



Second Program Year Action Plan

The CPMP Second Annual Action Plan includes the SF 424 and Narrative Responses to Action Plan questions that CDBG, HOME, HOPWA, and ESG grantees must respond to each year in order to be compliant with the Consolidated Planning Regulations. The Executive Summary narratives are optional.

SF 424

Complete the fillable fields (blue cells) in the table below. The other items are pre-filled with values from the Grantee Information Worksheet.

Date Submitted	06/16/06	16-6002563	Type of Submission	
Date Received by state			Application	Pre-application
Date Received by HUD	Federal Identifier		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Construction
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non Construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Non Construction
Applicant Information				
Monroe County		NY369055 MONROE COUNTY		
50 West Main Street		Organizational DUNS 079678249		
Suite 8100		Organizational Unit		
Rochester	New York	Department of Planning and Development		
14614	Country U.S.A.	Community Development Administration		
Employer Identification Number (EIN):		Monroe County		
16-6002563		8/1		
Applicant Type:		Specify Other Type if necessary:		
Local Government: County		Specify Other Type		
Program Funding		U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development		
Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers; Areas Affected by Project(s) (cities, Counties, localities etc.);		Descriptive Title of Applicant Project(s); Areas Estimated Funding		
Community Development Block Grant		14.218 Entitlement Grant		
CDBG Project Titles	Various Project Titles	Description of Areas Affected by CDBG Project(s) Monroe County		
\$CDBG Grant Amount	\$Additional HUD Grant(s)	Describe		
\$ 1,973,063	Leveraged			
\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged		\$Additional State Funds Leveraged		
\$Locally Leveraged Funds		\$Grantee Funds Leveraged		
\$Anticipated Program Income \$ 260,000 (Section 108 \$ 271,046)		Other (Describe)		
Total Funds Leveraged for CDBG-based Project(s)				
Home Investment Partnerships Program		14.239 HOME		
HOME Project Titles	Various Project Titles	Description of Areas Affected by HOME Project(s) Monroe County		

\$HOME Grant Amount \$ 1,349,674	\$Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe
\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged		\$Additional State Funds Leveraged
\$Locally Leveraged Funds		\$Grantee Funds Leveraged
\$Anticipated Program Income \$ 50,000		Other (Describe)
Total Funds Leveraged for HOME-based Project(s)		
Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS		14.241 HOPWA
HOPWA Project Titles		Description of Areas Affected by HOPWA Project(s)
\$HOPWA Grant Amount	\$Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe
\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged		\$Additional State Funds Leveraged
\$Locally Leveraged Funds		\$Grantee Funds Leveraged
\$Anticipated Program Income		Other (Describe)
Total Funds Leveraged for HOPWA-based Project(s)		
Emergency Shelter Grants Program		14.231 ESG
ESG Project Titles		Description of Areas Affected by ESG Project(s)
\$ESG Grant Amount	\$Additional HUD Grant(s) Leveraged	Describe
\$Additional Federal Funds Leveraged		\$Additional State Funds Leveraged
\$Locally Leveraged Funds		\$Grantee Funds Leveraged
\$Anticipated Program Income		Other (Describe)
Total Funds Leveraged for ESG-based Project(s)		
Congressional Districts of: 25, 26, 28 and 29 Applicant Districts		Project Districts
Is the applicant delinquent on any federal debt? If "Yes" please include an additional document explaining the situation.		Is application subject to review by state Executive Order 12372 Process?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes This application was made available to the state EO 12372 process for review on DATE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> No Program is not covered by EO 12372
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A Program has not been selected by the state for review
Person to be contacted regarding this application		
Dawn	C.	Nettnin
Community Dev. Manager	585-753-2023	585-753-2000
dnettnin@monroecounty.gov	www.monroecounty.gov	Other Contact
Signature of Authorized Representative		Date Signed
 Terrence G. Slaybaugh, Director Department of Planning & Development		6/15/06

Narrative Responses

GENERAL

Executive Summary

The Executive Summary is optional, but encouraged. If you choose to complete it, please provide a brief overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that are proposed during the next year.

Program Year 2 Action Plan Executive Summary:

1) Mission Statement:

To improve the quality of life for low to moderate-income families, seniors and persons with special needs in suburban Monroe County by financing public facilities improvements, creating and retaining jobs, repairing and conserving existing housing, promoting affordable rental and homeownership opportunities, without discrimination, and providing public services that stabilize and enhance living conditions.

2) Purpose

Altogether, the CDBG, HOME and ADDI programs will help Monroe County direct over \$3 million into the suburban towns and villages that comprise the Monroe County Community Development Consortium in support of public works, housing, economic development and community services programs that primarily benefit low to moderate-income households, seniors, and persons with special needs.

Funding for these programs is provided through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). In order to remain compliant with the Consolidated Planning Regulations, which cover these federal allocations, Monroe County is required to complete an annual action plan for the 2006 program year, which addresses projects funded on an annual basis and new program initiatives for the program year.

This is the second action plan that the Community Development (CD) office has developed using the Consolidated Plan Management Planning (CPMP) Tool. Accomplishments will be entered into CPMP, which will aid in the compilation of information for the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), published annually in September. It is intended that CPMP will provide an improved method of tracking project and program goals, as well as articulating them to the public.

The purpose of Monroe County's 2006 Action Plan is to make a clear presentation of projects, programs, and new initiatives that CD intends to fund during the program year, the availability of federal dollars to complete those programs and projects and to encourage public commentary in this endeavor. The Action Plan also serves as a reporting mechanism to HUD on the planning and evaluation of programs.

3) Consortium Membership

In 2006 the CDBG program will operate in 17 towns and 10 villages in suburban Monroe County. All municipalities in Monroe County are members of the consortium with the exception of the Towns of Greece and Irondequoit and the City of Rochester. By virtue of their populations, the Towns of Greece and Irondequoit are entitlement communities in their own right, and as such receive their own CDBG allocations. The HOME program includes the Towns of Greece and Irondequoit, bringing the HOME consortium membership to 19 towns and 10 villages. The City of Rochester receives its own CDBG, HOME and ADDI allocations.

The Urban County re-qualification was completed during the 2005 program year, which resulted in Brighton and East Rochester returning to the Consortium for the 2006-2008 program years. This marks the first time in nearly a decade that all eligible communities have participated in the Community Development Consortium.

Due to the change in Consortium membership, HUD re-calculated the upper quartile of eligible block groups, commonly known as Low Mod Areas (LMAs), which are eligible for funding. The expanded consortium increased the number of eligible block groups to 60 from 51.

Municipalities with more than four eligible block groups are the Towns of Brighton, Chili, Gates, Henrietta, and the Villages of Brockport and East Rochester.

Municipalities with one to four eligible block groups are the Towns of Clarkson, Hamlin, Ogden, Penfield, Perinton, Pittsford, Riga, Sweden, Webster and the Villages of Fairport, Scottsville and Webster.

Municipalities with less than one eligible block group are the Town of Parma and the Village of Hilton.

The seven municipalities without any eligible block groups are the Towns of Mendon, Rush, and Wheatland and the Villages of Churchville, Honeoye Falls, Pittsford and Spencerport.

Should membership of the consortium change for any reason, HUD will re-calculate the eligible low-mod block groups to take effect for the following program year.

4) Allocation

Monroe County expects to receive an allocation of \$3,322,737 from HUD for the CDBG, HOME and ADDI programs. The County's CDBG allocation is \$1,973,063, an increase of \$269,763, the HOME allocation is \$1,320,057, an increase of \$95,304, and the ADDI allocation is \$29,617, a decrease of \$21,473. Estimated program income (interest on outstanding loans and other repayments) is expected to total \$260,000 for the CDBG program and \$50,000 for the HOME program. The level of program income is consistent with 2005. The 2006 combined allocations are \$343,594 more than last year, which is attributable to the renewed membership of Brighton and East Rochester in the Community Development Consortium.

Monroe County also expects to receive Section 108 loan repayments totaling \$271,046 during the 2006 program year. Monroe County does not intend to reprogram any funds remaining from previous program years for the 2006 program year. Monroe County and HUD are not bound by these estimates as they are subject to approval of the Action Plan submission to HUD.

Slightly more than \$2.2 million is available through all CDBG sources to fulfill \$2.9 million worth of requests. These are the primary programs and new initiatives that are addressed in the 2006 Action Plan.

5) Program Goals

CDBG, HOME and ADDI funds will be directed toward accomplishing the following primary program goals and objectives during 2006:

- a) Develop affordable rental and homeownership opportunities for all low to moderate-income residents, without discrimination
- b) Repair and conserve existing housing stock
- c) Improve access to and quality of public facilities
- d) Provide essential utility infrastructure in lower income areas
- e) Provide job training and economic development opportunities for low to moderate-income persons and persons with special needs
- f) Provide essential public services, particularly those that promote homeownership, fair housing and housing stability
- g) Revitalize deteriorated neighborhoods

6) Citizen Participation

The 2005-2010 Strategic Plan and 2005 Annual Action Plan for Housing and Community Development in Suburban Monroe County referenced the issuance of one plan that would be made available for public review and ultimately submitted to HUD. CD has revised the Citizen Participation schedule to reflect this change. The first public notice in regard to the availability of funds and the first public hearing appeared in The Shopping Bag Advertiser (a free county-wide publication) and The Daily Record on January 25, 2006. The first public hearing in regard to the 2006 Annual Action Plan was held on February 9, 2006 in the Large Conference Room of the Watts Conference Center located at 49 South Fitzhugh Street in downtown Rochester. There were 21 people in attendance, including 5 CD staff members, which resulted in 3 public comments from 2 community service agencies. The Steering Committee meeting to start the program year was held on February 9, 2006 at the Watts Conference Center immediately following the public hearing.

CDBG project applications were due March 1, 2006. Preliminary award letters from the County Executive were sent out May 8, 2006. The public notice listing the projects intended for funding and the second public hearing appeared in The Shopping Bag Advertiser and The Daily Record on May 10, 2006. The 30-day comment period was May 10 to June 9, 2006. The Annual Action Plan was made available to the public on May 10.

The second public hearing was held on Thursday, May 25, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. at the East Rochester Municipal Offices, 120 West Commercial Street, East Rochester, and the Steering Committee Meeting was held immediately following the public hearing at 10:00 a.m. at the East Rochester Municipal Offices. There were no speakers at the second public hearing. The legislative referral was introduced into the Monroe County Legislature on May 9, reviewed by committees May 22, and 25, and approved by the full Legislature on June 13, 2006. The Annual Action Plan is due to HUD on June 17, 2006.

7) CDBG and HOME Funded Programs

a) Housing Rehabilitation

The Home Improvement Program (HIP) will receive a combined allocation of \$870,000 (\$100,000 from CDBG and \$770,000 from HOME), which will fund over 85 housing rehabilitation projects. Continuation of this popular and essential program did not impact the funding available for other CDBG program categories. The 2006 allocation is \$80,000 more than 2005. Currently, applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis; however, emergency situations are given high priority. CD continues to monitor the volume of applications to determine the necessity of a wait-list at any given time. New income limits as established by HUD took effect on May 3, 2006.

During the first eight months of the 2005 program year (through April 1, 2006), 72 HIP projects were completed; 70 are underway; and, 58 applications are pending evaluation. Communities with the greatest number of program participants are Gates, East Rochester, Henrietta, Chili and Penfield.

Lead-based paint risk assessments and clearance examinations are now conducted under contract with Proway Management. An RFP was completed during the 2005 program year to select a new lead-based paint service provider.

b) Home Ownership & First-Time Homebuyer Assistance

First-time homebuyer assistance is provided free of charge to prospective home buyers through the Homeownership Program, which is administered under contract by Providence Housing Development Corporation. The contract with Providence, considered a public service, is funded through CDBG. Providence expects 40 clients to receive financial assistance to purchase first-homes during the program year. The direct homebuyer subsidy is paid through HOME and ADDI. Unexpended ADDI funds from prior years will compliment the new allocations. The 2006 allocation of \$150,000 from HOME and \$29,617 from ADDI will be the primary source of funds for direct homebuyer subsidy.

During the first eight months of the 2005 program year (through April 1, 2006), 65 prospective first-time homebuyers have been counseled; 26 first-time homebuyers have received down payment and closing cost assistance to purchase a home; and, 35 prospective first-time homebuyers are in the process of purchasing a first home.

New income limits as established by HUD took effect on May 3, 2006. Match requirements and administrative eligibility for inclusion do not apply to the 2004-2007 ADDI allocations.

As indicated in the 2005 Annual Action Plan, CD intends to pursue the development of newly constructed houses for first-time homebuyers through various partnerships and direct subsidy through the HOME program. This program may be scattered site, single site, mixed use and/or mixed income. Discussions in regard to this initiative began during the 2005 program year with prospective program partners and will carry into the 2006 program year. Incorporating new construction into the County's housing portfolio will complete the full spectrum of housing options that Monroe County seeks to offer low to moderate-income families, seniors and persons with special needs. A quarter million dollars was reserved in 2005 for direct homebuyer assistance as part of this new construction program, which will benefit ten or more new first-time homebuyers.

8) CDBG Funded Activities

a) Public Facilities Improvements

The need for public facilities improvements remains high in the suburban towns and villages, particularly in communities with greater concentration of low to moderate-income areas and/or aging infrastructure. Combined with the growing older adult population and persons with impaired mobility, the need for accessible public facilities remains a high priority. Twenty-seven proposals totaling nearly \$1 million were received for public facilities improvements.

Every town or village that submitted a project proposal will receive a CDBG grant from Monroe County. Again this year, the largest portion of the CDBG program is public works projects in the towns and villages.

Proposals were not received from Pittsford Town and the Villages of Churchville, Hilton and Spencerport. Due to limited funding, some municipalities may not receive the full amount requested. Proposed grant amounts for towns and villages range from a maximum of \$25,000 for municipalities with less than one LMA, a maximum of \$35,000 for one to four LMAs and a maximum of \$45,000 for more than four LMAs. Grants are targeted to those communities with the greatest concentration of low to moderate-income areas, which is consistent with prior program years.

