

CR-05 - Goals and Outcomes

Progress the jurisdiction has made in carrying out its strategic plan and its action plan. 91.520(a)

This could be an overview that includes major initiatives and highlights that were proposed and executed throughout the program year.

Highlighted in the FFY 2020-FFY 2024 Consolidated Plan and FFY 2024 Annual Action Plan, the following items were noted as either low or high priority areas:

Housing Priority (High Priority):

There is a need to improve the quality of the housing stock in the City of Williamsport and to increase the supply of affordable, decent, safe, and accessible housing for homeowners, renters, and homebuyers. The specific objectives that support this goal are as follows: increase homeownership; reduce housing blight and deterioration among owner-occupied households; improve rental housing opportunities; and provide safe and accessible housing. Specifically, in FFY 2024, CDBG and HOME funds will be utilized towards the following identified goal:

- **Affordable Housing:** The city seeks to provide affordable rental and home ownership opportunities for residents who earn equal to or less than 80% of the AMI. The existing housing stock of older homes needs significant investment in rehabilitation for both owner-occupied and rental units. The city will continue its homeowner rehabilitation programs to correct codes violations, offer emergency repairs, and complete accessibility modifications to owner-occupied households.

Homelessness Prevention Priority (Low Priority):

There is a need for housing services for homeless persons and persons at-risk of become homeless, as well as public education.

- Support emergency shelter and transitional housing services through local nonprofit organizations and social service agencies.
- Support services to assist homeless persons and families make the transition to permanent housing and independent living.

Other Special Needs Priority (High Priority):

The accessibility-related housing rehabilitation and the installation and reconstruction of curb ramps in the city assist with improving the quality of life of persons considered special needs, specifically persons with disabilities and the elderly.

Community Development Priority (High Priority):

There is a need to improve the public and community facilities, infrastructure, public services, code enforcement, public safety, clearance, and the quality of life in the City of Williamsport.

- **Public Facilities (High Priority):** The city recognizes the need to improve its facilities and infrastructure throughout the city. This includes creating a safe and suitable living environment via street reconstruction and the improvement of parks and recreation facilities. The installation and/or reconstruction of ADA compliant curb ramps also meets the priority for special needs populations.
- **Blight Elimination (High Priority):** Blight elimination will be conducted on a spot and/or area basis; specifically, this will include the demolition of severely code-deficient structures that are a detriment to public health and safety.

Economic Development Priority (Low Priority):

There is a need to increase employment, self-sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of the residents of the city. However, this is often undertaken with funds other than CDBG or HOME.

Administration, Planning and Management Priority (High Priority):

There is a continuing need for planning, administration, management, and oversight of Federal, state and locally funded projects.

- Provide program management and oversight for the successful administration of Federal, state, and locally funded programs, including planning services for special studies, environmental clearance, fair housing, and compliance with all Federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

Comparison of the proposed versus actual outcomes for each outcome measure submitted with the consolidated plan and explain, if applicable, why progress was not made toward meeting goals and objectives. 91.520(g)

Categories, priority levels, funding sources and amounts, outcomes/objectives, goal outcome indicators, units of measure, targets, actual outcomes/outputs, and percentage completed for each of the grantee’s program year goals.

Goal	Category	Source / Amount	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Expected – Strategic Plan	Actual – Strategic Plan	Percent Complete	Expected – Program Year	Actual – Program Year	Percent Complete
Accessible Housing	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$75,618	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	10	9	90.00%	3	1	30.00%
Administration	Administration	CDBG: \$1,037,092/ HOME: \$132,645.40	Other	Other	26410	3	60.00%	1	0	0.00%
Blight Elimination	Blight Elimination	CDBG: \$106,629	Buildings Demolished	Buildings	10	2	10.00%	0	1	100%
Construction of new housing	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$0	Rental units constructed	Household Housing Unit	2	0	0.00%	0	0	0
Construction of new housing	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$151,170	Homeowner Housing Added	Household Housing Unit	5	1	20.00%	6	0	0%
Home Ownership	Affordable Housing	HOME: \$235,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers	Households Assisted	5	5	100.00%	3	0	0.00%
Housing Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$235,965 / HOME: \$1,116,126	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated	Household Housing Unit	25	25	100.00%	5	5	100.00%
Housing Rehabilitation	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$0 / HOME: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		1	0	0.00%

