremely Low Income category.
- 17% of **Owners** at 80% of AMI or less have a **Cost Burden greater than 30%** of whom 31% are within the Extremely Low Income category.
- 7% of **Owners** at 80% of AMI or less have a **severe Cost Burden (>50%)**, of whom 45% are within the Extremely Low Income category.

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

The households most severely affected by cost burden are those with extremely low incomes, less than 30% of the Area Median. Of the renters with extremely low incomes, 73% of these are small family. 74% of the extremely low income owner-households with severe cost burden are small families. Cost burden and severe cost burden affect small related low-income renter and owner-occupied households more than any other type.

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

Families with children and low-income individuals who are at risk of residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered are those who become unemployed, experience domestic or family violence, or suffer from mental illness or substance abuse issues.

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 term “at risk of homelessness” means, with respect to an individual or family, that the individual or family:

- 1) has income below 30 percent of median income for the geographic area;
- 2) has insufficient resources immediately available to attain housing stability;
and
- 3) has moved frequently because of:
 - a) economic reasons;
 - b) is living in the home of another because of economic hardship;

- c) has been notified that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated;
- d) lives in a hotel or motel;
- e) lives in severely overcrowded housing;
- f) is exiting an institution; or
- g) otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness. Such term includes all families with children and youth defined as homeless under other Federal statutes.

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

Specific housing characteristics linked to instability and an increased risk of homelessness includes: inability to pay rent, unemployment, domestic violence, moved to seek work, substance abuse, and mental illness have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness.

Discussion

The City of Odessa in partnership with the Odessa Homeless Coalition and other Housing Partners identified some of the greatest housing needs within the community. Housing for persons with mental health and other mental and physical disabilities, senior housing, transitional housing and affordable housing were the top needs identified.

Of particular interest was the comments by citizens from the Needs Assessment Surveys regarding affordable housing. Citizens claimed housing is unfairly priced, limited and unsafe, having too many people living in substandard housing. Others described feelings of not feeling safe in their neighborhoods, or not wanting to purchase houses in specific areas of town for fear of their safety.

NA-15 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Problems

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

Disproportionate need is a mechanism for measuring whether low-income minority groups suffer more housing problems than the population as a whole.

A disproportionate need exists when the percentage of a particular minority has a need that is 10% greater than the overall percentage for persons in a similar economic status.

Many lower income minority homeowners reside in older housing units and many may not have the financial capacity to make repairs. For renters, the problem is more likely to be the gap between a slowly growing income and rapidly growing rent price.

In an effort to determine if a disproportionate need exists for the minority population of Odessa, an analysis of housing problems for Hispanic and African American homeowners as well as renters were compared to the housing problems of all homeowners and renters.

Discussion

The analysis of data on households experiencing one or more housing problems reveal no single race or ethnic group experiencing a disproportionately greater need.

- **Compared to all households making less than 30% of the area median income**, 73% experience at least one of the four identified housing problems.

No single race or ethnic group are experiencing a disproportionately greater need as defined by the percentage of a particular minority has a need that is 10% greater than the overall percentage for persons in a similar economic status.

- **Compared to all households making greater than 30% - 50% of the area median income**, 61% experience at least one of the four identified housing problems.

No single race or ethnic group are experiencing a disproportionately greater need as defined by the percentage of a particular minority has a need that is 10% greater than the overall percentage for persons in a similar economic status

- **Compared to all households making greater than 50% - 80% of the area median income**, 49% experience at least one of the four identified housing problems.

No single race or ethnic group are experiencing a disproportionately greater need as defined by the percentage of a particular minority has a need that is 10% greater than the overall percentage for persons in a similar economic status

NA-20 Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems

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

The definition of severe housing problems includes a lack of complete kitchen facilities, a lack of complete plumbing facilities, more than 1.5 persons per room, or a cost burden of over 50%.

Disproportionately greater need is determined by the percentage of a particular minority having a need that is 10% greater than the overall percentage for persons in a similar economic status

Discussion

The analysis of data on households experiencing one or more severe housing problems shows that Hispanic households are experiencing a disproportionately greater need at the greater than 30% to 50% and greater than 50% and less than 80% of the area median income levels.

- **Compared to all households making less than 30% of the area median income, 62%** experience at least one of the four identified severe housing problems.

No single race or ethnic group are experiencing a disproportionately greater need as defined by the percentage of a particular minority has a need that is 10% greater than the overall percentage for persons in a similar economic status.

- **Compared to all households making greater than 30% - 50% of the area median income, 38%** experience at least one of the four identified housing problems.

61% of Hispanic households experience at least one of the four identified severe housing problems and identified as having a disproportionately greater need as defined by the percentage of a particular minority has a need that is 10% greater than the overall percentage for persons in a similar economic status

- **Compared to all households making greater than 50% - 80% of the area median income**, 24% experience at least one of the four identified severe housing problems.

56% of Hispanic households experience at least one of the four identified severe housing problems and identified as having a disproportionately greater need as defined by the percentage of a particular minority has a need that is 10% greater than the overall percentage for persons in a similar economic status

NA-25 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens

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:

The most common housing problem in Odessa is households paying more than 30% of their income towards housing costs. Housing costs are rising faster than household income in low-income households. This is especially true in low-income Hispanic households.

Discussion:

The analysis of data on percentage of income spent by households for housing expense shows that Hispanic households are experiencing a disproportionately greater need at the 30%-50% and the greater than 50% levels.

- Compared to the **12%** of all households spending **30%-50%** of its income on housing, **54%** are Hispanic households.
- Compared to the **9%** of all households spending **greater than 50%** of its income on housing, **44%** are Hispanic households.

NA-30 Disproportionately Greater Need: Discussion

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?

There are no specific income categories in which a specific racial or ethnic group has a disproportionate need greater than the needs of that income category as a whole.

However, Hispanic households are experiencing a disproportionately greater need at the 30%-50% and the greater than 50% levels.

- Compared to the **12%** of all households spending **30%-50%** of its income on housing, **54%** are Hispanic households.
- Compared to the **9%** of all households spending **greater than 50%** of its income on housing, **44%** are Hispanic households.

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

There are specific areas within the City's CDBG Target Area that have a large low-income Hispanic population. The City's CDBG Target Area is the following Census Block Groups: 481350007002; 481350015001; 481350016003; 481350017003; 481350017007; 481350018001; 481350018002; 481350019001; 481350019002; 481350019003; 481350019004; 481350019005; 481350020003; 4812350025024; and 481350031002.

NA-35 Public Housing

Introduction

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

Most immediate needs of residents of Public Housing and Housing Choice voucher holders

There are approximately 426 applicants on the Waiting list. In addition, the Housing Authority City of Odessa was awarded 25 Mainstream Vouchers effective March 1, 2020. The Mainstream Voucher falls under one of the preferences for Homeless. To qualify the applicant must be non-elderly disabled applicant families, and meet one of the following:

- 1) Homeless;
- 2) At risk of becoming Homeless, or
- 3) Previously Homeless and currently in a permanent supportive housing or rapid-rehousing project

The Housing Authority of the City of Odessa placed a Public Notice to open the waiting list for the Mainstream Program only on January 26, 2020. Applications were accepted on Friday's only beginning January 31 thru February 21, 2020 until 100 applicants applied.

NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment

Introduction:

The City of Odessa in collaboration with the United Way and the Odessa Housing Authority established the Odessa Homeless Coalition in 1999 as a response to the growing need of the community to comprehensively address the issues of the City's homeless population. Odessa Links, the lead agency, along with the other four members of the Executive Committee, City of Odessa, United Way, Odessa Housing Authority and the Crisis Center, coordinate the activities of the Odessa Homeless Coalition. The Executive Committee is responsible for recruiting and developing new Coalition members, overseeing all planning and development of the Continuum of Care, facilitating the development of goals, establishing strategies and priorities of the Coalition and overseeing all grant applications. Along with these agencies the Homeless Coalition attracts a broad range of representatives from local government agencies, service providers, advocates and formerly homeless persons.

The Homeless Coalition determined the most efficient method for directing such a large group to meet its goals of addressing the homeless issue was to develop teams that were responsible for specific areas of the process. Along with the Executive Committee the following teams were developed to oversee different aspects of the Coalitions activities:

Survey Team - is responsible for developing and conducting the homeless survey, the surveying of agencies and organizations, identifying community resources and data collection.

Fundraising Team – is responsible for the financial accounting system of the coalition by developing operational budgets and seeking and securing outside sources of funding.

Project Task Force - is responsible for developing a comprehensive strategy to meet the needs identified as gaps, identify all available services including facilities, personnel, equipment, materials and supplies which will be required to implement homeless project.