During the first eight months of the 2005 program year (through April 1, 2006), four municipal public works projects were completed, seven are underway, two are on hold due to other funding issues, and the remaining six will start later this spring.

Of the public works projects funded in 2004, all but three are either complete or underway. For the 2003 program year, all but three municipal public works projects are complete.

b) Economic Development

The Economic Development Grant and Loan Fund is funded at \$480,000, which is more than 2005. This should allow for grants and/or loans to at least four companies, and create 15 and retain 50 jobs, at least 51% of which will be for low to moderate-income persons.

During the first eight months of the 2005 program year (through April 1, 2006), 6 companies received loans totaling \$560,000 through the ED Grant and Loan fund. Up to 4 additional loans totaling \$452,000 may close before the end of the 2005 program year. Prior years' funds designated for this purpose have been combined with 2005 program year funds to make this unprecedented number of economic development loans.

c) Public Services

Requests for public services totaled more than \$650,000, which exceeds the allowable limit by nearly 50%. Grant amounts in community services were reduced significantly last year to maintain priority housing related services and meet the regulatory spending cap for public services. Monroe County's public services are provided free of charge to program participants.

As part of this Action Plan, Providence Housing is retained to administer the County's Homeownership Program and The Housing Council is retained to provide comprehensive counseling in the following housing-related areas: Fair Housing Education and Outreach; Landlord/Tenant Counseling & Housing Hotline Services; and, Foreclosure Prevention and Predatory Lending Counseling. The services of LifeSpan are retained to administer the Safety and Security for Seniors Program, which provides minor home and safety repairs that cannot be made through the Home Improvement Program for the suburban senior population.

Lifetime Assistance will undertake a project to purchase equipment and provide training for their clients to operate a document shredding business. Monroe County seeks to undertake a series of homebuyer events in partnership with The Housing Council and the Greater Rochester Association of Realtors in the spring of 2007, and \$10,000 is reserved for this purpose.

Of the five public services that are not recommended for funding, one project is not an eligible activity, one entity does not have the capacity or experience to undertake the proposed project, two entities were defunded last year and have not modified their programs, budgets or other funding sources, and one project would require a multi-year commitment to make an impact. Given the unpredictability of the CDBG allocation, including a 20% funding reduction proposed in the 2007 Federal Budget, Monroe County is not able to undertake new commitments that may not continue into the future.

9) HOME Funded Activities

a) Affordable Housing

To ensure fair housing choice through the provision of affordable rental housing opportunities, Monroe County issued a request for proposals for the development of permanent affordable rental housing in January 2006. The deadline for submission to the County was January 27, 2006. CD received five proposals seeking \$1.66 million in HOME funds. Overall project costs and requested funding amounts were higher than in past years due to increased construction materials costs and the implementation of revised Davis Bacon wage rates.

The County approved and committed HOME Program financing to the five affordable housing proposals received. Four of the five proposed project developers submitted applications to the NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal through the NYS Low Income Housing/HOME/Low Income Credit Program. The deadline for submission of NYS DHCR 2006 Unified Funding Round applications was February 27, 2006. If the four County HOME funding commitment project applications are also approved and financed by NYS, the proposed County financed projects will produce 114 (1 & 2 bedroom) apartments and 6 town houses for older adults (age 55 and older) and 40 (1, 2 & 3 bedroom) family units.

One of the developers is seeking funding from the Housing Finance Agency and did not have to submit an application to NYS DHCR. After the County's funding commitment was extended, this project was put on hold by the developer, Heritage Christian Services.

Prior years' HOME funds designated for the development of affordable rental housing, but not obligated to specific projects, will be used to fund one or more of the proposed rental projects detailed below. Listed below in descending order of financial commitment are the five (5) proposed affordable rental housing project applications that received Monroe County 2006 HOME funding commitments.

i) \$450,000 for Ada Ridge Court II by Rural Housing Opportunities Corporation to construct 45 one-bedroom apartments for older adults (age 55+) in the Town of Greece;

ii) \$390,000 for St. Salome Senior Apartments by Providence Housing Development Corporation to redevelop a building and construct 33 one and two-bedroom apartments and 6 two-bedroom town homes for older adults (age 55+) in the Town of Irondequoit;

iii) \$300,000 for Seneca Place by Conifer Realty, LLC to construct 40 one, two and three-bedroom apartments for families in the Village of Honoeye Falls;

iv) \$275,000 for Heritage Village by Heritage Christian Services, Inc. to construct 54 one and two-bedroom apartments for families and persons with special needs in the Town of Penfield (currently on hold); and,

v) \$250,000 for East Linden Senior Community by ISLA Housing and Development Corporation to construct 36 one-bedroom apartments for older adults (age 62+) in the Village of East Rochester.

Limited and competitive state, federal and local resources for the development of affordable housing and community revitalization, coupled with ever-increasing costs of land acquisition and new construction have made it increasingly challenging to finance affordable housing. Monroe County and the City of Rochester agreed to pursue the feasibility of creating a local housing trust fund and sought the assistance of the Greater Rochester Housing Partnership (GRHP) in the development of an action plan for creating a housing trust fund to benefit residents of Monroe County. The City and County agreed that the topic is timely and appropriate given the growing gap between traditional housing and development funding sources and community need.

GRHP agreed to take on this task and formed an ad hoc committee that included representatives from the GRHP Board, City, County and Interfaith Action, which has been a strong advocate of the trust fund concept. The group was charged in July 2005 with defining fund objectives, potential sustainable revenue sources, and governance with the goal of completing a report on a plan and implementation agenda by fall of 2005. The group met regularly over a six month period to gather input from interested community groups and stakeholders and draft a report suitable for presentation to a larger audience, including the County Executive and Mayor. The draft report was completed in December 2005. GRHP presented the report to the Mayor in February and to the County Executive in March. GRHP will now present the report to other interested constituencies to determine if there is support in a larger audience for the housing trust fund.

10) Fair Housing Activities

The Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice 2005 (AI) was completed by The Housing Council and submitted to HUD in December 2005. The Housing Council is in the process of making presentations of the Executive Summary to the various focus groups that provided input in the development of the AI, including the Community Choice Advisory Committee. The focus groups will have the first opportunity to review the AI and make initial recommendations. The City has completed a draft AI, as well, and there may be opportunities for coordinated partnerships on fair housing activities. Key objectives of this Action Plan are a) to allow the focus groups and Community Choice Advisory Committee to review the AI; b) coordinate with Greece and Irondequoit to draft a new Action Plan to implement recommendations contained in the AI; and c) coordinate fair housing activities with the City when appropriate. Additional actions may include, but are not limited to, seeking assistance to develop and implement an action plan, formulating a committee, commission or task force to identify and address short and long-term goals, and developing a plan to present key findings and recommendations to the community-at-large.

11) Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC)

Monroe County's active role in the Homeless Continuum of Care Team is detailed in the Strategic Plan. The primary activity during the 2006 program year will be the completion of a coordinated and equitable HUD Super NOFA process that will administer the local process for HUD Super NOFA applicants; review and rank eligible Super NOFA applications per CoC priorities; and update the CoC Super NOFA Exhibit I for submission to HUD. In 2005, this process resulted in \$3.45 million that will flow into the community for various housing and supportive service programs for the homeless, a reduction of \$3.25 million. New projects were not awarded in the 2005 Super NOFA round. A special community meeting was held on March 3, 2006 to discuss the results of the debriefing session that was held on February 7, 2006 with HUD. The meeting allowed for the opportunity to review and discuss the significant changes in the rating of both new and renewal project applications submitted through the Super NOFA process, HUD's emphasis on housing vs. support services, the current housing/support services ratio, the terms of renewal projects in 2006 and in future years, and future strategies.

The Fiscal Year 2006 CoC Super NOFA was issued by HUD on March 8, 2006, the same month it was issued last year, with an even earlier submission date of May 25, 2006. The 2006 Super NOFA Applicant Workshop was held on March 30, 2006 to provide information pertaining to the changes in this year's 2006 NOFA, and instructions for the local application and submission process. Due to changes in the NOFA in 2005, the community's 2005 and 2006 pro rata share decreased substantially from prior years, however, the 2006 pro rata share allowed for a slight increase to \$3,696,003.

As required by HUD, the implementation of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) as a tool of gathering accurate information about the homeless population is in place in Monroe County. The HMIS lead agency, Catholic Family Center, submitted their technical submission to the HUD Buffalo Office. The CoC sponsors have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Catholic Family Center that covers the implementation and maintenance of the HMIS system. The selected vendor was Service Point, and training for the system began in the 2004 program year. Implementation of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is taking longer than originally planned. Full implementation of HMIS is expected by the end of the 2006 program year.

CD will continue to participate on the HMIS Subcommittee; the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness Subcommittee; the Emergency Shelter Plan Subcommittee; and, the Monitoring Subcommittee during the 2006 program year.

General Questions

1. Describe the geographic areas of the jurisdiction (including areas of low income families and/or racial/minority concentration) in which assistance will be directed during the next year.
2. Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA) (91.215(a)(1)) during the next year and the rationale for assigning the priorities.
3. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs.

Program Year 2 Action Plan General Questions response:

1. Geographic Areas in which Assistance Will Be Directed

Several community-wide public services will reach a broad array of residents in all consortium communities. These include The Housing Council's programs to provide landlord/tenant counseling and housing hotline services, foreclosure prevention and predatory lending counseling, and fair housing education, as well as the homeownership counseling provided by Providence Housing and the safety and security training provided by LifeSpan. Monroe County's public services are offered free of charge to suburban Monroe County residents.

Access to park playgrounds and facilities as part of the Monroe County Parks system, preservation of an historic structure, and ADA improvements at Genesee Country Village and Museum will also positively impact a broad spectrum of County residents.

The Home Improvement Program will help 85 or more families from all geographic areas of the consortium area. Some municipalities have more applicants per year than others, such as Gates, Henrietta, Chili and East Rochester, but residents from all parts of the County have participated in this long-standing program. Likewise, the Homeownership Program will provide counseling to prospective homebuyers and purchase subsidy to over 40 first-time homebuyers from the entire consortium area. First-time homebuyers may settle in any town or village, but purchase most frequently in the Towns of Greece, Irondequoit, Gates and Henrietta. The residents of Brighton and East Rochester have become active participants in the housing rehab and home ownership programs since these municipalities became eligible for funds in 2005.

Projects specifically targeted for LMA's include storm sewers on Western and Southern Drives in Brighton, the Thompson Road Sanitary Sewer replacement in Henrietta, the West Avenue Sidewalks in Brockport and the Webster Village North Avenue Water Main Upgrade Phase II. The Hamlin Town Hall ADA project, Fairport Façade Improvement Program Phase V, and parks improvement projects at Wegman Road Park in Gates and Edmond Lyon Park in East Rochester are also in LMA's.

As previously indicated, every town and village that submitted a CDBG application will receive a grant from Monroe County. Projects to enhance access to public facilities and recreation areas are planned for the remaining towns and villages because over half of the consortium municipalities have one or fewer LMA's.

Funding commitments for affordable rental housing developments were made to projects in East Rochester, Greece, Honeoye Falls, Irondequoit and Penfield (currently on hold) as part of the HOME RFP process earlier this year.

2. Basis for Allocating Funding and Assigning Priority

The rationale for assigning funding priorities is consistent with the evaluation criteria set forth in the Strategic Plan. Monroe County administers a competitive application process for all CDBG and HOME-funded programs. The 2006 CDBG application requires additional information on funding sources to more closely evaluate the leveraging of public and private funds. CD does not administer multi-year contracts; therefore all municipalities and sub-recipients are required to apply for funds on an annual basis. While this may create budgetary challenges for sub-recipients, it affords CD flexibility while facing inconsistent CDBG resources. While maximizing available funds, Monroe County's objective is to fund CD's core programs and services to the greatest extent possible, particularly programs and services that could not be administered by another department or funding source. As a result, every town and village that applied will receive funds for a public facilities improvement or public works project, the largest funding category. Maximum municipal grant amounts are as follows: >4 LMAs = \$45,000 maximum, 1-4 LMAs = \$35,000 maximum, <1 LMA = \$25,000 maximum.

Public facilities improvements will also take place in two County Parks and two locations in the City of Rochester. The Revolving ED Grant and Loan Fund will receive a substantial allocation, and the popular Home Improvement Program will receive CDBG and HOME allocations. Public services, which are subject to a 15% cap, will round out the County's housing program through counseling services provided by The Housing Council, Providence Housing and LifeSpan.

3. Actions to Address Obstacles to Meeting Underserved Needs

The greatest obstacle to meeting underserved needs is the lack of stable funding levels and the threat of future funding reductions. Since the CDBG allocation will likely be reduced next year and no more than 15% of CDBG funds can be spent on public services, fewer programs can be funded and no program expansions are under consideration. A new, one-time equipment purchase is proposed for Lifetime Assistance, a public service agency that provides employment training for persons with special needs.

Several projects covering all program areas could not be funded due to lack of funds available for public services. Public services not recommended for in 2006 include activities that provide assistance to the general homeless population; a community program for low/mod income families at the Phillips Village Apartments in Webster; transportation services for elderly and disabled residents; and, renovations to the ABVI-Goodwill Industries building that serves and employs blind and visually impaired persons.

Managing the Process

1. Identify the lead agency, entity, and agencies responsible for administering programs covered by the consolidated plan.
2. Identify the significant aspects of the process by which the plan was developed, and the agencies, groups, organizations, and others who participated in the process.
3. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to enhance coordination between public and private housing, health, and social service agencies.

Program Year 2 Action Plan Managing the Process response:

1. Lead Agency

Monroe County is the lead agency that oversees the Action Plan through the seven-person Community Development (CD) Division of the Department of Planning and Development. Programs are administered by the CD staff with assistance from the three other divisions of the Planning and Development Department, as well as municipal consortium members and private sector subrecipients. CD staff administer the Home Improvement Program and contracts with towns, villages, subrecipients and first-time homebuyers. The Economic Development (ED) Division of the Department administers the CDBG-funded Revolving ED Grant and Loan Fund, the Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program and a wide variety of County business incentive programs. The Planning Division evaluates municipal planning and development activities including CDBG infrastructure projects and HOME-funded affordable rental developments. The Workforce Development Division of the Department serves as a resource for programs and other funds that address employment and training needs of the unemployed and underemployed.