Public Facilities and Infrastructure	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$3,695,987	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	29508	29508	100 %	27381	27381	100 %
Public Facilities and Infrastructure	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$0	Other	Other	0	0		0	0	0.00%
Public Services	Public Services	CDBG: \$80,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit	Persons Assisted	29508	52928	179.12%	0	73	100%

Table 1 - Accomplishments – Program Year & Strategic Plan to Date

Assess how the jurisdiction’s use of funds, particularly CDBG, addresses the priorities and specific objectives identified in the plan, giving special attention to the highest priority activities identified.

During the final year of the five-year Consolidated Plan period 2020-2024, the city continued efforts to meet or exceed five-year goals and objectives for housing and community development activities. The construction of new housing goal has not met the city’s five year goal. The city is actively working with Habitat for Humanity to improve this outcome. Actions for affordable housing opportunities include a home ownership program, home rehabilitation program, to reduce housing blight and deterioration, an affordable rental housing program, and accessible housing rehab.

Affordable Housing Priority

- **Owner-Occupied Single-Family Housing Rehabilitation:** Program provides grants and loans to eligible households to increase the

availability of safe, affordable housing and eliminate blight. CDBG funds support Emergency Home Rehabilitation. 2 projects were completed with CDBG funds while another is underway. HOME funds support more extensive home repair projects. 3 projects were completed.

- **The Homebuyer Assistance** GAP financing program offers deferred, 0% loans to eligible participants to purchase an affordable home. No buyers assisted in Program Year 2023.
- **Accessibility Rehabilitation program:** The City offers \$5,000 for accessibility improvements for residential properties occupied by income eligible persons with disabling conditions. One project was completed.
- **Habitat for Humanity Housing Construction:** Habitat will construct six new houses for low-income families. This construction is underway.

Public Facilities

Elm Park Improvements: FFY 2024 CDBG funds have been expended on design and engineering for this park improvement project.

Little League Blvd Reconstruction: This project was designed and bid in Program Year 2024 but was unable to move to construction due to weather conditions. Notice to Proceed will be issued in Spring 2025 with construction completed by fall 2025.

Prior Program Year funds were expended on the following projects:

Street Reconstruction: The City continues to fund public facilities and infrastructure improvements to prepare a suitable living environment. FFY 2020 funds were expended on the following streets in Program Year 2024: Newberry Street and Elmira Street. FFY 2022 funds were expended on:

- 4th Avenue between Park and Rafferty Lane
- Lilac Lane
- West Street between 3rd and 4th Streets
- Lycoming Street between Walnut and Elmira Street
- Elmira Street between Lycoming and 3rd
- Rose Street between Rural and High Streets
- Rose Street from Dix to the railroad
- Dix Street
- Scott Street between Rose St and Beeber St

Memorial Park Exercise Facility: FFY 2023 CDBG funds were expended in Program Year 2024 to complete the Memorial Park project. Beneficiaries have not yet been reported in IDIS.

Lose School Park Improvements: No funds were expended on this project in Program Year 2024 but it was completed in IDIS in February 2024. Therefore accomplishments are in Program Year 2024.

Brandon Park Bandshell Restoration: The project was let in Program Year 2023 but bids were held while the city pursued additional funding. Project construction was completed in 2024. Beneficiaries have not yet been reported in IDIS.

Willow Street Design: FFY 2021 funds were expended on the Willow Street Design project in Program Year 2024.