Links participates in the Texas Homeless Network's Balance of State; a collaboration of over 200 counties with representatives from nonprofits, government officials, and service agencies to eliminate homelessness. The partnership with the Texas Homeless Network gives Links the technological tools through their ClientTrack/HMIS (Homeless Management Information System), to electronically store client case records.

As the lead agency for the Odessa Homeless Coalition, Links serves as the *Community Liaison* and is responsible for media relations to increase community awareness about homelessness, recruit volunteers, and promote Coalition activities. While the Coalition works as a collaborative to bring all the services available in our community together, individual agencies are responsible for actually providing the services.

With Odessa Links coordinating closely with other Odessa agencies and a participating HMIS-Homeless Management Information System user, the organization serves as the lead agency for the Odessa Homeless Coalition. The Odessa Homeless Coalition continues to collaborate with different organizations that have a strong commitment to utilize their resources in order to provide for homeless families in Odessa.

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):

Data is not available for the categories listed above.

Category description by homeless population type¹:

- Chronically Homeless - Eight (8) persons
- Veterans - Seven (7) persons
- Families with Children - Ten (10) families
 - Children <18 - Twenty-three (23) children

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

Most of the homeless individuals reported in the Homeless Count were single individuals and single unaccompanied minors. Only a few reported were one and two parent families with children. There were seven (7) individuals who reported serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

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

Household with at least one Adult and One Child¹.

- **White.** Twelve (12) persons
- **Black.** Twelve (12) persons
- **Asian.** Six (6) persons
- **Hispanic.** Sixteen (16) persons

Household without Children¹.

- **White.** Twenty-two (22) persons
- **Black.** Ten (10) persons
- **American Indian or Alaska Native.** One (1) person
- **Hispanic.** Fifteen (15) persons

Parenting Youth¹. One (1) female youth parenting two (2) children. She is Black or African-American

Describe the Nature and Extent of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness.

Homeless Shelters in Odessa was sheltering 120 persons at the time of the latest count².

- **Door of Hope Mission.** Twenty-four (24) persons
- **Family Promise of Odessa.** None

¹ Texas Homeless Network – HUD Point in Time Report

² Texas Homeless Network – HUD Point in Time Survey updated May 2020

- **Odessa Links.** Thirty-six (36) persons
- **The Crisis Center of West Texas.** Thirty-four (34) persons
- **Salvation Army.** Twenty-six (26) persons

Discussion:

The Homeless Coalition developed Project HOPE (Homeless Opportunities for Personal Excellence). Project HOPE is a transitional self-sufficiency program that provides long term supportive services and leasing assistance to homeless families and individuals wanting to achieve residential stability. This project is a collaborative effort with local agencies to provide an effective Continuum of Care in Odessa to address homelessness in our community. Project HOPE gives homeless participants the necessary resources to help them increase their education, income, and assets to pursue personal excellence for up to 24 months in an effort to meet the Odessa Homeless Coalition's mission *"To see an end to the cycle of homelessness in Odessa by providing safe, healthy, stable, and affordable housing to every homeless man, woman and child within this city"*. This Project HOPE program addresses the needs of homeless households by providing scattered site rental assistance for up to a 24 month period along with Continuum of Care services to help increase their education, skills, and incomes to begin the path towards their goals of becoming self-sufficient. The goal is to continue increasing the number of families Project HOPE can assist and the supportive services available to them. Even with the overwhelming need for housing several families have been housed through the program and Links continues to work on getting other families eligible for the program.

Upon entry into Project Hope, clients are entered into the HMIS-Homeless Management Information System by a case manager staffed at Odessa Links. The case manager evaluates client needs, coordinate/map resources, and implements long-term self-sufficiency plans. Transportation is provided by bus tickets as needed while clients learn to budget for travel or the purchase of transportation. Emergency child care assistance is made available to allow clients the time to apply and access subsidized child care payments with partner agencies. Depending on the level of client needs, mainstream benefits and supportive services are available as they transition from living on the street or in emergency shelter to living independently. Each client is provided

with service programs that will enhance their knowledge base such as life skills, parenting classes, health literacy, job skills, financial literacy, credit counseling, and budgeting classes as identified in their self-sufficiency plan. Clients will be required to abide by their plan to remain in the Project HOPE program. The Case Manager promotes personal excellence for clients and guides them through Odessa's Continuum of Care path towards self-sufficiency. Clients who successfully complete the program will have the resources to access local housing programs that offer down payment and closing cost assistance.

Through years of research and community planning, Project HOPE was developed and has evolved into a program that best fits the Odessa community and the needs of local homeless families. Project HOPE is in its fourth year of operation and is successfully utilizing existing housing options, local supportive services, and long-term self-sufficiency plans to reduce reoccurring cycles of homelessness and ultimately breaking the cycle of poverty for our participating families. In providing these resources families are able to maintain employment, pursue higher education, financially plan or budget accordingly; and are able to recover from unfortunate circumstances rather than be limited to the hurdles of poverty.

NA-45 Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment

Introduction:

There are distinctive populations that HUD identifies as having special needs. These special populations, include elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with mental disabilities and persons with HIV/AIDS. As a part of the Consolidated Plan process an analysis was conducted in order to determine the available services for these populations.

Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:

Based on projections by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services the senior population is expected to increase over the next decade both nationwide and here in Odessa. Based on these projections our community will be faced with challenges to provide for the health care, housing, and nutrition needs of the elderly.

The following summary includes basic information regarding Odessa's most prevalent Special Needs population:

- **Elderly Population:** 10% of people living in Odessa are considered Elderly, over the age of 65. (U.S. Census Bureau)
- **Persons with Disabilities:** Based on the latest data available from the American Community Survey, 12% of the Odessa population are disabled. 42% of the elderly population live with a disability. The two major types are ambulatory difficulty and independent living difficulty.

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

Older populations face numerous housing challenges, including those related to affordability, physical accessibility, and access to medical and other services inside and outside the home.

Most seniors own their homes, but the percentage of older adults who rent is expected to increase slightly from 21 percent in 2015 to 23 percent in 2035. Both owners and renters face affordability pressures. Since 1989, the percentage of homeowners carrying mortgage debt has nearly doubled for those age 65 to 74 and almost tripled for those older than 75. Even

homeowners who have paid off their mortgages have ongoing maintenance costs and taxes that they may struggle to pay.³

Seventy-eight percent (78%) of the elderly in Odessa owns their own home. Forty-two (42%) of this population are living with a disability.⁴

The U.S. Census Bureau recently released a report that addressed the growing need for aging-accessible features in the home.

The report found that only 10% of all U.S. homes were aging-ready. The criteria for determining an aging-ready home included: a step-free entryway, a bedroom and full bathroom on the first floor and at least one bathroom-accessibility feature. Of the 28.5 million households with someone age 65 or older, 28% reported difficulty using some aspect of the home.

The report emphasized that the demand for homes with aging-accessible features will rise as the size of the aging population grows. It also noted the importance of considering how the functional layout and design of homes may affect older people's ability to live safely, comfortably, and independently.⁵

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

The following statistics for HIV/AIDS are based on data from the Texas Department of Health, HIV/STD Epidemiology Division 2018 Surveillance Report.

- Ector County has 256 people living with HIV diagnoses and 396 with a cumulative HIV/AIDS diagnosis.
- **HIV Diagnoses and AIDS Diagnoses by City.** 18 HIV with 10 AIDS cases places Odessa at the 32nd most compared to all cities in Texas.
- **Highest percentage of people living with HIV by:**
 - **Age Group.** 35-54 years of age;
- **Race/Ethnicity.** 36% Black, 24% White and 34% Hispanic; and
- **Sex.** 79% Male and 21% Female

³ HUD – Evidence Matters-Summer 2017: Housing for Seniors: Challenges and Solutions

⁴ Census 2014-2018 ACS

⁵ Census Report – Old Housing New Needs: Are U.S. Homes Ready for an Aging Population

NA-50 Non-Housing Community Development Needs

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities:

The need for new public facilities or improvements to existing public facilities was identified as a high priority during the Consolidated Plan process. Child Care Facilities, Youth Centers, Recreational Facilities, Senior Centers, Community Centers, Health Care Facilities and Park Improvements were all specified by the community as areas that need improvement. In previous years the City has provided for improvements to several public facilities including community centers, parks, youth centers and childcare centers. During the next five years the City will continue to allocate CDBG funds for improvements to various public facilities.

The City anticipates to serve and fund two projects in any of the previous categories during the upcoming five year 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan.

How were these needs determined?

The needs were determined based on Community Development Survey Results from 2020. Additionally, needs are based on a lack of availability or accessibility as determined by City staff and community input.

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Improvements:

The need for Public Improvements and Infrastructure were also identified as a high priority during the Consolidated Plan process. Community Development Planning, Clearance and Demolition, Fair Housing, Street Improvements, Water/Sewer and Drainage System Improvements, were all areas of concern. In various areas of the City, the water and sewer lines are severely deteriorated, drainage functionality needs improvement, and the streets are very rough, unfit to drive, and do not accommodate traffic.