Non-profit subrecipients responsible for administering programs covered by the Plan include The Housing Council, Providence Housing Development Corporation, and LIFESPAN.

2. Significant Aspects of Plan Development and Other Participants

County inter-departmental consultation and collaboration with municipal members of the Monroe County Community Development Consortium and related public and private-sector agencies, boards and committees is vital to the development of the action plans. (Specific agencies, groups and organizations are identified below.) The process began In February 2006 at the Steering Committee meeting in order to begin gathering input from committee members on long-term community development needs. Further input was obtained at the February 2006 public hearing. The Action Plan was developed based on the priorities identified by the Steering Committee. Projects were reviewed within the Department and by the County Executive. The Action Plan was then presented to the public, the Steering Committee and the County Legislature for a thirty-day comment period. A public hearing and Steering Committee meeting were held during this time to gather further input. The matter was reviewed by two standing committees of the Legislature and later by the full Legislature on June 13, 2006. Each of these entities plays a key role in the formulation of projects, integration of community-wide goals and objectives and overall program development.

3. Consulting Agencies

Affordable Housing Needs and Strategies: United Way of Greater Rochester, Greater Rochester Housing Partnership, The Housing Council, Bishop Sheen Ecumenical Housing Foundation, Rochester Housing Authority, Urban League of Rochester, Habitat for Humanity, Fair Housing Coalition, County/City Community Choice Advisory Committee, Greater Rochester Association of Realtors, Rochester Home Builders Association, Conifer Realty, The DiMarco Group.

CHDOs Providing Input on Housing Issues: Rural Housing Opportunities Corporation, Housing Opportunities, Inc., Heritage Christian Services, ISLA Housing and Development Corporation and Providence Housing Development Corporation.

Homeless Issues: County/City Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) Team, MCDHS (primary consultant and provider of services), MC Office for the Aging, MC Office of Mental Health, Rochester/Monroe County Youth Bureau, Salvation Army, The Housing Council, RHA, Unity Health, Catholic Family Center and United Way.

Elderly Needs and Strategies: MC Office for the Aging, MC Health Department, Lifespan, MC Council of Elders and affordable housing developers (listed above).

Lead-Based Paint Hazards: MC Health Department, Environmental Protection Agency and environmental consulting firms.

Disabled Needs and Strategies: Regional Center for Independent Living, Center for Disability Rights, Lifetime Assistance, Inc., Continuing Developmental Services, Inc., Rochester Rehabilitation Center, Monroe Community Hospital, The Housing Council, MCDHS.

Persons with AIDS: AIDS Rochester and Monroe County Health Department.

Economic Development and Employment Issues: Rochester Business Alliance, Small Business Administration, Rochester Works, Inc., County of Monroe Industrial Development Agency (COMIDA) and Greater Rochester Enterprise (GRE).

Citizen Participation

1. Provide a summary of the citizen participation process.
2. Provide a summary of citizen comments or views on the plan.
3. Provide a summary of efforts made to broaden public participation in the development of the consolidated plan, including outreach to minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities.
4. Provide a written explanation of comments not accepted and the reasons why these comments were not accepted.

*Please note that Citizen Comments and Responses may be included as additional files within the CPMP Tool.

Program Year 2 Action Plan Citizen Participation response:

1. Summary of Citizen Participation Process

CD followed the Citizen Participation Process outlined in the 2005-2010 Strategic Plan to formulate the 2006 Action Plan. The first public notice in regard to the availability of funds and the first public hearing appeared in The Shopping Bag Advertiser (a free county-wide publication) and The Daily Record on January 25, 2006. The first public hearing in regard to the 2006 Plan was held on February 9, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. at the Watts Conference Center, located at 49 South Fitzhugh Street in downtown Rochester. The Steering Committee meeting to start the program year planning process was held immediately following the Public Hearing at 10:00 a.m. on February 9, 2006 at the Watts Conference Center.

Comments received from three speakers at the first public hearing are summarized below.

The public notice announcing the projects intended for funding and the second public hearing appeared in The Shopping Bag Advertiser and The Daily Record on May 10, 2006. Preliminary award letters were sent to all prospective grant recipients and declination letters were sent to all entities not intended for funding the week of May 8, 2006. The 30-day comment period was May 10 - June 9, 2006. One comment from a member of the public was received during the comment period, which is summarized below. Copies of the proposed plan were mailed to the Steering Committee, elected and public officials, and interested community development and housing agencies throughout Monroe County.

The second public hearing was held May 25, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. at the East Rochester Village Offices, 120 West Commercial Street. There were no public speakers at the hearing. The Steering Committee meeting was held immediately following the public hearing at 10:00 a.m. and was attended by eleven people, including CD staff.

The legislative referral, which includes the projects intended for funding, was introduced into the Monroe County Legislature on May 9, 2006 and unanimously approved by two committees of the Legislature on May 22, and 25, 2006. The matter was unanimously approved by the full Legislature on June 13, 2006.

Monroe County used the CPMP Tool again in 2006 to provide a more cohesive, efficient plan for public review and information dissemination. The time period for the action plan development process was also condensed, resulting in a coordinated notification process in 2006. The Steering Committee, the County Legislature and the general public now review and comment on projects at the same time.

2. Summary of Citizen Comments

The first public hearing on the development of the 2006 Action Plan was held on Thursday, February 9, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. to obtain public comments and input on the planning process. The meeting was held at the Watts Conference Center, which is ADA accessible. The hearing was videotaped and is available to the public upon request. Dawn Nettin, Community Development Manager, conducted the hearing and informed the public of the following:

"The 2006 HUD allocation is estimated at \$3,322,737. This amount includes \$1,973,063 for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, \$1,320,057 for the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program and \$29,617 for the American Dream Down payment Initiative (ADDI). Program income for the CDBG Program is expected to be \$260,000 and \$40,000 for the HOME Program. A combined total of \$3,622,737 is expected to be made available in 2006.

Community Development is accepting project proposals for grants that will be awarded August 1, 2006. Project applications are due March 1, 2006. Applications for the development of affordable rental housing were due on January 27, 2006 through a separate RFP process. [Project proposal forms were made available to the attendees, who were advised that the CD staff would assist them if they have questions.]

All funds will be used to continue existing programs and to identify new housing and community development activities that principally benefit low-moderate income persons. The public is encouraged to participate in the planning process by proposing projects that serve community needs and by commenting on projects proposed by local towns, villages and agencies.

In accordance with federal regulations, a Notice of Funding Availability was published in the January 25, 2006 issues of The Shopping Bag Advertiser and The Daily Record to encourage comments from private citizens, consortium members and community service agencies."

Twenty-one people, including speakers and CD staff members, attended. There were three public speakers who expressed comments which are summarized below:

Two representatives from the Salvation Army, a former sub-recipient that administers the After Care Program for homeless youths, commented. The Director of Development stated that Genesis House is the only emergency shelter for older youths between the ages of 16-20 and asked that the County reinstate funding to this program. The agency has limited funding after relocating the women's shelter and opening the Safe Haven last year. The Genesis House Program Director feels the program is vital to transitioning youth back into the community and suggested that the County consider future funding.

An employee of the Center for Disability Rights suggested that the County consider accessibility for mobility challenges and hearing and visual impairments when building affordable housing. She asked that the County consider access that fits everyone, not just the ADA standards that govern affordable housing development.

The second public hearing will be held on May 25, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. at the East Rochester Village Offices, 120 West Commercial Street, which is fully accessible. The hearing was videotaped and is available to the public upon request. Dawn Nettin, Community Development Manager, conducted the hearing and informed the public of the following:

"The purpose of this meeting is to receive comments on the 2006 Annual Action Plan for Housing and Community Development in Suburban Monroe County, which was made available for public comment on May 10.

Monroe County expects to receive a combined allocation of \$3,322,737 from HUD for these programs. The County's CDBG allocation is \$1,973,063, the HOME allocation is \$1,320,057, and the ADDI allocation is \$29,617. This year's combined allocation is \$343,594 more than last year.

Estimated program income (interest on outstanding loans and other repayments) is expected to total \$260,000 for the CDBG program and \$50,000 for the HOME program. [This estimate is \$10,000 more than the first public hearing.] The combined total, including program income, is \$3,632,737.

Monroe County does not intend reprogram previously obligated CDBG funds or reprogram unspent CDBG funds during this program year.

Eligible projects include affordable housing, public works, public facility improvements, economic development, and essential community services.

In accordance with federal regulations, Monroe County published a complete list of proposed projects in The Shopping Bag Advertiser and The Daily Record on May 10th, to solicit participation from the public in the planning process for the program period and to encourage comments from private citizens, consortium members and agencies.

The 30-day public comment period began May 10th and concludes on June 9th. You may call the Community Development Division or submit written comments until June 9th. You may also submit comments by email to mcplanning@monroecounty.gov.

Monroe County will consider all comments for incorporation into the Action Plan, which is due to HUD on June 17. Monroe County will respond to all comments received today in writing.

Monroe County appreciates your comments on these programs and thanks you for attending." [There were no speakers at the hearing.]

A member of the public called during the public comment period to express his continued interest in funding for support services at affordable rental housing developments as a means to provide programming and activities for children and youth.

3. Efforts to Broaden Public Participation

The proposed Action Plan is sent to all consortium members, program sub-recipients and interested community development agencies. The Plan is available free of charge in paper copy or CD format from the Community Development Office of the Department of Planning and Development. The document is also posted on the County's website at www.monroecounty.gov.

The FONSI/IRROF is another public notice that will be published in August for public commentary. It describes the County's intent to request the release of funds from HUD and lists projects that have received negative environmental declarations.

CD will continue to provide promotional materials to educate residents on CD-funded programs. monroecounty.gov provides interested persons with immediate access to program materials. Information is also disseminated at municipal offices and local housing agencies to reach special populations of low-mod income, elderly and disabled residents. Notices are issued to allow reasonable and timely notification of local meetings and encourage citizen participation throughout all stages of the program.

Technical assistance is provided upon request to housing, economic and community development agencies and community task forces and committees for elderly, disabled and homeless persons. Outreach and assistance is also available to low-mod residents of public housing facilities. CD sponsors workshops for low-mod income suburban residents on the Home Improvement Program, lead-based paint issues and available housing services.

4. Comments Not Accepted

First Public Hearing: It was suggested that the County reconsider CDBG funding of the Salvation Army's After Care Program for homeless youths. Unfortunately, grant amounts in community services must remain below the 15% regulatory cap. Requests for public services were nearly double the allowable limit in 2006. The threat of future spending cuts also inhibits CD's ability to create or reinstate activities that Monroe County may not be able to fund in the future.

Second Public Hearing: It was suggested that the County fund programming at affordable rental housing developments to create a positive, supportive environment for kids. Unfortunately, grant amounts in community services must remain below the 15% regulatory cap. Requests for public services were nearly double the allowable limit in 2006. The threat of future spending cuts also inhibits CD's ability to create activities that Monroe County may not be able to fund in the future.

Institutional Structure

1. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to develop institutional structure.

Program Year 2 Action Plan Institutional Structure response:

1. Actions to Develop Institutional Structure

CD will continue to work closely with all applicable public, private and government entities within Monroe County's organizational structure to further enhance collaboration and communication and improve program delivery. Toward this goal, County staff meets with RHA staff every six months to coordinate HOME funded affordable housing efforts through the Section 8 Program and other services provided by RHA. These sessions are particularly important as a result of the recent organizational changes at RHA.

Staff participation in the CoC expanded to include the Monitoring Subcommittee, in addition to the existing Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) Subcommittee, the Subcommittee to End Homelessness in 10 Years, and the Severe Weather Plan Subcommittee. Staff will continue to coordinate activities and outreach with the Manager of Monroe County's Office of Faith Based & Community Initiatives to effectively implement HUD guidelines for the equitable treatment of faith-based organizations.

ED Staff will coordinate the CDBG funded Revolving Economic Development (ED) Grant and Loan Fund with new programs developed in the community and the agencies that administer them, including the new Entrepreneurs Network that offers intensive training and mentoring for high-tech entrepreneurs.

Monitoring

1. Describe actions that will take place during the next year to monitor its housing and community development projects and ensure long-term compliance with program requirements and comprehensive planning requirements.

Program Year 2 Action Plan Monitoring response:

- a) CDBG Project Monitoring

The CDBG Program is monitored using standard Monroe County financial practices and federal program regulations to measure fiscal, regulatory and programmatic performance and compliance of all activities with local, state and federal regulations. Policies establish project eligibility compliance with primary and national objectives. Detailed contracts between Monroe County and the sub-grantee specify project goals and objectives, as well as agreed upon costs and services.

Uniform financial procedures scrutinize the legitimacy and appropriateness of project costs. Sub-grantees submit claim vouchers with progress reports and statistical data to obtain reimbursement. Voucher materials are project specific to include invoices for materials purchased, personnel records for labor involved, a detailed scope of services performed, and other data to evidence project costs. Narrative documentation includes program status reports, a description of services performed, and a breakdown of project beneficiaries by income, age, residence, ethnic background and disability.

Seven public service projects will be funded in 2006. Five involve housing services, one project provides minor home modifications for seniors and one project is an equipment purchase for a special needs agency. In-house reviews will be conducted with all sub-recipients to evaluate contracts, progress reports, vouchers and financial materials. Monitoring visits are conducted to insure that services are provided in compliance with federal regulations. Sub-recipients are given specific monitoring forms to record activities in progress and to identify project beneficiaries by income, age, residence, ethnic background and disability. Staff monitors performance and effectiveness in reaching target recipients, program objectives and compliance with regulations, formulate monitoring strategies and recommend appropriate follow-up actions. In-depth project reviews will be conducted annually to insure compliance.