Fire Appartus Purchase: FFY 2021 entitlement and program income were expended on the purchase of a fire truck in Program Year 2024. This project was completed in July 2024. 73 beneficiaries were reported.

Blight Remediation

Codes Related Blight Elimination: Activity continues as the Codes Department, Board of Health and Blighted Property Review Board consider buildings that may need to be demolished due to serious health and safety issues. Funds were expended on Code Related Blight Elimination project in Program Year 2024.

Historic Rehabilitation: FFY 2018 funds were expended on one case in Program Year 2024.

Public Service

Fire Tree Place After-School Program: FFY 2021 funds were expended on this project in Program Year 2024. The activity was completed in August 2024.

CDBG-CV Projects

Basketball Court Resurfacing: CV funds were expended on this project in Program Year 2024. Beneficiaries have not yet been reported in IDIS.

Newberry Park Improvements: \$9,875 of FFY 2020 CDBG funds have been expended on this park improvement project for design. \$480,000 of CV funds are also allocated to this project. Construction expected to be completed in 2025.

CR-10 - Racial and Ethnic composition of families assisted

Describe the families assisted (including the racial and ethnic status of families assisted).

91.520(a)

	CDBG	HOME
White	30	3
Black or African American	27	0
Asian	1	0
American Indian or American Native	0	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0
Other (Black/African American and White)	17	
Other Multi-Racial	1	
Total	76	3
Hispanic	0	0
Not Hispanic	76	3

Table 2 – Table of assistance to racial and ethnic populations by source of funds

Narrative

Accessibility Improvements – 1 completed / 30%, Female head household, disability member in the household, White

OOSF Emergency Home Rehabilitation - 2 cases completed - #1114- 80%, 2 person household, White #1111-50%, 3 person household, white

HOME OOSF Summary – 3 cases completed #1063- 30%, Female head household, person with disability in household, White , #1076- 50%, Female head of household, white , #1083- 50%, 2 person, white

Firetree Place After-School Program – 73 persons, 27 white, 27 black, 1 asian, 17 black/African american & white, and 1 other multiracial, 20 at 30%, 21 at 50%, 9 at 80%, 23 above, total 68.5% LMI

2024 HOME Construction- underway

None of the CDBG-CV activities that were assisted by the city in 2024 were direct beneficiary activities.

CR-15 - Resources and Investments 91.520(a)

Identify the resources made available

Source of Funds	Source	Resources Made Available	Amount Expended During Program Year
CDBG	public - federal	1,005,173	\$740,067.37
HOME	public - federal	224,383.56	\$ 7,832.39

Table 3 - Resources Made Available

Narrative

Elm Park Improvements: FFY 2024 CDBG funds have been expended on design and engineering for this park improvement project. Funds from FFY 2021 ad 2022 are also allocated to this activity. Construction to be completed in Program Year 2025.

Little League Blvd Reconstruction: This project was designed and bid in Program Year 2024 but was unable to move to construvtion due to weather conditions. Notice to Proceed will be issued in Spring 2025 with construction completed by fall 2025. No funds have been expended.

Street Reconstruction: FFY 2020 funds were expended on the following streets in Program Year 2024: Newberry Street, Elmira Street. FFY 2022 funds were expended on:

- 4th Avenue between Park and Rafferty Lane
- Lilac Lane
- West Street between 3rd and 4th Streets
- Lycoming Street between Walnut and Elmira Street
- Elmira Street between Lycoming and 3rd
- Rose Street between Rural and High Streets
- Rose Street from Dix to the railroad
- Dix Street
- Scott Street between Rose St and Beeber St

All street reconstructions are based on benefit to a low-to moderate income block group. Future years CDBG entitlement will continue to be allocated to this activity, to reconstruct street in low to moderate income block groups throughout the city.

Memorial Park Exercise Facility: FFY 2023 CDBG funds were expended in Program Year 2024 to complete the Memorial Park project. It is not anticipated that any further CDBG entitlement funds will be allocated to this activity.