The City anticipates to serve and fund two projects in any of the previous categories during the upcoming five year 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan.

How were these needs determined?

The needs were determined based on Community Development Survey Results from 2020. Additionally, needs are based on a lack of availability or accessibility as determined by City staff and community input.

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:

The need for public services and access to public services continues to be essential for many low-income families. The growing low-income population has resulted in an increased demand for public services. The City partnered with non-profit agencies for the last several years to provide thousands of area low-income persons with public services ranging from mental health care, nutritious meals, educational assistance and counseling services. The highest priorities identified by the community under the category of public service include childcare, health care, youth services, senior services, services for the disabled, and services for abused women and children.

The City anticipates to serve and fund two projects during the upcoming five year 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan.

How were these needs determined?

The needs were determined based on Community Development Survey Results from 2020. Additionally, needs are based on a lack of availability or accessibility as determined by City staff and community input.

Housing Market Analysis

MA-05 Overview

Housing Market Analysis Overview:

In assessing the housing market in Odessa, data was analyzed from a variety of sources in order to obtain a comprehensive overview of the current housing market. This analysis concentrated on the availability, access, cost, type, condition and location of available single-family residential units for both renters and owners.

Within the City of Odessa there are a total of 44,600 housing units. This number represents a 10% increase over the last five years⁶.

- Homeowners – 61%, a 6% change in last five years
- Renters – 39%, a 8% change in last five years

As of the fourth quarter of 2019, 4.35% of all residential addresses were vacant⁷.

⁶ Census 2014-2018 ACS

⁷ Valassis Lists

MA-10 Number of Housing Units

Introduction

There are 44,600 housing units in Odessa

Single family homes are the predominant housing type in the City at 69% of all housing units. Multi-family units account for 27% of the total housing stock with mobile homes comprising the rest of the housing stock available in the City⁸.

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

The City of Odessa provides funds for housing assistance to those residents of the City who are at 80% or less of area median income. The housing programs include owner-occupied emergency, minor repair, full rehabilitation or reconstruction of a home as well as homebuyer assistance and an infill housing construction program where homes are constructed on vacant, non-tax producing lots and subsequently the home is sold to a household who income qualifies.

The City has also been able to leverage federal funds with funding from other organizations to meet the needs in the community. The Odessa Housing Finance Corporation, Odessa Affordable Housing, Inc., the Odessa Housing Authority and Odessa Creative Housing Solutions Corporation are important partners in the City's Homeownership Assistance Programs and provide a number of services to prospective homebuyers. The local lending institutions also participate in addressing the need for affordable housing by providing mortgage financing for the purchase of homes. The Odessa Housing Authority administers Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers, Section 8 New Construction, and Public Housing Assistance Funds.

⁸ Census Data: 2014-2018
2020-2024
Consolidated Plan

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

While the multi-family housing units were constructed in the early 1980's they are being well maintained and kept for the original purpose. Therefore, we do not anticipate that there will be a loss of affordable housing units.

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

Odessa continues to experience a shortage of available affordable housing.

The area's oil and gas boom led to a high demand for housing of all types. An influx of people and money has led to a construction boom with developers trying to meet the demand for housing; however, the majority of the housing is being constructed are for those in the upper income ranges.

Describe the need for specific types of housing:

As the population continues to increase in Odessa there is a continued need for both single family and multi-family affordable housing units.

Discussion:

While there continues to be a large number of new homes constructed in Odessa, there exists a gap between those homes that are affordable to low-income residents and the homes that exceed what is affordable to the low-income residents. This is evident with the median sales price of a home in Odessa is \$217,271 and the median income of \$63,145⁹.

⁹ 2014-2018 Census
2020-2024
Consolidated Plan

MA-15 Housing Market Analysis: Cost of Housing

Introduction:

Housing affordability is a standard set by HUD defining the portion of a household's income that should be dedicated to housing. This standard requires that no more than 30% of its gross annual income for housing costs, including utilities, be spent on housing related costs. As described earlier, HUD considers spending more than 30% of the household's income as a cost burden, and exceeding 50% as a severe cost burden.

Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

No. While new homes are being constructed in Odessa, there is a gap between those homes that are affordable to low-income residents and the homes that exceed what is affordable to the low-income residents.

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

The home median sale price has increased by 44% in the last five years and rents have increased by 28% in the same time period¹⁰. With the continuing increase in population and the lack of housing, the affordability of housing will continue to be a problem.

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 rent for a two-bed room apartment is \$832 and the high HOME rent is \$1,059¹¹. The average rental rate in Odessa is \$1,284¹².

The City will continue to preserve existing affordable housing through its rehabilitation/reconstruction programs.

The City will continue to look for opportunities to partner with developers and encourage them to construct mixed income developments.

¹⁰ Census Data

¹¹ HUD FMR and HOME Rents

¹² RentCafe

Discussion:

Data shows there is an extremely large gap in homes that are available to those who earn 80% or less of AMI. Therefore, there continues to be a great need for the CDBG and HOME funds to construct affordable housing in the community.

MA-20 Housing Market Analysis: Condition of Housing

Introduction

1972 is the estimated median year a housing unit was built in Odessa¹³

Almost half the homes 45% were built during the period of 1940 to 1969.

The City of Odessa uses the HUD definition of “substandard condition” as lack of complete kitchen or plumbing facilities. In addition, the City’s owner occupied rehabilitation program considers code violations to be substandard conditions and could be precursors to substandard housing.

“Substandard condition but suitable for rehabilitation includes repair and replacement of code violations and incipient conditions. Homes that are not suitable for rehabilitation are those suffering from extensive damage from fire, flood, or other structural damage that requires demolition and/or reconstruction of the building.

Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation

As indicated in the Community Needs Survey, housing rehabilitation ranked as a high priority for the community. It is through the Housing Rehabilitation, Minor Repair and Emergency Programs the City assists low-income families with needed housing repairs. These programs allow the City to thoroughly evaluate the condition of the homes to be assisted through the program by taking inventory all deficiencies within the structure. The majority of the homes assisted through this program are located in the older areas of the community, generally in the Target Area, and require an extensive amount of rehabilitation work in order to meet local housing codes and community development standards.

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

According to the U. S. Government, homes constructed prior to 1980 have the greatest possibility for lead-based paint contamination.

¹³ Census 2014-2018 ACS
2020-2024
Consolidated Plan

There are 28,415 homes, representing 64%, of all residential units that were constructed in Odessa prior to 1979¹⁴. The potential for residents to be exposed to lead based paint appears to be high.

Although there are a large number of homes built before 1979 in Odessa, an analysis of data from the Ector County Health Department and the City's Housing Rehabilitation Program indicates the percentage of lead contaminated homes to be relatively low.

¹⁴ Census ACS 2014-2018
2020-2024
Consolidated Plan

MA-25 Public and Assisted Housing

Introduction:

Coordination between the City of Odessa and the Odessa Housing Authority is extensive. The City of Odessa has partnered with the Odessa Housing Authority on a variety of informational and educational projects including, homebuyer assistance, and public hearings for both the City and the Housing Authority, Section 8 homebuyer seminars, fair housing promotion, and homebuyer education. The Odessa Housing Authority rated performance is designated as "standard" by HUD.

Describe the supply of public housing developments:

The Housing Authority City of Odessa has on Public Housing Development, Third Edition Apartments, which is a 73 unit scattered site.

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:

Third Edition Apartments is the only development, built in 1981. The Annual Capital Funding assists the Housing Authority to make major renovations to the Physical Condition of the development. Last year funds were utilized to remove/replace all windows with energy efficient double pane windows. This year, funds will be utilized to replace all units' floors with wood vinyl floor planks.

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

The PH development is in need of major restoration and revitalizations needs, which the OHA is pursuing gradually with the Capital Funding.

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

The OHA's strategy for improving the living environment of low and moderate-income families residing in public housing is to continue with monthly resident meeting to listen to our residents and their concerns about the property. The OHA provides a Contract for Security Patrol with a certified/licensed police officer. The next step that we are planning is to get security cameras placed at the properties that may be monitored by the City of Odessa Police Department.

MA-30 Homeless Facilities and Services

Introduction

There are several agencies in the community providing homeless assistance services. Many of these agencies are members of the Odessa Homeless Coalition and provide a variety of services including emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, permanent housing and supportive service providers.