Twenty-seven public works and facility improvement projects will be funded in 2006. During the eligibility analysis on these projects, beneficiaries are projected by number, income, age, residence, ethnic background and disability. All construction projects are evaluated to insure that the proper HUD Procurement method is used.

For public bid projects, CD staff will meet with project engineers and municipal project managers to ensure that contract agreements, bid documents and public bid notices comply with federal regulations, specifically labor standards provisions, as they relate to Davis Bacon Wage Rates, EEO, M/WBE plan, funding clauses, Section 3 provisions and applicable federal, state and local certifications. All contractors and subcontractors will be reviewed against the federal lists of suspended and debarred contractors and must also sign a County Debarment Certification to verify that they are not listed on any other suspended or debarred list.

Staff will attend pre-bid and bid openings, pre-construction conferences and other progress meetings. Projects are monitored with an initial inspection to verify that federal notices are posted and to verify the site prior to construction. Progress inspections will be conducted to verify that work billed to the County has been completed. One employee of each contractor and sub-contractor is interviewed in accordance with HUD guidelines. Final inspections are performed with the project engineer to verify the satisfactory completion of the project, evidenced by photos.

For construction projects performed by municipal work forces, CD staff will meet with municipal staff to execute contracts between municipalities and the County and describe the force account process. Reimbursable items are materials purchased, the cost of labor and fringe benefits for municipal workers and the cost of any equipment rented to accomplish the project.

The Revolving ED Grant & Loan Fund, uses HUD guidelines as a framework for financially underwriting and selecting eligible businesses to receive assistance. HUD's public benefit standards are used to insure compliance. Eligible businesses must demonstrate that the assistance is appropriate and commit to making 51% of full-time new or retained jobs available to low-mod income persons and provide training as needed. Businesses must list permanent jobs created or retained, jobs available to low-mod income persons, jobs requiring special skills or education, part-time jobs, and actions taken to insure first consideration of low-mod income persons. For job retention, evidence that jobs would be lost without funding is needed. Businesses must also provide documents to evidence compliance with the income benefit requirements for all beneficiaries.

The CAPER and IDIS are effective monitoring resource documents that contain the financial status and performance measures for funded activities. Other records are Monroe County internal audit and sub-recipient audit reports, Public Service Monitoring Visit reports, construction inspection documents and project contracts.

b) HOME Program Monitoring

To ensure HOME Program compliance during 2005-06, the minimum number of monitoring visits was increased to two visits for each type of rental housing project (disabled, elderly and family). During 2005, two family and two elderly rental housing project monitoring visits were conducted. Two disabled rental projects are scheduled to be conducted during the spring of 2006. During 2006-07, the minimum number of monitoring visits will remain at or exceed two visits for each type of rental housing project.

All rental housing projects will continue to be monitored to determine compliance with Housing Quality Standards (HQS) and federal regulations (24 CFR 92) to verify that the project owner maintains the appropriate mix of low-income tenants throughout the compliance period; collects the required information and annually determines the income eligibility of tenants in the assisted units; collects rents that do not exceed the HOME maximum rents, and maintains the units in accordance with HQS.

Prior to construction, staff will assist developers with construction bid documents to ensure inclusion of federal regulations and attend bid openings and pre-construction meetings to assure compliance with HUD requirements. During construction, staff attends frequent on-site meetings and performs periodic inspections. After completion of construction, staff conducts inspections of a sufficient sample of units to ensure that the owner maintains units in compliance with Section 8 HQS. The CAPER and other records will continue to be kept this year to verify income certification, rent levels, ethnic groups served, family size, type of unit, and sales price of unit to insure compliance with program regulations and the housing strategic plan.

The Home Improvement Program (HIP) will continue to be monitored using the existing system. Program applications are taken on a first-come, first-served basis with priority given to health and safety related emergencies. The selection criteria is: household income at or below 80% AMI, cash or liquid assets below \$20,000, property ownership for at least 1 year with all taxes paid, and the owner must not have received HIP grants in the past. General contractors, selected by the homeowner, provide direct supervision of all rehabilitation work. Rehab staff conducts eligibility inspections prior to funding, environmental reviews, prepares work specifications, assists homeowners in obtaining estimates, and verifies that completed improvements meet or exceed federal HQS. Lead-based paint federal regulations apply most to this program and were implemented in 2000. Housing staff prepares program grant and loan agreements and monitors projects during the required recapture period by recording liens against each property.

c) Compliance with Match Requirements

Match contributions will be made from non federal resources and will be in the form of one or more of the sources permissible under Section 92.220. The match contributions will total no less than 25 percent of the funds drawn from the County's HOME Investment Trust Fund Treasury account in the fiscal year. The statutory requirements of the American Dream Downpayment Initiative (ADDI) establish that FY 2003 ADDI funding is subject to HOME match requirements. All projects allocating 2003 ADDI funds will be included in Monroe County's match calculations and documentation. Match requirements do not apply to the 2004-2007 ADDI allocations. Monroe County maintains records demonstrating compliance with HOME match requirements, including a running log and project records documenting the type and amount of match contributions by project. Match funds earned in 2004 in the amount of \$569,111 exceeded match requirements and allowed the County to carry forward \$1,755,189 in match for the 2005 program year. Monroe County is currently carrying forward \$1,778,096 million in available match.

The HOME Program attracts substantial private and other public dollars into its funded projects. The potential sources of these leveraged funds (other than match funds) are many: investor equity, including tax credit syndications; homebuyer down payments; private rental and home ownership loans; other state, federal and local housing and community development programs and foundations.

Lead-based Paint

1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to evaluate and reduce the number of housing units containing lead-based paint hazards in order to increase the inventory of lead-safe housing available to extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families.

Program Year 2 Action Plan Lead-based Paint response:

1. Actions to Evaluate and Reduce Housing Units Containing Lead-Based Paint Hazards

In 2006, the CD Division will continue to enforce actions specific to its housing programs in lead-based paint hazard identification, disclosure and reduction. The recent changes made to the Home Improvement Grant and Loan Programs has increased the number of homeowners that are eligible for assistance, many of whom require financial assistance in the remediation of lead-based paint hazards. Lead-based paint hazard reduction activities are expected to make up a large percentage of the repairs undertaken this year in the Home Improvement Program. Federal requirements for lead-safe work practices and contractor certifications have substantially increased the costs of home repairs, making it much more difficult to accomplish all that is necessary to ensure that health and safety related deficiencies are corrected. For this reason, CD has again allocated substantial CDBG and HOME funds to the Home Improvement Program (HIP) for 2006.

In 2005 Monroe County issued a new Request for Proposals (RFP) for environmental testing and reporting services. This RFP process has resulted in a new contract with Proway Management, a local firm, for risk assessment and clearance inspection services.

All properties purchased through the County's First-Time Homebuyer Program must have inspections for lead-based paint hazards prior to final approval of applications for assistance. Purchase subsidies are only issued after receipt of inspection reports revealing that there are no lead-based paint hazards present at the time of purchase.

The Monroe County Department of Public Health is the lead agency in regard to lead poisoning prevention.

The Monroe County Department of Public Health Lead Program is applying for another HUD Grant that, if awarded, will begin in January 2007 and continue through December 2009. Nearly \$3 million (\$2,998,579) is requested to provide lead hazard control for 370 units with an estimated 850 children being protected after the lead hazard control is completed.

The Monroe County Department of Public Health Lead Program received another \$100,000 healthy neighborhoods grant for outreach from the NYSDOH. The grant runs through September 2006. The focus of the grant is primary prevention for childhood lead poisoning. An environmental health sanitarian will perform three hundred (300) initial visits in the 6 highest risk zip codes for lead poisoning (14605, 14608, 14609, 14611, 14619, and 14621). Homes with children without a previous elevated blood level will be targeted as part of this grant. A total of 100 follow up visits are required. A room-by-room inspection and a survey form will be completed for each home. Topics covered will include; lead poisoning prevention (deteriorated paint, dust, cleaning, nutrition), fire safety issues, carbon monoxide, general sanitation issues, code violations, electrical problems and mold. Referrals will be made to MCDOPH programs and other agencies when problems are identified. A deteriorated paint survey form will be given to the resident (tenant/homeowner), along with information on City and County HUD grant programs. Lead Safe Work Practices training will be provided to a minimum of 73 persons residing in, owning, maintaining or renovating homes in the target zip codes. Property owners who

successfully complete the lead safe work practices training will be invited to receive free paint and low cost supplies, if they agree to address some of the deteriorated paint which was identified during the visual assessment. The sanitarian assigned to this grant will work with the property owner to insure that lead safe work practices are being utilized. An improvement in the condition of some deteriorated surfaces is the goal of this primary prevention portion of the grant.

Lead Safe Work Practices Training - All persons conducting the lead hazard control work that is ordered in the "Notice and Demand," must successfully complete an approved 8-hour Housing and Urban Development "Lead Safe Work Practices" (LSWP) class. Prior to the commencement of lead hazard control work, the recipient of the "Notice and Demand" must submit proof of LSWP training to the MCPHD for all such persons. The acceptable proof of training shall be the class certificate issued by the LSWP training provider. The purpose of this class is to provide workers with information they need to understand that lead-based paint can create health hazards and that using proper work practices can control hazards. The Cornell School of Industrial Relations is the EPA certified training provider again for 2006. The MCPHD Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program provides this training free of charge to the community at an annual cost of \$26,000 for a total of 21 classes.

HOUSING

Specific Housing Objectives

*Please also refer to the Housing Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Describe the priorities and specific objectives the jurisdiction hopes to achieve during the next year.
2. Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by this Action Plan.

Program Year 2 Action Plan Specific Objectives response:

1. Priorities and Objectives

The specific objectives developed to expand the provision of affordable housing opportunities and ensure fair housing choice are as follows:

- Develop additional rental units for low to moderate income elderly and handicapped/disabled households (with supportive services) and families
- Continue and enhance programs to assist low to moderate-income elderly, family and disabled homeowners to repair and maintain their homes, including accessibility improvements for those with disabilities
- Provide homeownership opportunities through the County's First-Time Homebuyer Program, including assistance to access the single family housing market for low to moderate-income families, particularly single headed households

- Educate and counsel residents to facilitate homeownership and housing stability
- Assist homeless persons, in accordance with the Homeless CoC Plan, to secure supportive housing (emergency, transitional and permanent) and services necessary to achieve independent living

In addition, private and non profit developers are encouraged to set aside rental units in proposed projects that are affordable to households in the 0-30% AMI income level. To achieve this objective, it may be necessary to increase the number of proposed units in a project to allow fixed costs for management and maintenance to be more widely spread in project operating budgets. Also, it may be possible to reduce debt service and increase equity in such projects through creative financing (i.e. increasing loan terms and combining various financial sources to provide increased funding amounts). In addition to serving households at and below 30% AMI, proposed affordable rental housing project applications that provide additional handicap accessible and/or adaptable units would enhance the potential to obtain County support and/or financial assistance.

2. Resources to Address Housing Needs

a) Housing rehabilitation will be addressed with \$770,000 from HOME and \$100,000 from CDBG to provide grants to homeowners for rehabilitation of substandard, single-family owner-occupied homes through the Home Improvement Program. The grants will provide health and safety related repairs, accessibility improvements, structural and major systems repairs as well as energy conservation improvements to 85 low to moderate-income homeowners.

b) Homeownership will be addressed through three funding sources. The CDBG program will fund the Homeownership Program provided by sub-recipient Providence Housing Development Corporation (\$86,000). This program will provide pre- and post-purchase counseling to prospective first-time homebuyer families. Downpayment, closing cost and principal reduction assistance will be provided through the \$150,000 HOME allocation as well as current (\$29,617) and prior years' allocation of ADDI funds. The 2006 ADDI allocation should provide direct assistance to 8 first-time homebuyers.

c) Affordable Rental Housing Development will use \$198,009 in HOME CHDO set-aside (15%) funds and \$115,043 in HOME funds for the development of rental housing for low to moderate-income elderly, families and persons with special needs, as described below.

To ensure fair housing choice through the provision of affordable housing opportunities, the HOME Consortium, including Monroe County and the Towns of Greece and Irondequoit, works with both non profit development corporations and for profit private corporations to develop affordable housing projects.

During the 2006-2007 application round, the County approved and committed HOME Program financing to five (5) affordable housing proposals received. Four of the five proposed project developers submitted applications to the NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal through the NYS Low Income Housing Trust Fund/HOME/Low Income Credit Program. The deadline for submission of NYS DHCR HTFC 2006 Unified Funding Round applications was February 27, 2006. If all four County HOME funding commitment project applications are also approved and financed by NYS, the proposed County financed projects will produce 114 (1 & 2 bedroom) apartments and 6 town house units for older adults (age 55 and older) and 40 (1, 2 & 3 bedroom) family units. The fifth pending project will produce 54 (1 and 2 bedroom) family units if an application is submitted to NYS in 2007 and the project application is approved and financed by NYS and the County.

Prior years' HOME funds designated for the development of affordable rental housing, but not obligated to a specific project, will be used to fund one or more of the proposed rental projects detailed below. Descriptions of the five proposed affordable rental housing project applications that received Monroe County 2006 HOME funding commitments are listed below. Information regarding the number of accessible and adaptable units is from project developers.