Brandon Park Bandshell Restoration: The project was let in Program Year 2023 but bids were held while the city pursued additional funding. Project construction was completed in 2024. It is not anticipated that any further CDBG entitlement funds will be allocated to this activity.

Newberry Park Improvements: \$9,875 of FFY6 2020 CDBG funds have been expended on this park improvement project for design. Construction expected to be completed in 2025.

Willow Street Design: The FFY 2021 Willow Street Design project was underway in Program Year 2024. Additional CDBG funds may be allocated to this activity in future years.

Fire Appartus Purchase: FFY 2021 entitlement and program income were expended on the purchase of a fire truck in Program Year 2024. This project was completed in July 2024. It is not anticipated that any further CDBG entitlement funds will be allocated to this activity.

Codes Related Blight Elimination: FFY 2020 funds were expended on elimination of blight. Additional CDBG funds may be allocated to this activity in future years.

Historic Rehabilitation: FFY 2018 funds were expended on a Historic Rehabilitation project. Additional CDBG funds may be allocated to this activity in future years.

Firetree Place After-School Program: FFY 2021 funds were expended on the Fire Tree Place After School Program. It is not anticipated that any further CDBG entitlement funds will be allocated to this activity.

OOSF Rehab: FFY 2021 and 2022 funds were expended on two emergency projects. FFY 2018, HOME funds were used to complete three additional rehabs. Additional CDBG and HOME funds may be allocated to this activity in future years.

Accessibility Rehabilitation: FFY 2022 CDBG funds were expended on one project. Additional CDBG funds may be allocated to this activity in future years.

Habitat for Humanity Housing Construction: Additional HOME funds will be allocated to this activity in future years.

CDBG-CV

Basketball Court Resurfacing: CV funds were expended on this project in Program Year 2024. It is not anticipated that any further CDBG entitlement funds will be allocated to this activity.

Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Target Area	Planned Percentage of Allocation	Actual Percentage of Allocation	Narrative Description
City-wide	100	100	Allocation amounts are pre-determined by HUD.

Table 4 – Identify the geographic distribution and location of investments

Narrative

Elm Park Improvements	City-Wide (LMA)
Little League Blvd Reconstruction	City-Wide (LMA)
Newberry Park Improvements	Block group number 420810009002 (LMA)
Street Reconstruction	Various BG (LMA)
Memorial Park Exercise Facility	City-Wide (LMA)
Brandon Park Bandshell Restoration	City-Wide (LMA)
Willow Street Design	City-Wide (LMA)
Owner-Occupied Single-Family Rehabilitation	City-wide (LMH)
Accessibility Rehabilitation	City-wide (LMH)
Homebuyer Assistance	City-wide (LMH)
Administration	City-wide

The City of Williamsport has an overall low-and moderate-income percentage of 57.5%. LMC activities are presumed to benefit low to moderate income person.

The City does not have any federally designated program target areas for CDBG or HOME. Projects funded through non-CDBG and non-HOME sources, specifically PHARE Rental, Historic, and Owner-Occupied housing repair do have designated target areas in the Oliver/Scott Street Area (BNIP), the Park Avenue High Street Area (PAN), the Historic District or Adopted List of Historic Property outside of the Historic District.

Leveraging

Explain how federal funds leveraged additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements were satisfied, as well as how any publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that were used to address the needs identified in the plan.

The City uses federal funds to leverage resources for private, state, and local funds. With CDBG and HOME funds as a match, the City receives funding for a variety of projects from sources such as the County of Lycoming (local), PA Department of Community and Economic Development (state), PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (state), Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (state), and Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (state). Private funds from developers, participants and/or non-profit organizations contribute funding to City projects addressing both housing and infrastructure improvements.

Elm Park Improvements: \$8,340 of FFY 2024 CDBG funds have been expended on design and engineering for this park improvement project. Funds from FFY 2021, 2022, and 2023 are also allocated to this activity for a total of \$923,808.10. Construction to be completed in Program Year 2025. It is located on public property.