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

- **Dial 211** provides an information and referral service.
- **Catholic Charities** provides for emergency services and operates the Corey Learning Center, which includes GED preparation and Workforce Readiness.
- **Centers for Children and Families** provides counseling, Parent Power, Kids First, Post adoption support, military support, parent education classes, and preparation for adult living.
- **Communities in Schools** provides crisis intervention, case management, job training, life skills training, health care and adult education to students who attend ECISD schools.
- **Ector County Independent School District-Student Assistance Services** provides social and economic needs and assists families in obtaining clothing, food, shelter and other basic needs. The Homeless Assistance Program (H.A.P.) provides services to help homeless students enroll in and succeed in school through the federal McKinney Vento Act. H.A.P. assists students by removing obstacles and providing families with resources needed to support their student's education and to ensure the student graduates on time.

- **Ector County Veterans Services** provides homeless veterans and their widows with job training, substance abuse treatment, mental health care, housing placement, life skills training and health care.
- **Family Health Clinic** partnering with **Medical Center Hospital** provides medical and dental services for children and adults.
- **Greater Opportunities of the Permian Basin, PROJECT HEAD START** improves the educational opportunities of homeless children and families, emphasizing immediate enrollment.
- **Harmony Home Children's Advocacy Center** provides forensic interviews, therapy services, victim services, community education, outreach, and case management to children who have been abused.
- **Meals on Wheels of Odessa** provides hot noon meals 5 days a week to the elderly or homebound. They also can provide meals to homeless that are staying in motels.
- **Medical Center Hospital** provides indigent health care.
- **Mission Odessa** provides case management, substance abuse treatment as well as referral for housing placement.
- **Odessa Affordable Housing** provides Homebuyer Education Classes, credit counseling, Foreclosure Prevention counseling.
- **Odessa Links** provides access to resources and follow-up care, together with local organizations. Links is the only licensed agency in Odessa with the Homeless Management Information System that agencies are using to prevent duplication of services and produce accurate reports.
- **Odessa Regional Hospital** provides homeless persons who present at their hospital with information on community resources.

- **Permian Basin Community Centers** provides services for individuals with mental illness, mental retardation, developmental disabilities, and chemical dependency.
- **Permian Basin Mission Center** promotes the general welfare of the less fortunate and provides food, clothing, eyeglasses, rental, utility and prescription assistance.
- **Permian Basin Regional Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse** provides outreach, screening, assessment and referral to treatment services.
- **Safe Place of the Permian Basin** provides a 24 hour crisis hotline, licensed professional counseling, support groups, legal advocacy, and experienced advocates providing help with employment, housing, education, and resource referral to all victims of family violence.
- **Salvation Army** provides emergency shelter, food, clothing, furniture, utility assistance, disaster services, housing assistance, full church services and pastoral counseling.
- **Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services** provides a comprehensive array of aging and disability services, supports and opportunities that are easily accessed in local communities.
- **West Texas Food Bank** provides food to area agencies for their food pantries. They currently provide food to 16 area pantries.
- **Workforce Solutions of the Permian Basin** provides life skills and job training.

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.

EMERGENCY SHELTERS

- ***The Crisis Center*** – provides emergency shelter assistance for victims of sexual assault and/or family violence. The Crisis Center’s Angel House: The Family Violence Shelter in Odessa can currently provide safe housing, case management and life skills training. Case Management includes job training, substance abuse treatment, mental health care, and health care through contract with other agencies in the community. The Crisis Center provides counseling services to their resident and non-resident victim-survivor clients.
- ***Door of Hope Mission*** is able to provide emergency shelter. Other services provided by the Mission include case management services.
- ***Family Promise of Odessa, Inc.*** is an interfaith non-profit network of 13 congregations and dozens of volunteers working together to provide shelter, meals, and support services to homeless families with children. The network of churches is prepared to accommodate up individuals and assist them in achieving lasting independence.
- ***Salvation Army*** provides emergency shelter for adults and families. The shelter can also provide case management.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

- **Clover House** provides beds for male and females who are from the Criminal Justice System. They also provide job training, case management, substance abuse treatment, life skills training as well as transportation for those individuals in their transitional housing facility.
- **Mission Messiah** provides beds for adult females and their children. They offer case management and life skills training for their clients, as well as food and clothing.

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

- **Odessa Housing Authority** provides long-term housing for low-income persons through public housing, Section 8 Vouchers, Section 8 Home Ownership Program, Public Housing, and Tax Credit Apartments.
- **Permian Basin Community Centers** provides permanent supportive housing for clients with developmental disabilities and provide mental health services, substance abuse services, HIV services as well as life skills training.

MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services

Introduction

There are distinctive populations that HUD identifies as having special needs. These special populations, include elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with mental disabilities and persons with HIV/AIDS. As a part of the Consolidated Plan process an analysis was conducted in order to determine the available services for these populations.

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

Based on projections by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, the senior population is expected to increase over the next decade both nationwide and here in Odessa. Based on these projections our community will be faced with challenges to provide for the health care, housing, and nutrition needs of the elderly.

The following summary includes basic information regarding Odessa's most prevalent Special Needs population:

- **Elderly Population:** 10% of people living in Odessa are considered Elderly, over the age of 65. (U.S. Census Bureau)
- **Persons with Disabilities:** Based on the latest data available from the American Community Survey, 12% of the Odessa population are disabled. 42% of the elderly population live with a disability. The two major types are ambulatory difficulty and independent living difficulty.

Older populations face numerous housing challenges, including those related to affordability, physical accessibility, and access to medical and other services inside and outside the home.

Most seniors own their homes, but the percentage of older adults who rent is expected to increase slightly from 21 percent in 2015 to 23 percent in 2035. Both owners and renters face affordability pressures. Since 1989, the

percentage of homeowners carrying mortgage debt has nearly doubled for those age 65 to 74 and almost tripled for those older than 75. Even homeowners who have paid off their mortgages have ongoing maintenance costs and taxes that they may struggle to pay.¹⁵

Seventy-eight percent (78%) of the elderly in Odessa owns their own home. Forty-two (42%) of this population are living with a disability.¹⁶

The U.S. Census Bureau recently released a report that addressed the growing need for aging-accessible features in the home¹⁷.

The report found that only 10% of all U.S. homes were aging-ready. The criteria for determining an aging-ready home included: a step-free entryway, a bedroom and full bathroom on the first floor and at least one bathroom-accessibility feature. Of the 28.5 million households with someone age 65 or older, 28% reported difficulty using some aspect of the home.

The report emphasized that the demand for homes with aging-accessible features will rise as the size of the aging population grows. It also noted the importance of considering how the functional layout and design of homes may affect older people's ability to live safely, comfortably, and independently.

The following statistics for HIV/AIDS are based on data from the Texas Department of Health, HIV/STD Epidemiology Division, 2018 Surveillance Report.

- Ector County has 256 people living with HIV diagnoses and 396 with a cumulative HIV/AIDS diagnosis.
- **HIV Diagnoses and AIDS Diagnoses by City.** 18 HIV with 10 AIDS cases places Odessa at the 32nd most compared to all cities in Texas.
- **Highest percentage of people living with HIV by:**
 - **Age Group.** 35-54 years of age;
 - **Race/Ethnicity.** 36% Black, 24% White and 34% Hispanic; and
- **Sex.** 79% Male and 21% Female

¹⁵ HUD – Evidence Matters-Summer 2017: Housing for Seniors: Challenges and Solutions

¹⁶ Census 2014-2018 ACS

¹⁷ Census Report – Old Housing New Needs: Are U.S. Homes Ready for an Aging Population

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

Agencies providing supportive housing programs and services to persons with disabilities include the Permian Basin Community Centers, A.B.L.E. Center for Independent Living, and the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services and the local division of the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

The programs listed above can provide supervision for the disabled person during the day, respite for the family member taking care of the person, therapy services, transportation, personal hygiene assistance, laundry and light housekeeping services, medical supplies, prescription medication assistance and assistance for wound care.

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 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. 91.315(e)

The City provides down payment and closing cost assistance to any eligible household to purchase a home in Odessa. Therefore, there is the opportunity for special needs households to receive assistance to purchase a home.

The City also has an Emergency, Minor Repair, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program to assist those homeowners who are in need of repairs. This need can include making ADA improvements to the home and making it more accessible for the person to continue to reside in their home rather than going to a nursing facility. All newly reconstructed homes built through the department are standard with the wider doors, a low threshold, and wide hallways and bathrooms with a sufficient turning radius for a wheelchair. The construction of the home is based on trying to fulfill the current and future needs of the homeowner.

In addition, the City provides funding to Odessa Meals on Wheels in order for the organization to continue to provide hot noon meals and weekend meals to those who are homebound or elderly.

MA-40 Barriers to Affordable Housing

Describe any negative effects of public policies on affordable housing and residential investment.

Overall, the City of Odessa has few of the barriers that are normally considered to be exclusionary. The City allows small lots, mixed-use housing, manufactured housing in single-family residential zones, and it uses a number of federal, state, and private programs for the acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of affordable housing units. The City is aggressive in its pursuit of developing affordable housing and has been successful in establishing public/private partnerships, developing generous homebuyer assistance programs, utilizing tax foreclosed properties, waiving building permit fees and assisting in the development of Low Income Housing Tax Credit apartment complexes.

MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets

Based on an analysis of Business Activity, what are the major employment sectors within your jurisdiction?

1. Agriculture, Mining, Oil and Gas Extraction
2. Retail Trade
3. Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations

Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:

Wages paid in the oil and gas fields creates a strain on the workforce pool of available workers. Other business sectors cannot compete with the higher wages paid by oil and gas companies and have difficulty maintaining adequate staffing.

The City conducted a partial analysis of building and housing conditions for the purpose of re-designating the Slum and Blight Area in 2019. An extensive survey of the physical conditions of properties indicated that approximately 43% of the structures in the Slum and Blight Area contained moderate to serious deterioration. The analysis included a visual inspection of all properties for problems such as weakened foundations, broken windows, structural deterioration, poor roofing, chipped, cracked or peeling paint, etc.

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.

A major hotel and convention center was recently completed and opened in downtown Odessa. This major investment will increase the demand for employees at all levels from management to maintenance, it will bring in events that would normally not be held in Odessa and increase the revenue generated for the City.

In addition, the City is redeveloping and revitalizing the downtown area.

Describe any needs for workforce development, business support or infrastructure these changes may create.

The development of the hotel/convention center will bring the need for all levels of people from the workforce. There will be a need for a wide range of people in the workforce with a variety of skills from construction workers, people in the service industry and management professionals. The need for more transportation services and retail services will increase.

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

There is a need for entry level employees especially in the food industry and in administrative services. There also exists a need for drivers with Commercial Drivers Licenses with endorsements such as HazMat.

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.

Workforce Solutions of the Permian Basin works with the local community colleges and use a targeted occupation list that is established by the Permian Basin Workforce Development Board to develop workforce training programs. The training is targeted to those occupations on a list that has been determined to have the highest growth and wage potential in the area. Some of the training programs that are offered by Odessa College include Commercial Truck Driving, Auto and Diesel Technology, Health Care and Law Enforcement which are all needs within the job market.

These training programs will only enhance the community and provide for more opportunities for our citizens which in turn lead to a better overall thriving community.

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

NO

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.

The City does not have a comprehensive economic development plan. However, the City has a Comprehensive Plan to guide the city into the future.

MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

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

There are 18 block groups located within 10 census tracts of Odessa where 50% the median income level is less than 80% MFI. 17,385 households, more than 17% of all Odessa households, are within this area. These neighborhoods generally have an older housing stock and less opportunity for economic growth. Overcrowding issues exist within these neighborhoods as well.

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

The City defines "areas of low-income concentration" as any census tract where more than 50% of the households are low-income. The City has designated these areas as the Target Area. The majority of low-income households reside within the City's Target Area. The concentration of minorities is also disproportionately greater within the Target Area. Areas of minority concentration are those areas with more than 50% of minority households. This area also contains a disproportionately high concentration of older homes and requires additional improvements to parks, streets and other facilities.

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

The majority of lots available for development are concentrated within this area. There are very few areas currently available for the development of housing subdivisions that do not require substantial investment of funds for infrastructure such as streets, utilities, curbs and gutters.

Odessa, like many other communities in West Texas, has many vacant or unused drill sites located in primarily residential neighborhoods.

Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?

Community assets are facilities such as schools, libraries, community centers, parks and access to commercial businesses including grocery stores, retail stores and medical facilities. The target area does have available parks, an aquatic center, a water-spray ground, community centers, and schools but they are lacking access to commercial businesses.

Most of the development in Odessa is expanding to the east and north parts of the community, although in the past few years there has been some development to the west part of Odessa. However, the south side of Odessa has a severe lack of resources for those citizens.

Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?

The recent completion of a new hotel and convention center in downtown Odessa has caused increase interest and new development efforts in both the downtown area and to the south part of Odessa.

MA-60 Broadband Needs of Housing occupied by Low- and Moderate-Income Households

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

Eighty-four percent (84%) of all Odessa residents have broadband internet subscriptions¹⁸.

Percent of residents with broadband subscriptions by household income bracket.

- Less than \$10,000 _____ 60%
- 10,000-19,999 _____ 56%
- 20,000-34,999 _____ 73%
- 35,000-49,999 _____ 79%
- 50,000-74,999 _____ 87%

Ector County ISD is leading work on a plan to bring broadband internet access to all students and families throughout the county.

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

In Odessa, 100% of the population has access to Broadband Internet.

There are 2 DSL Providers, 3 Cable Internet providers, 2 Fiber Internet (FTTH) providers, and 5 Fixed Wireless (WISP) providers in Odessa, TX. There are also 4 Mobile Broadband (cellular) providers with service available in Odessa¹⁹.

¹⁸ Census 2014-2018 ACS

¹⁹ Broadband Internet in Odessa, Texas <https://geoisp.com/us/tx/odessa/>

MA-65 Hazard Mitigation

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

Odessa's increased natural hazard risk associated with climate change would come in the form of:

- **prolonged drought** reducing rainfall across the watershed providing water into the aquifer supplying Odessa's water supply. In addition, a prolonged drought would adversely affect the surrounding agriculture economy; and
- **more frequent and intense weather events** such as severe storms producing damaging tornados and flooding. Additionally, disruptions to infrastructure during natural disasters can have an impact on city residents who rely on public transportation.

Odessa's Low-income residents would be disproportionately impacted by climate change. These communities already have higher rates of many adverse health conditions, are more exposed to environmental hazards and take longer to bounce back from natural disasters.

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

Some property owners can afford to modify their homes to withstand current and projected flooding and erosion impacts. Others who cannot afford to do so are becoming financially tied to houses that are at greater risk of annual flooding caused by climate change.

As average temperatures continue to rise, people who cannot affordably cool their houses will continue to feel financial strains.

Strategic Plan

SP-05 Overview

Strategic Plan Overview

The development of the Strategic Plan is a direct result of public hearings, community meetings, public surveys, and discussions with citizens, City Departments, Community Stakeholders, the Community Development Advisory Committee and City Council members. All data collected was tabulated and analyzed in order to establish high, medium and low priorities for the Consolidated Plan. The methodology for establishing the priorities included the dissemination of citizen participation surveys. The results of the surveys were compiled and sorted into five categories including housing, public facilities and improvements, public service, community and infrastructure development and economic development. Each category was then divided into three sections based on level of importance which was determined by the responses submitted.

SP-10 Geographic Priorities

1	Area Name:	CDBG TARGET AREA
	Area Type:	Local Target area
	% of Low/ Mod:	>50%
	Revital Type:	Comprehensive
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	Block Groups: 481350007002; 481350015001; 481350016003; 481350017003; 481350017007; 481350018001; 481350018002; 481350019001; 481350019002; 481350019003; 481350019004; 481350019005; 481350020003; 4812350025024; and 481350031002
	Identify the needs in this target area.	Affordable Housing Housing Rehabilitation Clearance of unsafe structures

General Allocation Priorities

Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA)

The Consolidated Plan targets Community Development Block Grant and HOME funds towards communities that have a higher number of low- and - moderate income residents. Resulting in a geographical disbursement weighted towards less affluent communities that are generally in the southern section of the city within the city's Target Area.

SP-25 Priority Needs

1	Priority Need Name	HOUSING
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Elderly Homeless
	Geographic Areas Affected	CITY-WIDE
	Associated Goals	Preserve Existing Housing Stock Expand Homeownership Opportunities Expand Number of New Affordable Homes
	Description	The City of Odessa's Housing priority activities include: homeownership assistance; owner-occupied home rehabilitation; minor and emergency housing repair assistance; senior housing; facilities for battered women and children; transitional housing for the homeless; emergency shelters; special needs housing facilities; and rental assistance

2	Priority Need Name	PUBLIC FACILITIES & IMPROVEMENTS
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Victims of Domestic Violence
	Geographic Areas Affected	CITY-WIDE
	Associated Goals	Public Facilities and Improvements
	Description	The City of Odessa's Public Facilities & Improvements priority activities include: senior centers; child care centers; youth centers; recreational facilities; community centers; park improvements; and health care facilities.

3	Priority Need Name	PUBLIC SERVICES
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Victims of Domestic Violence Homeless
	Geographic Areas Affected	CITY-WIDE
	Associated Goals	Public Services
	Description	The City of Odessa's Public Services priority activities include: senior services; services for abused women and children; substance abuse services; mental health services; handicapped services; and transportation services.