Project Name: Ada Ridge Court II

- Proposed Funds: HOME - \$450,000 Loan
- Developer: Rural Housing Opportunities Corporation
- Description: 1-bedroom apartments (new construction)
- Location: Greece
- Target Population: Elderly (Age 55+), with incomes below 50 and 30% AMI
- Total Units: 45
- Accessible Units: 7
- Adaptable Units: 38
- Total Project Cost: \$6,265,647

Project Name: St. Salome Apartments

- Proposed Funds: HOME - \$390,000 Loan
- Developer: Providence Housing Development Corporation
- Description: 1-bedroom apartments and 2-bedroom townhouses (redevelopment of 1-story vacant school into "L" shaped 1 and 2-bedroom apartment building, and new construction of 2-bedroom townhouses)
- Location: Irondequoit
- Target Population: Elderly (Age 55+) with incomes below 50 and 30% AMI
- Total Units: 39 (29, 1-bedroom and 4, 2-bedroom apts. and 6, 2-bedroom townhouses)
- Accessible Units: 2
- Adaptable Units: 37
- Total Project Cost: \$8,539,236

Project Name: Seneca Place Apartments

- Proposed Funds: HOME - \$300,000 Loan
- Developer: Conifer Realty, LLC
- Description: 1, 2 and 3-bedroom apartments (new construction)

- Location: Village of Honeoye Falls
- Target Population: Families with incomes below 50 and 30% AMI, preference given to visually impaired
- Total Units: 40 (20, 1-bedroom and 12, 2-bedroom and 8, 3-bedroom)
- Accessible Units: 2
- Adaptable Units: 34
- Total Project Cost: \$5,336,783

Project Name: Heritage Village (On Hold)

- Proposed Funds: HOME - \$275,000
- Developers: Heritage Christian Services
- Description: 1 and 2-bedroom apartments (new construction)
- Location: Penfield
- Target Population: Families and developmentally disabled individuals with incomes below 60 and 40% AMI
- Total Units: 54 (4, 1-bedroom and 50, 2-bedroom)
- Total Project Cost: \$6,126,071

Project Name: East Linden Senior Community

- Proposed Funds: HOME - \$250,000 Loan
- Developers: ISLA Housing and Development Corporation
- Description: 1 bedroom apartments (new construction)
- Location: Village of East Rochester
- Target Population: Elderly with incomes below 50 and 30% AMI
- Total Units: 36 (1-bedroom)
- Accessible Units: 6
- Adaptable Units: 30
- Total Project Cost: \$6,367,044

A map of the 2006 proposed HOME-funded affordable housing projects and an updated list and map of previous projects funded by the County CDBG and HOME Programs appear in the Appendix.

Needs of Public Housing

1. Describe the manner in which the plan of the jurisdiction will help address the needs of public housing and activities it will undertake during the next year to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership.
2. If the public housing agency is designated as "troubled" by HUD or otherwise is performing poorly, the jurisdiction shall describe the manner in which it will provide financial or other assistance in improving its operations to remove such designation during the next year.

Program Year 2 Action Plan Public Housing Strategy response:

1. Addressing Needs of Public Housing

Please refer to the following updated sections pertaining to the two existing Section 8 Programs administered by the Fairport Urban Renewal Agency (FURA) and Rochester Housing Authority (RHA):

a) RHA Public Housing Located in Suburban Monroe County

Number of Units (Occupied and Unoccupied) - To date, only one (1) suburban Monroe County public housing rental project is maintained by RHA outside of the City of Rochester. This project, Antoinette Blackwell Estates, is located in the Town of Henrietta. Antoinette Blackwell Estates was developed prior to a legal opinion stating that RHA is prohibited from owning property outside of the City of Rochester. Antoinette Blackwell Estates consists of 100-units (99, 1-Bdrm and 1, 2-Bdrm) for elderly households. In March 2006, occupancy reports indicated that 96 units are occupied and four (4) units are vacant (96% occupancy rate).

Physical Condition - None of the occupied or unoccupied units are classified as substandard.

Restoration and Revitalization Needs - RHA has determined that approximately \$60,000 annually is necessary to rehabilitate the units at Antoinette Blackwell Estates.

b) RHA Public Housing Located in the City of Rochester

Number of Units (Occupied and Unoccupied) - The need for public housing continues to be significant. A steady demand for family public housing units continues, while there is a good supply of affordable public housing located in the City of Rochester for the elderly. As of April 2006 the number of occupied units in the City totaled 2,222, and the number of vacant units is 63 (37 0 & 1-Bdrm, 12 2-Bdrm and 14 3+Bdrm), which represents an occupancy rate of 97%. These totals include the 15 units at Anthony Square.

As mentioned above, 96 of the 100 units at Antoinette Blackwell Estates located suburban Monroe County are also occupied which brings the total RHA public housing units that are occupied to 2,318, an overall program occupancy rate of 97% for the 2,385 public housing units located in the Rochester/Monroe County area.

Public Housing Waiting List

The number of families/households on the public housing waiting list as of March 2006 is 1,241, which represents an increase of approximately ten percent (10%) in one year. The total number of RHA public housing units is 2,385 (100 elderly units located in suburban Monroe County at Antoinette Blackwell Estates, 15 units at Anthony Square, and 2,270 units located in the City of Rochester). Significant demand exists for public housing as evidenced by the waiting lists. There is nearly two and a half times the demand for family housing compared to the demand for elderly housing. The demand for elderly housing increased substantially since 2005. For families, the greatest demand is for two bedroom units. Designated elderly housing is public housing exclusively available to persons age 50 and older. Non-designated elderly housing is housing available to either the elderly or individuals below 50 years of age that are disabled or handicapped. Currently, RHA has designated 899 units exclusively for elderly occupancy, and 477 non-designated elderly housing units for occupancy by either the elderly or persons with disabilities totaling 1,376, 0 and 1-bedroom units.

RHA is currently accepting applications for public housing. After meeting income criteria, prospective applicants for public housing are selected according to the date of application and the availability of a unit appropriate for the applicant's household size.

c) Physical Condition (Restoration and Revitalization Needs)

None of the occupied or unoccupied units located in the City are classified as substandard. The physical condition of RHA's public housing units located in the City of Rochester and Suburban Monroe County is very good, as evidenced by HUD's overall assessment score for RHA of 86%.

The restoration and revitalization needs of RHA public housing are detailed in RHA's five-year Capital Comprehensive Fund Programs (CFP) plan which is produced annually on an overlapping basis.

The CFP five-year spending plan is established for physical improvements, management improvements, and supportive services for public housing residents. Each year RHA will receive an annual formula allocation to address identified needs. Under the most recent FY-2006 CFP Plan totals, RHA will receive approximately \$4.7 million. The approved plan covers Federal Fiscal Years 2006-2010. The CFP plan is based upon a complete evaluation of the public housing units that are included in RHA's inventory. Presented in the plan is a physical needs assessment for each of RHA's 26 project locations and its scattered sites. The plan also identifies activities to improve management and to provide support services to residents.

Management and Operations

RHA is proposing \$353,000 (CFP 50105) in management/operational improvements through the CFP for FY 2004. Management improvements assist in enhancing property management operations and services, while expanding tenant involvement in property management. Management improvements for FY 2006 include:

- Provide additional maintenance staff training
- Continue water management program
- Update computer software, including preventive maintenance scheduling, and provide related staff training

A complete copy of the CFP plan may be reviewed at the following location:

Rochester Housing Authority
Executive and Administrative Offices
675 West Main Street
Rochester, New York 14611

SECTION 8 HOUSING PROGRAM

Suburban Monroe County

In 2000, HUD approved the transfer of the Irondequoit, Penfield and Greece Section 8 Programs to RHA. This reduced the number of Section 8 Programs in the Rochester/Monroe County area from five to two. RHA and the Fairport Urban Renewal Agency (FURA) administer the two existing Section 8 Programs. RHA currently administers the City/County Program and FURA administers the Fairport Program. The transfer of the three Section 8 Programs resulted in the consolidation of Section 8 Certificates and Vouchers, and the expansion of RHA's inventory in 2000 to 6,667, which included 225 vouchers from Greece, 199 from Irondequoit, and 355 from Penfield (including the 294 from Penbrooke Meadows Apartments). RHA's current inventory is 6,805. A centralized waiting list currently exists in the Rochester/Monroe County area, with the exception of the Fairport program, as a result of the transfer of programs to RHA. In addition the RHA program includes over 500 Shelter Plus Care Households.

The FURA Section 8 Program increased from 368 Vouchers to 393 Vouchers effective September 30, 2002 through the Fair Share Section 8 Program. The FURA Section 8 Program territory encompasses the Town of Macedon within Wayne County and the eastern part of Monroe County, excluding the Town of Irondequoit and the City of Rochester. In addition, the FURA administers ten (10) Section 8 Project-Based units in the 21 unit Fairport Crosman Senior Apartments project located in the Village of Fairport.

FURA Tenant-Based (Section 8) Waiting List Program

In addition to the 393 vouchers for tenants receiving tenant-based assistance in privately owned units included in the FURA Housing Authority's Section 8 inventory, as of April 1, 2006, there were 332 families/households on the FURA Section 8 waiting list. FURA re-opened the waiting list April 1, 2005 after being closed for one year. Even after being closed for one year, and continually purging older non-responsive applications, the wait for families to be assisted still remains between 1½ to 3 years. The demand for Section 8 for families with extremely low-income limits (below 30% AMI) is the greatest at 70% of the waiting list, and continues to grow substantially each year. In 2005, extremely low-income family households represented 55% of the waiting list. The rest of the demand is for higher income families, but not over 50% AMI. The current applicant makeup of the waiting list is 18% elderly, 26% disabled, and the remaining are families with children.

RHA Program Participants Residing in Suburban Monroe County

Current RHA Section 8 and Shelter Plus Care household participants by Town include: Brighton, Chili, Clarkson, East Rochester, Gates, Greece, Hamlin, Henrietta, Irondequoit, Mendon, Ogden, Parma, Penfield, Perinton, Pittsford, Riga, Rush, Sweden, Webster, and Wheatland.

RHA Tenant-Based (Section 8) Waiting List

There are a total of 6,805 vouchers for tenants receiving tenant-based assistance in privately owned units included in the Rochester Housing Authority's Section 8 inventory. This represents an increase of approximately 10% since 2005. As of March 2006, there were 1,919 families/households on the RHA Section 8 waiting list. As in the case of public housing, the demand for Section 8 one or two bedroom units is the greatest at 79%. The demand for one bedroom units however, now exceeds the demand for two bedroom units by 29%.

Currently, 91% of all RHA program participants and applicants have incomes below 30% of the AMI. RHA is required to target 75% of Section 8 assistance to households below 30% of the AMI. Of all of RHA's program participants, 72% reside within the City limits, 13% less than reported last year. The Section 8 waiting list was last opened in November 2003 and is now closed. RHA will reopen the waiting list as needed to utilize all vouchers available for Section 8 housing.

In April 2004, RHA was awarded 365 Enhanced Vouchers in conjunction with a Housing Conversion action at the English Village Apartment Complex in the Town of Greece. As a result of this March 1, 2005 conversion, 185 additional vouchers were awarded to RHA. There are a number of projects that are now looking into the conversion option.

Subsequent to implementing exception rents in most of the suburban towns in 1998 for one and two bedroom units, RHA has used its discretionary authority to set the one, two, three and four bedroom Section 8 Payment Standards at 110% of the Fair Market Rent (FMR) in all suburban towns. Additionally, based upon previous HUD approval, ten towns (Brighton, East Rochester, Henrietta, Irondequoit, Ogden, Penfield, Perinton, Pittsford, Webster and Wheatland) have payment standards ranging between 110% and 120% of the FMR.

RHA recently initiated a Section 8 Homeownership Program using Section 8 funds, which HUD approved. This program is designed to promote and support homeownership for "First-Time" homeowners. Through this program, eligible families are allowed to purchase a home with Section 8 payments being used to facilitate the transition from rental to homeownership. The Homeownership Program has produced forty closings. Approximately fifty percent of the forty Homeownership Program properties are located in suburban Monroe County (Chili, East Rochester, Gates, Greece, Henrietta, Riga, Irondequoit and Brockport). Those that purchased in the suburbs also received subsidies through Monroe County's First-Time Homebuyer Program.

Public Housing Agency's Strategies

RHA has been engaging in a multi-faceted approach to serve the needs of family households. These efforts currently include the administration of:

- Project-Based (Section 8) Voucher Program

- Self-sufficiency home-ownership programs administered out of RHA's Family Investment Center
- investigating the use of RHA's bonding capacity to fund private housing developments with the assistance of not-for-profit organizations

Public Housing Agency Plans

In accordance with the Quality Housing and Work Responsibilities Act (QHWR) of 1998, beginning with funding received in Federal Fiscal Year 2000, the RHA and FURA were both required to prepare a five-year plan and annual plans. As described in detail in the Public Housing Strategy of the five-year Strategic Plan, the Public Housing Agency Plans cover tenant-based assistance (Section 8) operations for both RHA and FURA public housing authorities, and also RHA's public housing operations.

A complete copy of the respective above referenced Agency Plans may be reviewed at the following locations:

Rochester Housing Authority
Executive and Administrative Office
675 west Main Street
Rochester, New York 14611

Fairport Urban Renewal Agency
Fairport Village Hall
31 South Main Street
Fairport, New York 14450

PUBLIC HOUSING RESIDENT INITIATIVES

Tenant Associations/Self Sufficiency Activities

The composition of the Resident Advisory Board has changed from 21 to 16 public housing residents. The Resident Advisory Board reviews and provides input into tenant related policies and RHA's Agency Plan. Twenty or more resident councils continue to develop and organize recreational and community activities for RHA residents. RHA provides staff support, facilities and financial assistance to encourage and support resident initiatives.

Living Environment

RHA continues its activities to improve the living environment of RHA residents. Enrichment activities are available to youth and adults. The following is a listing of activities provided:

Youth Programs

- a) Educational: After school and evening tutorial programs in conjunction with the City School District (Schools Nos. 2, 4, 6, 9 and 50), and the Urban League of Rochester
- b) Recreational: RHA Bowling League; Upstate Housing Authority Basketball League; Resident Summer Camp; City Recreational Programs

- c) Senior Citizen Programs: Consortium on Elderly Substance Abuse; Nutrition Centers (at 4 locations); RSVP Program; Visiting Nurse Service/Monroe County Health Department; Grocery Shopping Bus Service
- d) Crime Prevention: Security Consultant Services; Crime prevention lectures, displays, security surveys, and patrols; Resident Crime Prevention Organizing/Tenant Security Programs; High-rise Guard Stations
- e) Other Counseling/Support Services: HIV/AIDS Support Group; Enriched Housing Program (at 3 locations); Catholic Family Center; Eviction Prevention Counseling; Social Services Counselor; Resident Council; Resident Advisory Board; Family Investment Center (FIC)

Specific Family Investment Center (FIC) activities include case management, education, training and employment services for residents to reach self-sufficiency and economic stability. Examples of some of the FIC programs are: Employment (skills assessment, job search assistance and job placement); Training (computer skills, construction trades, child care provider, financial assistance for other training opportunities, and job readiness training); Education (computer-assisted GED classes, scholarship assistance, post-GED math and reading review); Business Start-Up (small business development workshop and financial assistance for business start-up/micro-loan); Family Self-Sufficiency (homebuyer seminars, budgeting and household finances, time management, family support, financial counseling services, credit restoration and money management); and Support Groups (barriers to success, mental wellness, nutrition and values clarification).