4	Priority Need Name	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Individuals Families with Children Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Victims of Domestic Violence
	Geographic Areas Affected	CITY-WIDE
	Associated Goals	Community Development and Infrastructure
	Description	The City of Odessa's Community Development & Infrastructure activity priorities include: clearance & demolition; street improvements; water/sewer improvement; drainage system improvement; sidewalk improvements; and fair housing

SP-30 Influence of Market Conditions

Affordable Housing Type	Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type
New Unit Production	The current construction boom has impacted the cost of developing affordable housing for the City and its non-profit housing partners. Within the last few years there has been a significant increase in the cost of construction in all segments of the housing market.
Rehabilitation	The increased construction activity in Odessa has resulted in a demand for contractors at all levels of construction. The City has had difficulty in maintaining its current contractor pool and identifying new contractors to participate in the City’s Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Program. Some contractors no longer perform work for the City because they are able of make more per square foot in the open market. The City has traditionally had difficulty enticing contractors to take part in its programs.
Acquisition, including preservation	<p>There are very few areas currently available for the development of housing subdivisions that do not require substantial investment of funds for infrastructure such as street, utilities, curbs and gutter. Odessa like many other communities in West Texas has many vacant or unused drill sites located in primarily residential neighborhoods.</p> <p>Additionally, the increase in the cost of residential lots has been driven up by the demand to secure suitable lots for the development of housing. Properties that were once available at a reasonable cost have in some cases doubled.</p>

SP-35 Anticipated Resources

Introduction

The 2020 Action Plan establishes the City of Odessa's one-year implementation strategy for addressing community development, housing, economic development, human service and public facility improvement needs of the citizens of Odessa.

The City of Odessa Community Development Department will administer and provide oversight for the following activities to meet the community needs and goals in the first year of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan five-year investment strategy. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development allocated **\$874,693** in CDBG funds and **\$269,062** in HOME funds to the City of Odessa. An additional **\$53,015** in Unprogrammed CDBG funds were allocated at the final public hearing on June 9, 2020. The HOME funds were allocated exclusively to housing related activities as required by statute.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1			
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources : \$	Total: \$
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition				
		Admin and Planning				
		Economic Development				
		Housing				
		Public Improvements				
		Public Services	874,693	0	53,015	927,708
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition				
		Homebuyer assistance				
		Homeowner rehab				
		Multifamily rental new construction				
		Multifamily rental rehab				
		New construction for ownership				
		TBRA				
		Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO)	269,062	0	0	269,062

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

The City of Odessa maximizes the use CDBG and HOME funds to address the housing priorities and other needs of the low to moderate-income households. These funds will be utilized and leveraged with other private, state and local funds concerning public service and public facility and improvement activities. The city will continue its partnership with other members of the Odessa Housing Consortium and utilize funding appropriately, as needed. Several mixed lot, mixed income projects are in the development stage with multiple funding resources that will provide a percentage of units that are affordable to low and moderate income families.

The City of Odessa no longer meets fiscal distress criteria; therefore, the city is required to match HOME funds at 100%. The City of Odessa will use the previous years' surplus match to meet the match requirement for program year 2020, and will continue to look for additional sources of match contributions towards HOME projects.

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

The City of Odessa has several housing development projects in the planning stage with affordable housing partners. Odessa Housing Finance Corporation has 48 acres that will be developed into a mixed-use, mixed lot housing development. Construction of 181 multifamily units has been completed and is completely full with a 5-year waiting list. One hundred and fourteen (114) of these units are dedicated for project-based vouchers and the remainder are available to the public, however all are restricted to residents at 60% of median income. The subsequent phases will include patio-homes, single-family homes, a second set of a 216-unit work-force apartments complex and retail located in the frontage facing 87th.

The City of Odessa in partnership with Odessa Housing Finance Corporation, Odessa Chamber of Commerce and Grow Odessa, is developing 45 work-force

single-family unit on the south side of Odessa that will have assistance with the infrastructure cost to help alleviate some of the cost and bring down the price for homeowners.

The City also has a section of land on Rochester where a Request for Proposals has been sent out to developers for additional housing and retail development on Rochester and on a section of land near Interstate 20.

SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure

Explain the institutional structure through which the jurisdiction will carry out its consolidated plan including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions.

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
Odessa Housing Finance Corporation	Developer	Ownership	Jurisdiction
ODESSA LINKS	Non-profit organizations	Homelessness	Jurisdiction
Odessa Housing Authority	PHA	Public Housing	Region
MEALS ON WHEELS OF ODESSA	Non-profit organizations	Non-homeless special needs public services	Jurisdiction
FAMILY PROMISE	Non-profit organizations	Homelessness	Jurisdiction
GREATER OPPORTUNITIES OF THE PERMIAN BASIN	Non-profit organizations	Non-homeless special needs public services	Jurisdiction
SALVATION ARMY-ODESSA	Non-profit organizations	Homelessness	Jurisdiction

Assess of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

The role of public institutions, nonprofit organizations and private entities who participate in providing affordable housing are limited. However, the members of the Odessa Housing Consortium are the primary providers of affordable housing opportunities within the City of Odessa.

The combined efforts of the City of Odessa and the Odessa Housing Consortium provide many opportunities for affordable housing, neighborhood revitalization, continual communication and exchange of information regarding housing opportunities. The coordination between the Odessa Housing Consortium, public institutions and the private sector reduces the

degree of duplication of services through continued communication within these agencies.

The City of Odessa has utilized CDBG and HOME Program funds to address the need for affordable housing through its Housing Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Program, Infill Construction Program, Community Housing Development Organization and Homeownership Assistance Programs. The City has been able to leverage federal funds with other sources of funding to meet the needs in the community by working with other organizations. The Odessa Housing Finance Corporation, Odessa Affordable Housing, Inc., Odessa Housing Authority, and Odessa Creative Housing Solutions Corporation are important partners in the City’s Homeownership Assistance Programs by providing a number of services to prospective homebuyers. The local lending institutions also participate in addressing the need for affordable housing by providing mortgage financing for the purchase of homes. The Odessa Housing Authority administers Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers, Section 8 New Construction, and Public Housing Assistance Funds. These funds are utilized to provide subsidized rental assistance to low income persons throughout the City.

Availability of services targeted to homeless persons and persons with HIV and mainstream services

Homelessness Prevention Services	Available in the Community	Targeted to Homeless	Targeted to People with HIV
Homelessness Prevention Services			
Counseling/Advocacy	X	X	X
Legal Assistance	X	X	
Mortgage Assistance	X	X	
Rental Assistance	X	X	X
Utilities Assistance	X	X	X
Street Outreach Services			
Law Enforcement	X	X	
Mobile Clinics			
Other Street Outreach Services	X	X	
Supportive Services			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X	X	X
Child Care	X	X	
Education	X	X	X
Employment and Employment Training	X	X	

Supportive Services			
Healthcare	X	X	X
HIV/AIDS	X		X
Life Skills	X	X	X
Mental Health Counseling	X		X
Transportation	X	X	X

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)

Odessa Links, the lead agency of the Homeless Coalition in Odessa, along with the members of the Executive Committee (City of Odessa, United Way, Odessa Housing Authority and the Crisis Center) coordinate the activities of the Odessa Homeless Coalition. The Homeless Coalition was established in 1999 as a response to the growing need of the community to comprehensively address the issues of the City’s homeless population.

Links participates in the Texas Homeless Network’s Balance of State; a collaboration of over 200 counties with representatives from nonprofits, government officials, and service agencies to eliminate homelessness. The partnership with the Texas Homeless Network gives Links the technological tools through their ClientTrack/HMIS (Homeless Management Information System), to electronically store client case records. As the lead agency for the Odessa Homeless Coalition Links serves as the *Community Liaison* and is responsible for media relations to increase community awareness about homelessness, recruit volunteers, and promote Coalition activities.

While the Coalition works as a collaborative to bring all the services available in our community together, individual agencies are responsible for actually providing the services. The Coalition maintains a list of homeless service agencies and the specific services they provide. A few of the resources are listed below:

- **The Crisis Center** – provides emergency shelter assistance for victims of sexual assault and/or family violence.

- **Door of Hope Mission** is able to provide emergency shelter for up to 50 adult males. Other services provided by the Mission include case management services for up to 20 men
- **Family Promise of Odessa, Inc.** is an interfaith non-profit network of 13 congregations and dozens of volunteers working together to provide shelter, meals, and support services to homeless families with children.
- **Salvation Army** provides emergency shelter for up to 24 adult males and 8 adult females. The organization can also provide case management.
- **Permian Basin Community Centers** provides permanent supportive housing for clients with developmental disabilities. They have 27 beds for individuals and provide mental health services, substance abuse services, HIV services as well as life skills training. Permian Basin Community Centers for Mental Health and Mental Retardation provides services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, severe mental illnesses, substance abuse disorders, and HIV/AIDS. PBCC funds 17 beds for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, Tenant Based Rental Assistance and Transitional Supportive Housing for individuals with severe mental illnesses, and rental assistance to individuals with HIV/AIDS.

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

The strengths in service delivery for special needs populations and homeless are the City's Consolidating planning process, needs assessment and resource networking provided by Links.