Section 8 Program - Homeownership Opportunities

HUD issued the final regulations on September 12, 2000 authorizing the use of Section 8 housing subsidies to encourage homeownership opportunities. RHA operates two Section 8 homeownership programs; one a tenant-based (Section 8 voucher holder) program and the other, a public housing tenant based program. Clients enroll in the RHA's Family Investment Center program to prepare for homeownership opportunities.

Under RHA's new Section 8 Homeownership Program, the Section 8 participant's portion of the monthly housing payment is applied to a mortgage along with the Section 8 housing payment. The County, Providence Housing Development Corporation and RHA are working together to provide Section 8 Homeownership Program opportunities. RHA had its first closing in the Homeownership Program in December 2001. The Homeownership Program has produced forty closings. Of the forty homeowners, approximately fifty percent are located in suburban Monroe County (Chili, East Rochester, Gates, Greece, Henrietta, Riga Irondequoit and Brockport).

Rochester Housing Authority – Community Choice Initiatives

Two of the eighty-one strategies described in the 1996 Fair Housing Community Choice Action Plan and identified as priorities in the April, Action Plan – Phase I, specifically recommend the participation of RHA in facilitating suburban Monroe County housing opportunities. The status of these two Community Choice Action Plan strategies are described in the five-year Strategic Plan. Please refer to the outcome that has been updated for one of the two RHA strategies as follows:

Strategy #31

Investigate RHA's ability to participate in owning, managing or increasing affordable housing units throughout Monroe County, particularly for very low-income households, e.g., providing project-based Section 8 certificates to enhance project feasibility. Section 8 project-based units are available to households with incomes at or below 30% of the AMI under the RHA Section 8 Project-Based Certificate and Voucher Programs.

Outcome: As a result of various RFP's, RHA recently approved the following Project Based Assistance commitments, for two County priority projects, which are in various states of approval: Seneca Place Apartments, Village of Honeoye Falls (Family/Disabled Rental - 8 Section 8 PBA of 40 units); and St. Salome Apartments, Town of Irondequoit (Elderly Rental – 8 PBA of 39 units).

2. N/A

Barriers to Affordable Housing

1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to remove barriers to affordable housing.

Program Year 2 Action Plan Barriers to Affordable Housing response:

1. Actions to Remove Barriers to Affordable Housing

The Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) was completed by The Housing Council in December 2005 and submitted to HUD in January 2006. As indicated in the Strategic Plan, the AI report is a review of impediments to fair housing choice in the public and private sector. Until the AI report has been presented for review and recommendations to all of the AI focus groups, including the Community Choice Advisory Committee, and the Steering Committee, it is presumed that the November 21, 1996 Community Choice Action Plan remains in effect. Since funding for the Community Choice Advisory Committee expired at the end of the 2003 program year, the Advisory Committee has met to assume the role of an AI focus group, but has not held regularly scheduled meetings.

The AI analysis involves:

- An assessment of conditions, both public and private, affecting fair housing choice for all protected classes
- A comprehensive review of the jurisdiction's laws, regulations, and administrative policies, procedures and practices
- An assessment of how those laws, etc. affect the location, availability and accessibility of housing
- An assessment of the availability of affordable, accessible housing in a range of unit sizes

The 2005 AI report is available at both The Housing Council and the Community Development Office of the Department of Planning and Development.

The City completed a draft AI report in December 2005. The County looks forward to opportunities for coordinated partnerships and continued progress toward reaching the goal to expand fair housing initiatives.

The key objectives for developing this Action Plan are a) allow the Community Choice Advisory Committee and the Steering Committee to review the AI; and, b) coordinate with Greece and Irondequoit to draft a new Action Plan to implement recommendations contained in the AI. Additional actions may include, but are not limited to, seeking assistance to develop and implement an action plan, formulating a committee, commission or task force to identify and address short and long-term goals, developing a plan to present key findings and recommendations to the community-at-large.

HOME/ American Dream Down payment Initiative (ADDI)

1. Describe other forms of investment not described in § 92.205(b).
2. If the participating jurisdiction (PJ) will use HOME or ADDI funds for homebuyers, it must state the guidelines for resale or recapture, as required in § 92.254 of the HOME rule.
3. If the PJ will use HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is that is being rehabilitated with HOME funds, it must state its refinancing guidelines required under § 92.206(b). The guidelines shall describe the conditions under which the PJ will refinance existing debt. At a minimum these guidelines must:
 - a. Demonstrate that rehabilitation is the primary eligible activity and ensure that this requirement is met by establishing a minimum level of rehabilitation per unit or a required ratio between rehabilitation and refinancing.
 - b. Require a review of management practices to demonstrate that disinvestments in the property has not occurred; that the long-term needs of the project can be met; and that the feasibility of serving the targeted population over an extended affordability period can be demonstrated.
 - c. State whether the new investment is being made to maintain current affordable units, create additional affordable units, or both.
 - d. Specify the required period of affordability, whether it is the minimum 15 years or longer.
 - e. Specify whether the investment of HOME funds may be jurisdiction-wide or limited to a specific geographic area, such as a neighborhood identified in a neighborhood revitalization strategy under 24 CFR 91.215(e)(2) or a Federally designated Empowerment Zone or Enterprise Community.
 - f. State that HOME funds cannot be used to refinance multifamily loans made or insured by any federal program, including CDBG.
4. If the PJ is going to receive American Dream Down payment Initiative (ADDI) funds, please complete the following narratives:

- a. Describe the planned use of the ADDI funds.
- b. Describe the PJ's plan for conducting targeted outreach to residents and tenants of public housing and manufactured housing and to other families assisted by public housing agencies, for the purposes of ensuring that the ADDI funds are used to provide down payment assistance for such residents, tenants, and families.
- c. Describe the actions to be taken to ensure the suitability of families receiving ADDI funds to undertake and maintain homeownership, such as provision of housing counseling to homebuyers.

Program Year 2 Action Plan HOME/ADDI response:

1. Other Forms of Investment
N/A

2. Resale/Recapture Guidelines for Homebuyers

Monroe County provides conditional grants to eligible applicants in the First-Time Homebuyer Program to reduce the cost of purchasing eligible single-family properties. At the time that an applicant enters into a Purchase Agreement on an eligible property, the applicant accepts the amount, terms and conditions of the grant by execution of a Buyer's Agreement.

At the time of closing, a Note and Mortgage is executed by each homebuyer and recorded, securing the total grant funds awarded for the purchase, and obligating the applicant to recapture provisions if they fail to reside in the purchased property for the requisite affordability period. This HUD-approved practice will continue in effect for all future homeownership activities, including the subsidies provided through HOME and ADDI.

3. Refinancing Guidelines
N/A

4. American Dream Down Payment Initiative (ADDI) Narratives

a. Planned Use of 2006 ADDI Funds

Monroe County's ADDI 2006 allocation is \$29,617. This funding will be administered in concert with the County's existing First-Time Homebuyer Program, which is operated under contract by Providence Housing Development Corporation. ADDI subsidy will be primarily targeted to families with incomes at or below 50% AMI, and those with disabilities. It is anticipated that an additional eight (8) families will be assisted with the 2006 ADDI allocation. Prior years' ADDI funds are proposed to serve thirty-three (33) families, for a total of 41 families assisted with ADDI subsidy. Subsidies will be allocated based on the buyer's need, with a minimum of \$1,000 and maximum of \$10,000 per family. The existing First-Time Homebuyer Program will continue to provide HOME subsidy to program participants with incomes between 50% and 80% AMI.

Monroe County has been operating the First Time Homebuyer Program for over ten years. Families below 50% AMI and those with accessibility needs typically require larger subsidies to enable them to purchase homes and maintain long-term affordability. The ADDI funds will be used to reduce the mortgage amounts needed by these families, and where appropriate, lower their interest rates enabling them to receive maximum benefit on a long-term basis.

Providence Housing Development Corporation will administer the ADDI and HOME funds under the existing CDBG-funded Homeownership Program, and will provide the same activities relative to outreach, counseling, education, subsidy packaging and referrals free of charge to program participants.

Providence has also partnered with the Rochester Housing Authority (RHA) to administer the Section 8 Homeownership Program in Monroe County. It is anticipated that ADDI funds will be allocated to some of these program participants who wish to purchase homes in suburban Monroe County.

b. Outreach Plan

Providence Housing Development Corporation will continue and expand on its existing marketing and outreach efforts under the Homeownership Program. Direct mailings of program information are sent to municipal offices, public housing complexes, mobile home parks, churches, recreation facilities and other non-profit agencies. Program staff is also responsible for administering the Section 8 Homeownership Program in Monroe County, and will utilize ADDI funds when appropriate to provide assistance to participant families. To ensure increased outreach to disabled individuals, program materials are distributed to all service agencies in Monroe County that serve this population. Staff participates in forums, meetings and other networking functions in the community.

All public notices and citizen participation activities of the County incorporate the ADDI allocation, including the direct mailing of notices and Plans to municipal offices and other interested agencies.

c. Actions to Ensure Program Participant Suitability

Under the Monroe County Homeownership Program, participants are provided with extensive one-on-one and group counseling and education. Providence staff has extensive training and certifications in housing counseling, homebuyer education and housing finance. All program participants will receive:

- personal one-on-one credit and household financial counseling
- pre-purchase financial assessments and homeownership education
- development of a personalized work plan, discussion of mortgage products
- eight-hour educational workshop tailored to the first-time homebuyer, including a home maintenance component
- guidance throughout the entire home buying process
- packaging of all available program subsidies
- post-purchase follow up counseling

Monroe County's existing Homeownership Program resale/recapture provisions will also apply to recipients of ADDI funds, specifically the recording of a five-year Note and Mortgage on each property receiving subsidy allocations. This ensures that notification is received when families are intending to sell, transfer or refinance their home during the five-year affordability period. All requests for release or subordination of these mortgages will initiate contact between the homeowners and program counselors to ensure that they are making prudent financial decisions and maintaining the long-term affordability of their homes.

HOMELESS

Specific Homeless Prevention Elements

*Please also refer to the Homeless Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Sources of Funds—Identify the private and public resources that the jurisdiction expects to receive during the next year to address homeless needs and to prevent homelessness. These include the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act programs, other special federal, state and local and private funds targeted to homeless individuals and families with children, especially the chronically homeless, the HUD formula programs, and any publicly-owned land or property. Please describe, briefly, the jurisdiction's plan for the investment and use of funds directed toward homelessness.
2. Homelessness—In a narrative, describe how the action plan will address the specific objectives of the Strategic Plan and, ultimately, the priority needs identified. Please also identify potential obstacles to completing these action steps.
3. Chronic homelessness—The jurisdiction must describe the specific planned action steps it will take over the next year aimed at eliminating chronic homelessness by 2012. Again, please identify barriers to achieving this.
4. Homelessness Prevention—The jurisdiction must describe its planned action steps over the next year to address the individual and families with children at imminent risk of becoming homeless.
5. Discharge Coordination Policy—Explain planned activities to implement a cohesive, community-wide Discharge Coordination Policy, and how, in the coming year, the community will move toward such a policy.

Program Year 2 Action Plan Special Needs response:

1. Sources of Funds

The total HUD CoC amount requested in 2005 to finance eighteen (18) local projects was \$7,025,532. In December 2005, HUD announced that twelve (12) Rochester-Monroe County CoC proposed projects received funding awards totaling \$3,454,520 for one-year project renewals. New projects were not awarded in the 2005 Super NOFA round. Described below are the six (6) new 2005 Super NOFA proposed priority projects selected by the CoC Team to fill a gap in the Rochester-Monroe County CoC system, which were not funded by HUD:

Priority 1: Rochester Housing Authority/Salvation Army - Housing for the Chronically Homeless (Tenant Based Rental Assistance) - \$584,755

This project would be the first “Housing First” program in this community, as well as the only project that will dedicate all of its beds and services to exclusively serve the chronically homeless. Shelter Plus Care funds will provide 16 units of tenant based rental assistance to participants. The Shelter Plus Care program will allow chronically homeless individuals who have histories of non-compliance with treatment and/or emergency shelter rules/structure, and could be sanctioned from or denied of income entitlements to access permanent housing. Intensive case management services will be provided by the Salvation Army (see Priority 1 below) to develop supportive relationship with participants to assist them in accessing or re-engaging with mental health/substance abuse treatment providers in the community.

Priority 2: Rochester Housing Authority/Salvation Army - Housing for the Chronically Homeless (Intensive Case Management Services) - \$264,479

This project would provide the intensive case management services for the Shelter Plus Care program described above, that will exclusively serve the chronically homeless. This population requires additional and unique support to maintain permanent housing. Developing a strong relationship with an on-going case manager is necessary to build the trust necessary to access or re-engage with existing mental health and/or substance abuse treatment providers and mainstream financial supports. Harm reduction techniques will be used in the interim. This project has become more crucial to this community due to state budget cuts ending the SNAP Program (MCDHS) that provided on-going case management to the chronically and hard to serve homeless.

Priority 5: Spiritus Christi Prison Outreach – Men’s Residency Program - \$292,000

This project would serve homeless men re-entering the community from the Monroe County Jail with histories of non-compliance with substance abuse/mental health treatment; 60% will be chronically homeless. They are often sanctioned from public benefits which make them ineligible for per diem reimbursements at other shelters, and unable to access treatment after release if not eligible for Medicaid.

Priority 6: Monroe County Legal Assistance Center – Access to Income and Health Care – \$96,000

Currently, legal services are not funded through the homeless continuum of care system. This project will assist those facing eviction within seven days from having to access the shelter system, as well as provide legal representation to those in the shelter system to secure income and health care so they can access permanent housing and treatment services.

Priority 9: The Housing Council – Homeless Housing Outreach 3 - \$479,244

Transitioning the homeless into permanent, affordable housing is this community's first priority and is the solution to ending homelessness. This project would provide housing specialists that will assist the homeless in accessing permanent, affordable housing with the appropriate level of support services. Housing search, budgeting/financial literacy, education on landlord/tenant rights and responsibilities and forming a network of landlords that will serve this population, will be the main focus of this project.

Priority 10: Recovery Homes of Rochester - \$150,000

Recovery Homes of Rochester would provide supportive, permanent housing for homeless women with substance abuse and/or mental health issues. Recovery Homes of Rochester currently operates permanent, supportive housing in three sites. The model is based on peer support and involving the residents in the management of the house.

2. Homelessness

The Rochester/Monroe County Homeless Continuum of Care 2006 Homeless Priorities are as follows:

1) Increase the supply of permanent, affordable housing with support services for the chronically homeless. (This includes Shelter Plus Care and Housing First Projects/Programs).

2) Increase the supply of permanent, affordable housing with support services for the homeless in general and targeted toward special needs populations:

- Older homeless youth; pregnant/parenting older homeless youth
- Homeless with criminal histories
- Homeless with poor credit histories
- Homeless with mental health and/or substance abuse issues
- Homeless families with children

3) Maintain current inventory of homeless housing and services at current levels.

The following other homeless priorities are not ranked in any order:

- Improve access to and capacity of permanent, supportive housing programs for the homeless
- Increase capacity and access to comprehensive Case Management Services (meeting basic needs through after care), Mental Health and/or Substance Abuse services for all homeless sub-populations and targeted toward older homeless youth, children residing in homeless housing with their parents and homeless persons not eligible or sanctioned from mainstream financial resources
- Employment Services/Job Placement Services for persons with little or no employment history
- Outreach/Engagement Services to the chronically homeless

The following priorities are not eligible for Super NOFA funding:

- Improvements to and coordination of discharge planning processes and protocols
- Homeless Prevention Services

- Community education and political advocacy around issues of homelessness and housing

Renewal Applications: - Must meet or exceed initial goals and objectives presented in original applications. These projects must be able to clearly demonstrate that the services provided continue to be a need of the homeless in this community, and are an essential component of the community's continuum of care.

Note: Only projects that meet these priorities and are eligible activities under the SuperNOFA will be rated.

CoC Homeless Population and Subpopulations

The following sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations and homeless subpopulations were reported in the 2005 CoC Super NOFA-Exhibit I Homeless Population and Subpopulations Chart:

Homeless Population

Sheltered in Emergency Housing

- Individuals – 232
- Persons in Homeless with Children Families – 194
(Families with Children – 69)
- Total = 426

Sheltered in Transitional Housing

- Individuals – 119
- Persons in Homeless with Children Families - 121
(Families with Children - 54)
- Total = 240

- TOTAL Sheltered in Emergency and Transitional Housing = 666

Unsheltered

- Individuals – 16
- Persons in Homeless with Children Families – 0
(Families with Children - 0)
- Total = 16

Sheltered and Unsheltered Homeless Population

- Homeless Individuals – 367
- Persons in Homeless with Children Families – 315
(Families with Children - 123)

- TOTAL = Sheltered and Unsheltered Homeless Population - 682

Homeless Subpopulations

Sheltered

- Chronically Homeless – 87; Unsheltered – 16; Total - 103
- Severely Mentally Ill – 192; Unsheltered – 0

- Chronic Substance Abuse – 233; Unsheltered - 0
- Veterans – 41; Unsheltered - 0
- Persons with HIV/AIDS – 31; Unsheltered - 0
- Victims of Domestic Violence – 83; Unsheltered - 0
- Youth (Under 18 years of age) – 8; Unsheltered – 0

- TOTAL Subpopulations Sheltered = 691

3. Chronic Homelessness

The 10 Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness Committee has been meeting to develop the Rochester-Monroe County 10-Year Plan. Research of other community Plans and successful models of Housing First projects has been completed. The Committee's initial research found that such a Plan will require the identification of additional resources, especially for ongoing operation of a Housing First model and/or for permanent supportive housing. Upon further analysis of planning efforts across the country, the Committee drafted a preliminary Plan outline and made the following recommendations:

- Include other homeless populations in this community's Plan, even though 10-Year Plans focus on the chronically homeless.
- Developing additional units of affordable, permanent supportive housing is the solution to ending homelessness and therefore, should be a key component of this community's 10-Year Plan.
- Build on the strong infrastructure of homeless housing and services that currently exists in this community
- Identify potential new funding sources for implementation of the 10-Year Plan

Potential partner organizations and community leaders have been identified and a list of potential community stakeholders has been developed. Communication is underway to release an official community announcement of the start of the joint planning effort to develop a 10 Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness.

Current Chronic Homelessness Strategy (2005)

Our past strategies continue as a strong framework on which we can build and they remain an integral part of our current strategy. We are especially pleased with the movement of the chronic homeless into our community's Shelter Plus Care programs that occurs mostly through our non-traditional case management programs. The support services, in addition to the affordable, permanent housing has allowed the chronically homeless to remain in permanent housing.

- The CoC Team continues to conduct monthly point in time surveys since February, 2002. Beginning in May 2003, the survey began asking shelter providers to provide numbers of individuals that fit either of the definitions of chronic homelessness to attempt to get an accurate picture of the number of chronic homeless. The Point in Time Survey on January 27, 2005 identified 103 individuals as being chronically homeless. We will continue to collect this information in our monthly data collection until HMIS system is fully implemented.

- The 10 Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness Committee is meeting regularly to develop this community's plan. Research of other community's plans and successful models of Housing First projects has been completed. Potential partner organizations and community leaders have been identified.
- The CoC Team continues to monitor the CoC system to ensure that the chronically homeless are accessing mainstream financial entitlements and mainstream service providers in a timely manner.
- The County, City, Red Cross, CoC Team and Poor People United developed and implemented a plan to assist the unsheltered homeless in accessing existing shelter beds and providing additional overflow beds during severe weather conditions beginning in the winter of 2004. Nightly outreach efforts, by a grassroots organizing group Poor People United, were conducted during the winter months to subway beds, bridges, and parking garages to arrange for placements in shelters or hotels when no shelter beds were available. This plan has been updated annually and continues to be used during severe weather conditions, even in the advent of the Safe Haven coming on line during the winter of 2006.
- The Special Needs Populations Committee of the HSN developed a list of resources and service providers available to homeless persons who are sanctioned or otherwise unable to access financial entitlement programs, many of whom are chronically homeless.
- The Special Needs Populations Committee of the HSN worked with Coordinated Care Service, Inc. (CCSI) to develop discharge guidelines from public in-patient mental health programs to out-patient treatment. An addendum to the plan was made with specific protocols for discharge of persons who were in homeless shelters to ensure shelter providers have information on medications, out-patient treatment provider, etc.

4. Homelessness Prevention

Described in detail in the Homelessness Prevention section of the Strategic Plan are the specific planned action steps that remain in effect for the 2006 program year, particularly those designed for individuals and families with children at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

5. Discharge Coordination Policy

The community continues to work toward the Discharge Coordination Policy detailed in the Strategic Plan.

Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG)

(States only) Describe the process for awarding grants to State recipients, and a description of how the allocation will be made available to units of local government.

Program Year 2 Action Plan ESG response:

N/A

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Development

*Please also refer to the Community Development Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Identify the jurisdiction's priority non-housing community development needs eligible for assistance by CDBG eligibility category specified in the Community Development Needs Table (formerly Table 2B), public facilities, public improvements, public services and economic development.
2. Identify specific long-term and short-term community development objectives (including economic development activities that create jobs), developed in accordance with the statutory goals described in section 24 CFR 91.1 and the primary objective of the CDBG program to provide decent housing and a suitable living environment and expand economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.

*Note: Each specific objective developed to address a priority need, must be identified by number and contain proposed accomplishments, the time period (i.e., one, two, three, or more years), and annual program year numeric goals the jurisdiction hopes to achieve in quantitative terms, or in other measurable terms as identified and defined by the jurisdiction.

Program Year 2 Action Plan Community Development response:

1. Priority Non-Housing Community Development Needs

Monroe County's non-housing Community Development needs for this program year generally align with the overall needs outlined in the Strategic Plan: improve access to and quality of public facilities; provide essential utility infrastructure in lower income areas; provide job training and economic development opportunities for low to moderate-income persons and persons with special needs; provide essential public services, particularly those that promote homeownership, fair housing and housing stability; and, revitalize neighborhoods.

By eligibility category, Monroe County's priority community development needs are as follows:

Public Facilities and Improvements - general (03); neighborhood facilities (03E); parks and recreation facilities (03F); water/sewer improvements (03J); flood drain improvements (03I); sidewalks (03L)

Projects in these categories include:

(03) General: Gates Town Hall/Library/Park ADA, Clarkson Town Hall ADA, Hamlin Town Hall ADA, Parma Pedestrian ADA Bridge, Wheatland/Scottsville Municipal Hall ADA, Salvation Army ADA at Genesis House, Genesee Country Village and Museum ADA

(03E) Neighborhood Facilities: Mendon Community Center ADA, Ogden Community Center ADA, Penfield Community Center ADA, Perinton Community Center ADA

(03F) Parks & Recreation Facilities: Monroe County Parks ADA, Chili Davis Park ADA, Riga Sanford Park ADA, Rush Park ADA, Webster Finn Park ADA, East Rochester Lyon Park, Honeoye Falls Main & Monroe Street Parks ADA

(03J) Water/Sewer Improvements: Henrietta Sanitary Sewer and Webster Water Main

(03I) Flood Drain Improvements: Brighton Storm Sewers

(03L) Sidewalks: Pittsford Village Sidewalks (ADA), Sweden Sidewalks and Brockport Sidewalks

Housing - construction of housing (12); direct homeownership assistance (13); rehab single-unit residential (14A); rehab multi-unit residential (14B); rehabilitation administration (14H)

Projects in these categories include:

(12) Affordable Rental Housing Development

(13) First-Time Homebuyer Program (subsidy funded through HOME)

(14A, B, H) Home Improvement Program

Each of these program areas is detailed fully in the Housing section of the Action Plan.

Public Services - general (05); senior services (05A); fair housing activities (05J); tenant/landlord counseling (05K); homeownership assistance - not direct (05R)

Projects in this category include:

(05) Lifetime Assistance Shredding Equipment

(05A) Safety and Security for Seniors Program by LifeSpan

(05J) Fair Housing Education and Outreach by The Housing Council

(05K) Landlord/Tenant Counseling by The Housing Council

(05R) Home Ownership Program by Providence Housing and Foreclosure Prevention and Predatory Lending by The Housing Council

Neighborhood Revitalization – Rehab publicly or privately owned commercial/industrial (14E); residential historic preservation (16A); non-residential historic preservation (16B)

Projects in this category include:

(14E) Phase V of the Fairport Façade Improvement Program

(16B) Historic preservation at the Susan B. Anthony House

Economic Development - ED direct financial assistance (18A); ED technical assistance (18B)

Projects in this category create and retain local jobs and include:

(18A) Revolving ED Grant and Loan Fund

Please refer to the Funding by Objective and Need Chart and the Funding Sources and Uses Chart contained in the Appendix, as well as the Project Workbook for detailed project information.

Monroe County defines, analyzes and assigns priority to community needs using many methods to retrieve data from reliable sources and input from the community as a whole. These factors help CD determine the priority of a project -- absolute need, relative need, availability of other funds, local preference and spending cap by category.

Composition of the consortium expanded in 2005 to include Brighton and East Rochester. HUD re-calculated the eligible block groups, commonly known as Low Mod Areas (LMA's), to include these municipalities. Currently, there are 60 block groups which are eligible for funding in Monroe County's upper quartile. Neighborhoods targeted for public improvements are located in eligible census tracts and block groups where the highest percentages of low/mod income residents are located. These statistics geographically define a concentration of residents in need of programs and services.

CD staff works closely with several County Departments that provide health and social services. These partnerships provide valuable assistance in identifying the needs of County residents. Monroe County's Office for the Aging has provided three resource documents in the last six years to assist in analyzing community needs for elderly persons. These include the 1999 Elderly Housing Study, the 2000 Aging Well Report, and the most recently, the 2004 Senior Action Plan. These documents contain statistical data, analysis and recommendations to substantiate elderly needs and strategies.

The Department of Human Services provides the annual Homeless Services Report, which is used to identify trends and needs of the homeless population. Other valuable data was obtained from the County's Economic Development Strategy Team and the Budget Advisory Team, two committees convened by County Executive Maggie Brooks to evaluate current programs and resources and develop a comprehensive approach to providing business assistance and cost savings opportunities, respectively.

Consultation with primary community agencies listed in the Strategic Plan helps to identify local trends, gaps in services and needs of special population groups, including senior citizens, persons with special needs and homeless persons.

The Steering Committee continues to help shape the community development needs analysis through the input of municipal members at semi-annual meetings. Members also participate in focus groups that result in the identification of current and future suburban needs and services. Local preference continues to be a strong determining factor in assigning priority.

Public commentary, provided by County residents through the Citizen Participation Process, provides valuable insight into community needs. Many public suggestions are incorporated into Monroe County's needs analysis and strategic plan, and are funded in the Action Plan.

Staff participation on local committees and boards involved in public service issues provides added input on community needs as well as an opportunity to merge resources for programs that meet identified needs. Involvement on the Homeless CoC Team, Greater Rochester Housing Partnership Board of Directors and the United Way Building Community Impact Team are a few examples of community participation that have been beneficial in this regard.