A deficiency in services for persons with HIV was determined during the needs assessment process. Currently there is only a few agencies that assists those persons with HIV.

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 combined efforts of the City of Odessa and the Odessa Housing Consortium provide many opportunities for affordable housing, neighborhood revitalization, continual communication and exchange of information regarding housing opportunities. The coordination between the Odessa Housing Consortium, public institutions and the private sector reduces the degree of duplication of services through continued communication within these agencies.

The City of Odessa has utilized CDBG and HOME Program funds to address the need for affordable housing through its Housing Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Program, Infill Construction Program, Community Housing Development Organization and Homeownership Assistance Programs. The City has been able to leverage federal funds with other sources of funding to meet the needs in the community by working with other organizations. The Odessa Housing Finance Corporation, Odessa Affordable Housing, Inc., Odessa Housing Authority, and Odessa Creative Housing Solutions Corporation are important partners in the City's Homeownership Assistance Programs by providing a number of services to prospective homebuyers. The local lending institutions also participate in addressing the need for affordable housing by providing mortgage financing for the purchase of homes. The Odessa Housing Authority administers Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers, Section 8 New Construction, and Public Housing Assistance Funds. These funds are utilized to provide subsidized rental assistance to low income persons throughout the City.

SP-45 Goals Summary

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Preserve Existing Housing Stock	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	CITY WIDE	Housing	CDBG HOME	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 25 Household Housing Unit
2	Expand Homeownership Opportunities	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	CITY WIDE	Housing	HOME	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 5 Households Assisted
3	Expand Number of New Affordable Homes	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	CITY WIDE	Housing	HOME	Homeowner Housing Added: 3 Household Housing Unit
4	Public Facilities and Improvements	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG TARGET AREA	Public Facilities and Improvements	CDBG	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Persons Assisted
5	Public Services	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs	CITY WIDE	Public Services	CDBG	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Persons Assisted
6	Community Development and Infrastructure	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	CITY WIDE	Community Development and Infrastructure	CDBG	Buildings Demolished: 75 Buildings

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Preserve Existing Housing Stock
	Goal Description	The outcome of this activity is the sustainability of existing homeownership. Planned activities include Housing Rehabilitation, Reconstruction, Minor Repairs, Emergency Assistance, and Administrative and Operating Costs for these programs.
2	Goal Name	Expand Homeownership Opportunities
	Goal Description	The outcome of this activity is the affordability of decent housing. The down payment and closing cost assistance provided by the City is often the determining factor when purchasing a home for both the low-income buyer and the mortgage company. Assistance is provided to eligible buyers based on household income, family size and ability to obtain a mortgage. The potential buyer is able to purchase an eligible new home or existing home within the city limits of Odessa.
3	Goal Name	Expand Number of New Affordable Homes
	Goal Description	The outcome of this activity is the availability of affordable housing. The City has created strong partnerships with several non-profit housing organizations that have resulted in the development of many new affordable housing units. The Odessa Housing Consortium was established for the purpose of providing housing opportunities for low-income persons by working collectively and individually on the development of affordable housing. The members of the Odessa Housing Consortium include the City of Odessa, the Odessa Housing Authority, Odessa Housing Finance Corporation, and Odessa Affordable Housing, Inc.

4	Goal Name	Public Facilities and Improvements
	Goal Description	<p>The objective of providing improvements to the public facilities within the community will achieve the goal of providing suitable living environments.</p> <p>The need for new public facilities or improvements to existing public facilities was identified as a high priority during the Consolidated Plan process, specifically, to youth centers, child care facility and recreational facilities. In previous years the City has provided for improvements to several public facilities including community centers, parks, youth centers and childcare centers. There are many public facility and improvement needs that were identified as a high priority during the needs assessment.</p>
5	Goal Name	Public Services
	Goal Description	<p>The objective of providing funding to public service agencies within the community will achieve the goal of providing suitable living environments.</p> <p>The need for public services and access to public services continues to be essential for many low-income families. The growing low-income population has resulted in an increased demand for public services. Many service organizations have been faced with frequent budget cuts impacting their ability to provide services. It has become difficult for agencies to meet the demand with the current resources available. The City has partnered with non-profit agencies for the last several years to provide thousands of area low-income persons with public services ranging from mental health care, nutritious meals, educational assistance and counseling services. The highest priorities identified by the community under the category of public service include childcare services, health care, youth services, senior services, handicapped services, and services for abused women and children. The City will provide assistance in two of the high priority categories during the next five years.</p>

6	Goal Name	Community Development and Infrastructure
	Goal Description	<p>The objective of providing funding to these activities will help achieve the goal of providing suitable living environments.</p> <p>CDBG funds will be provided to the Demolition Program for the removal of slum and blight. Like most communities Odessa has a number of vacant and dangerous buildings that have been abandoned and are in a state of disrepair. Through the Demolition Program the City can remove structures when attempts to gain compliance from the property owners fail.</p>

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)

Housing continues to be the most important identified need within the community. Through the City’s housing assistance programs homeowners and potential homebuyers can obtain assistance to meet a variety of housing needs. The housing strategy will focus on the highest priorities established by the Consolidated Plan and will include the continuation of the Housing Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Program, strengthening the Homebuyer Assistance Program, utilizing establish partnerships to expand the number of newly constructed affordable homes and working with the Odessa Homeless Coalition to establish a transitional housing facility to serve families with children as well as expanding housing for seniors and the special needs populations.

The City anticipates serving thirty-three (33) extremely low, low or moderate income households over the next five years to provide them with a form of affordable housing.

SP-50 Public Housing Accessibility and Involvement

Activities to Increase Resident Involvements

To encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership, property management has monthly resident council meetings with various speakers from the community who provide educational sources to the residents to assist them to become more self-sufficient. In addition, the OHA and property management is involved in providing the residents at these meetings with information and education in reference to the homeownership program. Information is provided to encourage them to work on their credit issues, savings, and referrals are made to local agencies who collaborate with the OHA to assist with homeownership.

The Property Manager at the Public Housing Apartment is responsible for annual inspections, coordinate maintenance and identify public housing improvement needs. The success of on-site management at the city's public housing units has enabled the Housing Authority to improve tenant access to management. Improvements in security and on-site management have been made to curtail crime, drugs, graffiti, and gang related activities in these complexes. HUD has designated the Odessa Housing Authority as a "high performer" since 2009.

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

No.

SP-55 Barriers to affordable housing

Barriers to Affordable Housing

Overall, the City of Odessa has few of the barriers that are normally considered to be exclusionary. The City allows small lots, mixed-use housing, manufactured housing in single-family residential zones, and it uses a number of federal, state, and private programs for the acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of affordable housing units. The City is aggressive in its pursuit of developing affordable housing and has been successful in establishing public/private partnerships, developing generous homebuyer assistance programs, utilizing tax foreclosed properties, waiving building permit fees and assisting in the development of Low Income Housing Tax Credit apartment complexes.

Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing

Several issues serve as barriers in developing affordable housing. These barriers include the ever-increasing costs of construction and rehabilitation, lack of available contractors, lack of availability and increasing cost of residential lots, condition of available housing stock, poor or lack of credit and access to down payment and closing cost funds.

Contractors can increase their profit in the private market so the city has taken steps to combat this issue by bidding packages of five or more projects in an effort to provide contractors more than one project in hopes of receiving benefits of economies of scale. The city also requests the contractor provide a proposal as to the type and amenities they will provide for a set price in order to achieve the best value for the investment. In addition, the city has made design changes to the homes it builds and has used alternative building materials to reduce costs.

The Community Development staff has started several initiatives to solicit more contractors, including the waving of building permit fees, easing insurance requirements and eliminating bond requirements.

The increase in the cost of residential lots has been driven up by the demand to secure suitable lots for the development of housing. Properties that were

once available at a reasonable cost have doubled in many cases. The city and its local non-profit housing partners have been aggressive in identifying, purchasing and maintaining lots in inventory for future affordable housing development.

Discussion:

The current local construction projects have affected the cost of developing affordable housing for the city and its non-profit housing partners. Within the last few years, there has been a significant increase in the cost of construction in all segments of the housing market. Increases in the cost of materials, labor and contractor overhead have contributed to higher construction costs.

The increased construction activity in Odessa has resulted in a demand for contractors at all levels of construction. The city has had difficulty in maintaining its current contractor pool and identifying new contractors to participate in the city's Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Program. Some contractors no longer perform work for the city because they are able to make more per square foot in the open market. The city has traditionally had difficulty in enticing contractors to take part in its programs.

Competition for available lots has driven up prices of lots, especially in desirable areas. Furthermore, lags in the permitting, construction and appraisal processes have slowed due to lack of staff and increase in workload, also contributing to housing supply limitations.