Many needs identified as medium and low priority are activities that may be more readily funded by other sources, more appropriate to a city than an urban county, or activities requested less frequently (medium priority) or infrequently (low priority) by project applicants. Monroe County does not reject applications for funding solely because the project may be of low priority. Low priority activities are considered for funding, provided the request is for an eligible activity.

2. Long-Term and Short-Term Community Development Objectives

The greatest challenge to meeting long and short-term goals is declining CDBG resources. Monroe County's grant decreased substantially during the period of 2003–2005. Allocation increases in 2006 are attributed to expansion of the County's consortium to include the Town of Brighton and Town/Village of East Rochester in 2005. The 2007 Federal Budget proposes a 20% reduction to CDBG formula funding. In addition, program income (interest on outstanding loans and other repayments) has declined steadily since 2002; further limiting the funds Monroe County has available for eligible CDBG activities. Increased competition for resources has limited Monroe County's ability to seek funds from other sources. Lastly, more applicants are seeking community development funds than ever before, creating increased competition. As previously referenced, applicants seeking \$2.9 million were competing for \$2.2 million in available CDBG funds.

Strategies to address the CD objective of decent housing:

In the 2006 program year, the Home Improvement Program (HIP) will continue services to suburban residents. HIP helps low to moderate-income residents finance home repairs to correct serious housing deficiencies. In 2004, CD took steps to expand the program by increasing the grant income limit to homeowners with incomes at or below 60%. Grants, rather than loans, are available to households at or below 60% AMI, instead of 50% AMI. For households with incomes at 61-80% AMI, CD offers a grant that pays half of project costs. The grant can be used in partnership with a 50% homeowner contribution in the form of homeowner funds, funds from another source or a low-interest loan from the home improvement revolving loan fund. Project amounts above \$7,500 continue to be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Program requirements for disability grants have not changed. Households with a disabled member with incomes at or below 80% AMI are eligible for a grant of up to \$2,500 for accessibility improvements. The 2006 income limits took effect on May 3, 2006, and these will make more homeowners eligible for HIP grant assistance.

In addition, the Home Ownership Program and the subsidy provided to income eligible first-time homebuyers in the form of down payment and closing cost assistance will continue to expand access to decent housing. Monroe County's home ownership counseling is free to program participants, which allows low to moderate income homebuyers to put more of their resources toward the home purchase. The new HUD income limits, effective May 3, 2006, will make more potential homebuyers eligible for program subsidy and further improve their ability to purchase a first home.

Strategies to address the objective of providing a suitable living environment:

Improve the safety and livability of neighborhoods by providing utility infrastructure and neighborhood improvements in low to moderate-income areas by utilizing CDBG funds to provide municipal public works projects, as proposed by municipalities according to their needs. The suburban towns and villages continue to list new construction or replacement of utility infrastructure as a priority because of the age and deterioration of sidewalks, sanitary sewers, waterlines and drainage utilities.

For the 2006 program year, these include replacement of a defective sanitary sewer to improve water quality in an LMA neighborhood in Henrietta and to eliminate infiltration, recurring backups and subsequent costly maintenance; and replacement of an undersized water main in a Village of Webster LMA to provide an adequate supply of water to residential areas, neighborhood businesses and industrial districts. To improve pedestrian safety in a Brockport Village LMA, new sidewalks will be constructed. Phase II of an historic preservation project in 2006 will make needed improvements to preserve and restore the Susan B. Anthony House, an attraction of historic significance in the City of Rochester.

Municipal officials prioritize the need for ADA improvements because the elderly, mobility impaired and disabled populations have increased substantially in the past decade and continue to increase. Many facilities need initial ADA alterations and some facilities need further accommodations to comply with current ADA construction codes.

To increase access to quality public and private facilities and services, Monroe County will fund the following ADA facility improvements in 2006: Park improvements include installation of ADA playgrounds at Davis Park in Chili and Monroe County's Powder Mills and Genesee Valley Parks, construction of ADA parking lots at the Wegman Road Park in Gates and the South Sanford Park in Riga, construction of ADA sidewalks to access the playground at the Rush Town Park, construction of an ADA trail at Finn Park in the Town of Webster, installation of sidewalks, seating and lighting at the Edmond Lyon Park in the Village of East Rochester, and construction of ADA restrooms at two parks in the Village of Honeoye Falls.

Municipal facilities projects include automatic entrance doors at the Gates Town Hall and Library, the Ogden Community Center and Highway Garage, the Senior Lounge at the Perinton Community Center, automatic entrance doors and a ramp at the entrance to the Hamlin Town Hall, installation of an elevator and ADA restrooms at the Clarkson Town Hall, ADA parking spaces and rehab of the senior room at the Mendon Community Center, construction of a wheelchair accessible entrance to the Penfield Community Center, sidewalks to provide access to the Sweden Community Center, and Phase II of the Scottsville/Wheatland Municipal Hall ADA Project, which will restructure two side door entrances and install automatic entrance doors at the main entrance of the Municipal Hall.

Public services are necessary to provide a suitable living environment, particularly for low to moderate-income families, seniors and disabled persons. Maximizing public services with limited Community Development dollars and within the 15% funding threshold for public services is a long-term objective. Activities funded this year will improve the quality of life and foster self-sufficiency and independence for low to moderate-income, elderly and disabled populations.

Projects funded in 2006 promote fair housing, housing stability and homeownership. The Housing Council provides invaluable fair housing education through its housing hotline, education presentations on housing issues and referral to other programs. Foreclosure prevention, predatory lending and landlord/tenant counseling services promote housing stability among our most vulnerable residents. The CDBG-funded Homeownership Program will continue in its provision of credit-repair counseling, education, referral and financial assistance to low and moderate-income persons wishing to purchase homes in suburban Monroe County. The long-term credit repair component of this program enables some of the County's lowest income residents to become eligible for homeownership.

Public services that address the safety and security aspect of housing stability for the growing number of senior citizens and disabled persons in suburban Monroe County will be addressed by a continued CDBG commitment to a public service administered by Lifespan that provides minor home repairs and security improvements that are not addressed by the Home Improvement Program.

Strategies to address the community development objective of economic opportunity require adequate resources and incentives for business retention, expansion and relocation necessary to encourage new jobs and protect existing jobs; and, the need for more programs with expanded services that offer employment training and development, especially for displaced workers, unemployed and underemployed residents and persons with special needs.

The most effective business development strategy available through CDBG is the Revolving ED Grant and Loan Fund. The fund provides low-interest loans or grants to local companies for equipment acquisition, infrastructure and leasehold improvements, real estate and working capital activities involved in business start-ups, expansions and relocations. Funds are combined with other public resources to leverage private capital investments, including the CDBG Section 108 Loan Guarantee authority, COMIDA, New York State's Urban Development Corporation and the SBA 504 Program. To stabilize and expand small businesses, the ED Division will continue to work with the Small Business Administration in the administration of the SBA 504 Program.

Strategies to revitalize economically challenged and distressed neighborhoods include façade improvements to business structures in the three LMA's in the Village of Fairport, which will help promote economic vitality and improve the areas adjacent to residential neighborhoods.

Antipoverty Strategy

1. Describe the actions that will take place during the next year to reduce the number of poverty level families.

Program Year 2 Action Plan Antipoverty Strategy response:

1. Actions to Reduce the Number of Poverty Level Families

Following the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB's) Directive 14, the Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to detect who is poor. If the total income for a family or unrelated

individual falls below the relevant poverty threshold, then the family or unrelated individual is classified as being "below the poverty level."

The poverty status of a household is determined by whether or not their "total income" falls above or below the Poverty Income threshold for the number of people in their household. Total income is the sum of the amounts reported separately for wages, salary, commissions, bonuses or tips; self-employment income for own non-farm or farm businesses, including proprietorships and partnerships; interest, dividends, net rental income, royalty income or income from estates and trusts; Social Security or Railroad Retirement income; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); any public assistance or welfare payments from the state or local welfare office; retirement, survivor or disability pensions; and any other sources of income received regularly such as Veterans' (VA) payments, unemployment compensation, child support or alimony.

The guidelines for poverty level are different than another commonly used income threshold of 30% of Area Median Family Income. Guidelines are shown below for poverty income and 30% of AMI by household size for 2006 for comparison purposes:

Household Size: Poverty Income / 30% AMI

- 1: \$9800 / \$13,500
- 2: \$13,200 / \$15,400
- 3: \$16,600 / \$17,350
- 4: \$20,000 / \$19,250
- 5: \$23,400 / \$20,800
- 6: \$26,800 / \$22,350
- 7: \$30,200 / \$23,850
- 8: \$33,600 / \$25,400

Strategies in 2006 include continuation of existing programs that promote a stable living environment, reduce dependency and poverty primarily caused by unemployment, underemployment, housing condition and cost burden. Programs that address a stable living environment include the Home Improvement Program, Homeownership Program, and each of the programs administered by The Housing Council. Lifespan's program for seniors will continue to provide minor home repairs and safety training to help elderly persons to remain in their homes. In addition, many of the public facilities projects promote a stable living environment by reducing the cost burden placed on municipalities to make these improvements and the costs do not have to be passed on to local taxpayers. Collectively, these programs help prevent homelessness, financial hardship, institutionalization and poverty.

MCDHS is the primary provider of public assistance benefits for poverty level persons and therefore has the greatest capacity to reduce the number of poverty level families. Housing efforts, particularly emergency housing, are coordinated with the Homeless Continuum of Care and other community-wide affordable housing agencies.

Programs that will provide job opportunities and reduce poverty include the Revolving ED Grant and Loan Fund, which targets job creation to low/mod residents, and non-CDBG funded County programs that provide incentives to businesses that employ local labor, tax credit incentives for companies that increase jobs through the Empire Zone Program, The Entrepreneurs Network that offers training and mentoring for

high-tech entrepreneurs, and programs provided at job centers operated by Rochester Works, Inc. The CDBG Revolving ED Grant & Loan Fund will provide \$480,000 in 2006 to encourage business expansion and relocation with resulting job creation and retention. COMIDA will also continue to provide business development incentives and resources for companies that create and retain jobs.

To improve the cost of living, the County has kept property taxes stable, streamlined social services, enhanced economic development incentives for businesses, created more job centers, and offers a prescription drug discount plan free to all County residents.

NON-HOMELESS SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING

Non-homeless Special Needs (91.220 (c) and (e))

*Please also refer to the Non-homeless Special Needs Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Describe the priorities and specific objectives the jurisdiction hopes to achieve for the period covered by the Action Plan.
2. Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by this Action Plan.

Program Year 2 Action Plan Specific Objectives response:

1. The list below outlines the non-homeless special needs populations' priority needs (H/M/L) and funding source identified in the 5-Year Strategic Plan.

Special Needs Category

Elderly

Housing – H (HOME & CDBG)

Supportive Services – Y (CDBG)

Frail Elderly

Housing – M (HOME & CDBG)

Supportive Services – Y (CDBG)

Persons w/ Severe Mental Illness

Housing - M

Supportive Services - N

Disabled (Developmental or Physical)

Housing – M (HOME)

Supportive Services - N

Alcohol/Other Drug Addicted

Housing - H

Supportive Services - N

Persons w/ HIV-AIDS

Housing - L

Supportive Services - N

Public Housing Residents
Housing – L
Supportive Services – N

To help fund those needs identified as medium and high priorities, Monroe County is funding the following programs to serve the populations identified.

Elderly and Frail Elderly Housing: Home Improvement Program, Affordable Rental Housing Development

Elderly and Frail Elderly Supportive Services: LifeSpan Safety and Security for Seniors

Disabled Housing: Affordable Rental Housing Development; Home Ownership Program

Disabled Supportive Services: Lifetime Assistance Shredding Services Equipment

2. Monroe County has CDBG and HOME resources available for the housing and supportive services identified above. Other Federal resources, such as the HUD Super NOFA, and other State resources, such as HHAP, OMRDD, VESID, and OASAS are more readily available for the housing and supportive services for which Monroe County has not reserved resources in this Action Plan.

Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS

*Please also refer to the HOPWA Table in the Needs.xls workbook.

1. Provide a Brief description of the organization, the area of service, the name of the program contacts, and a broad overview of the range/ type of housing activities to be done during the next year.
2. Report on the actions taken during the year that addressed the special needs of persons who are not homeless but require supportive housing, and assistance for persons who are homeless.
3. Evaluate the progress in meeting its specific objective of providing affordable housing, including a comparison of actual outputs and outcomes to proposed goals and progress made on the other planned actions indicated in the strategic and action plans. The evaluation can address any related program adjustments or future plans.
4. Report on the accomplishments under the annual HOPWA output goals for the number of households assisted during the year in: (1) short-term rent, mortgage and utility payments to avoid homelessness; (2) rental assistance programs; and (3) in housing facilities, such as community residences and SRO dwellings, where funds are used to develop and/or operate these facilities. Include any assessment of client outcomes for achieving housing stability, reduced risks of homelessness and improved access to care.
5. Report on the use of committed leveraging from other public and private resources that helped to address needs identified in the plan.

6. Provide an analysis of the extent to which HOPWA funds were distributed among different categories of housing needs consistent with the geographic distribution plans identified in its approved Consolidated Plan.
7. Describe any barriers (including non-regulatory) encountered, actions in response to barriers, and recommendations for program improvement.
8. Please describe the expected trends facing the community in meeting the needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS and provide additional information regarding the administration of services to people with HIV/AIDS.
9. Please note any evaluations, studies or other assessments that will be conducted on the local HOPWA program during the next year.

Program Year 2 Action Plan HOPWA response:
N/A

Specific HOPWA Objectives

Describe how Federal, State, and local public and private sector resources that are reasonably expected to be available will be used to address identified needs for the period covered by the Action Plan.

Program Year 2 Specific HOPWA Objectives response:
N/A

Other Narrative

Include any Action Plan information that was not covered by a narrative in any other section.

Following are CPMP Worksheets that are new with Version 2 and were not submitted with the 5 Year Strategic Plan, and also the updated Housing Needs and Community Development Worksheets for Year 2.