Much of the development of affordable housing has been located in the City's Target Area. The majority of lots available for development are concentrated within this area, which then raises the issue of concentration. There are very few areas currently available for the development of housing subdivisions that do not require substantial investment of funds for infrastructure such as street, utilities, curbs and gutter. Odessa, like many other communities in West Texas has many vacant or unused drill sites located in primarily residential neighborhoods. The city is presently in discussions with the owners of some of these sites in an effort to obtain the release of these sites for future affordable housing development.

SP-60 Homelessness Strategy

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

The focus of the Odessa Homeless Coalition is to provide comprehensive services that address all of an individual's needs in order to maintain long-term self-sufficiency. While the Coalition works as a collaborative to bring all the services available in our community together, individual agencies are responsible for actually providing the services.

As the lead agency for the Odessa Homeless Coalition, Links serves as the *Community Liaison* and is responsible for media relations to increase community awareness about homelessness, recruit volunteers, and promote Coalition activities.

Links participates in the Texas Homeless Network's Balance of State; a collaboration of over 200 counties with representatives from nonprofits, government officials, and service agencies to eliminate homelessness. The partnership with the Texas Homeless Network gives Links the technological tools through their ClientTrack/HMIS (Homeless Management Information System), to electronically store client case records.

With Odessa Links being the "nerve-center" for Odessa agencies and a participating HMIS-Homeless Management Information System user, the organization serves as the lead agency for the Odessa Homeless Coalition. The Odessa Homeless Coalition continues to collaborate with different organizations that have a strong commitment to utilize their resources in order to provide for homeless families in Odessa.

Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The current agencies that provide these services are listed below²⁰:

Emergency Shelters/Emergency assistance

- ***Catholic Charities*** provides emergency assistance by giving persons in need food and clothing.
- ***The Crisis Center*** provides emergency shelter assistance for victims of sexual assault and/or family violence. The Crisis Center Angel House: The Family Violence Shelter in Odessa can currently provide safe housing, case management and life skills training for up to 61 people. Case Management includes job training, substance abuse treatment, mental health care and health care through contract with other agencies in the community. The Crisis Center provides counseling services to their resident and non-resident victim survivors.
- ***Door of Hope Mission*** provides emergency shelter for adults and families with children. Other services provided by the Mission include case management services for up to 50 individuals.
- ***Jesus House*** provides emergency shelter for adult males. Other services include: shelter case management and breakfast and lunch served Monday through Friday. The organization also engages in monthly outreach via passing out hygiene items to homeless individuals.
- ***Salvation Army*** provides emergency shelter for adult males, females and families with children. The organization can also provide case management.
- ***The Well*** provides food, utility assistance, partial rent assistance, bus vouchers, forms of I.D.'s, clothing, formula, and diapers.
- ***Permian Basin Mission Center*** primarily a food pantry that helps with clothes, small household items, and rent/utility assistance when needed.
- ***American Red Cross*** provides emergency funds for food, lodging, and clothing items to recover from a disaster, normally as a result of fire.

Transitional Housing

- ***Family Promise of Odessa, Inc.*** is an interfaith non-profit network of 13 congregations and dozens of volunteers working together to provide transitional shelter, meals, and support services to homeless families with children. The network of churches is prepared to accommodate up to 14 individuals and assist them in achieving lasting independence.
- ***Clover House*** provides beds for adult males and females who are from the Criminal Justice System. They also provide job training, case management, substance abuse treatment, life skills training as well as transportation for those individuals in their transitional housing facility.
- ***Mission Messiah*** provides beds for adult females and their children. They offer case management and life skills training for their clients, as well as food and clothing.

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.

Rapid Rehousing

Odessa Links provides scattered site Tenant Based Rental Assistance, case management, and wrap around supportive services for homeless families; RRH assistance is available for 25 households through the Project HOPE (Homeless Opportunities for Personal Excellence) Program. Project Hope utilizes a Housing First approach and helps homeless families with no preconditions, rapidly move from the shelter or streets to permanent housing.

Other Housing Programs

Housing Authority of Odessa provides rental assistance VASH Vouchers for homeless veterans, 12 vouchers are available with the option to "port in" veterans through Abilene Housing Authority and 33 tenant based rental assistance Mainstream Voucher for non-elderly disabled homeless persons.

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

For low income households the gap between the cost of living and earned income is wide, and the resources to prevent homelessness are limited.

Among the agencies that provide assistance are: The Salvation Army of Odessa, Permian Basin Mission Center, Catholic Charities, PermianCare, The WELL, West Texas Opportunities, ABLE Center, and the American Red Cross. Each agency has their own set of criteria which they use to qualify those persons seeking assistance.

SP-65 Lead based paint Hazards

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

The City developed a strategy for addressing lead based paint related issues. The City has one (1) licensed Lead Inspector/Risk Assessor on Staff. Staff assesses each project based on the scope of the work and the amount of funds to be expended on each individual project. The Community Development staff uses HUD's Lead Safe Housing Rules in conducting all housing rehabilitation work.

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

According to the U. S. Government, homes constructed prior to 1980 have the greatest possibility for lead-based paint contamination.

There are 28,415 residential housing units constructed in Odessa prior to 1979 which represents 64% of all residential units.²¹. The potential for residents to be exposed to lead based paint appears to be high.

Although there are a large number of homes built before 1979 in Odessa, an analysis of data from the Ector County Health Department and the City's Housing Rehabilitation Program indicates the percentage of lead contaminated homes to be relatively low.

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

The City of Odessa currently has a licensed staff as Lead Based Paint Risk Assessor. Any homes that need rehabilitation or minor repairs built prior to 1979 are tested for lead based paint. If lead based paint is present, specific criteria are followed as procedure.

²¹ Census ACS 2014-2018
2020-2024
Consolidated Plan

SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy

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

The City of Odessa will continue to support activities that will help minimize poverty to the extent possible. Preserving and increasing the affordable housing stock, funding public service agencies, demolition, and public facilities improvements are all important activities in the City's anti-poverty strategy. The majority of programs funded through the use of CDBG funds are directed at low-income persons and many service the needs of persons earning less than 50% of median income.

The City of Odessa and the Odessa Housing Consortium will continue to provide individualized housing opportunities to individuals based on their specific needs. The City's Infill Housing Program is one additional option available to those individuals who want to purchase a home. The Odessa Housing Authority administers the Section 8 Homeownership Program which provides low income families who receive Section 8 Voucher Assistance with an opportunity to use their monthly rental assistance payment toward the purchase of their own home. The City will also continue to partner with members of the Odessa Homeless Coalition to establish and meet selected priorities.

All program services administered by the City of Odessa, members of the Odessa Housing Consortium and various nonprofit social service agency providers are designed to aid low-income persons in obtaining employment and educational opportunities necessary for becoming self-sufficient citizens and less reliant on public assistance programs.

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

The housing services offered are elements in the City's Anti-Poverty Strategy that, for many, are the only way to obtain housing repair, purchase a home or obtain rental assistance. Many low-income persons utilize the Housing Rehabilitation Program for needed repairs to their homes. The City can provide assistance to income eligible families to purchase a home through its Homeownership Assistance Programs. Single family units are subsidized with

HOME funds that are used for down payment and closing cost assistance. The CDBG and HOME Housing Rehabilitation Reconstruction Programs also provide homeowners with complete housing, minor or emergency housing repair assistance.

SP-80 Monitoring

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 procedures outlined in the City's Subrecipient Monitoring Guidebook ensures that the projects funded under the CDBG and HOME Programs comply with program requirements and serve to address the City's goals. The Community Development staff provides technical assistance to all agencies and organizations beginning with the application process until the project is completed in order to ensure that national objectives and contract requirements are met. The City conducts one-on-one orientations with each agency that is awarded CDBG funds and advises them of the monitoring requirements and provides them with all of the necessary documents required by the City of Odessa. During one-on-one sessions with subrecipients, the City provides information on compliance requirements, reimbursement requirements and provides any necessary technical assistance. The relationship is continued until all funds are expended. New subrecipients are provided with additional technical assistance and closer supervision in order to ensure they are in compliance with all regulations.

The City has established an ongoing monitoring strategy in order to ensure the compliance of all CDBG and HOME funded projects. Public Service agencies are monitored by the appropriate staff to ensure they are accurately providing assistance to eligible clients based on program specific requirements such as income, residency requirements, etc.

Public Facility and Improvement projects whether conducted through an outside agency or internal city department are monitored by Community Development staff to ensure compliance with all applicable requirements. Community Development staff provides guidance on issues regarding procurement, pre-bid contractor requirements, Davis Bacon Wage Rate requirements, etc.

Housing Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Assistance Programs whether administered through the Community Development Department or outside agencies, are monitored by the appropriate housing staff. Applicants are screened to ensure that they meet all program requirements including property ownership, income eligibility, residency requirements, etc.