Little League Blvd Reconstruction: This project was designed and bid in Program Year 2024 but was unable to move to construction due to weather conditions. Notice to Proceed will be issued in Spring 2025 with construction completed by fall 2025. No funds have been expended. It is located on public property.

Street Reconstruction: \$5,422.12 of FFY 2020 funds were expended on the following streets in Program Year 2024: Newberry Street and Elmira Street. \$20,641.70 of FFY 2022 funds were expended on the following streets:

- 4th Avenue between Park and Rafferty Lane
- Lilac Lane
- West Street between 3rd and 4th Streets
- Lycoming Street between Walnut and Elmira Street
- Elmira Street between Lycoming and 3rd
- Rose Street between Rural and High Streets
- Rose Street from Dix to the railroad
- Dix Street
- Scott Street between Rose St and Beeber St

This project is located on public property.

Memorial Park Exercise Facility: \$168,573.10 FFY 2023 CDBG funds were expended in Program Year 2024. Total CDBG investment was \$227,948. The National Fitness Campaign has provided a \$30,000 grant for this project. It is located on public property.

Brandon Park Bandshell Restoration: \$269,467.75 was expended on the Brandon Park Bandshell rehabilitation, which is completed, funded with \$120,000 of FFY 2019 funds and \$156,300 of FFY 2023 funds as well. The city has been awarded a grant of \$150,000 from the First Community Foundation for

renovations to the Brandon Park Bandshell. This project is also receiving \$20,000 from Lycoming County. This project is located on public property.

Newberry Park Improvements: \$9,875 was expended. \$480,000 of CV funds, and \$9,875 of FFY 2020 CDBG funds have been allocated to this park improvement project located on public property. Design is underway.

Willow Street Design: \$4,200 was expended. The FFY 2021 Willow Street Design project was underway in Program Year 2024. \$183,914 has been allocated to this project. This project is located on public property.

Fire Appartus Purchase: \$10,000 of FFY 2021 entitlement and program income were expended on the purchase of a fire truck in Program Year 2024. This project was completed in July 2024. A total of \$710,000 from FFY 2017-2021 was expended on this purchase.

Codes Related Blight Elimination: \$2,000 of FFY 2020 funds were expended on elimination of blight. No public property was used. This is a SBS national objective activity.

Historic Rehabilitation: \$600 of FFY 2018 funds were expended on a Historic Rehabilitation project. No public property was used. This is a SBS national objective activity.

Firetree Place After-School Program: \$1,765 of FFY 2021 funds were expended on the Fire Tree Place After School Program. A total of \$9,765 was expended. No public property was used.

OOSF Rehab: \$4,267.62 of HOME funds were allocated to complete three projects in 2024. Two projects were completed in Program Year 2024 utilizing a total of \$50,367.50 FFY 2019, 2021 and 2022 CDBG funds. No public property is being used.

Accessibility Rehabilitation: \$5,180.90 of FFY 2022 CDBG funds were expended on one project. No public property is being used.

Habitat for Humanity Housing Construction: \$30,000 of FFY 2024 HOME funds are allocated to this activity. No public property is being used.

CDBG-CV Projects

Basketball Court Resurfacing: \$104,862 of CV funds were expended on this project, \$9,594.94 in Program Year 2024. It is located on public property.

The City of Williamsport is a distressed community. In agreement with CPD 02-1, as a distressed community, the City of Williamsport is exempted from the requirement to provide a HOME match in 2024; however, the City's housing rehabilitation programs (the CDBG and HOME OWNER Occupied Home Rehabilitation, CDBG Accessibility Rehabilitation program, HOME Buyer Gap and CDBG

Emergency Rehabilitation program) does leverage funding from participants.

Fiscal Year Summary – HOME Match	
1. Excess match from prior Federal fiscal year	0
2. Match contributed during current Federal fiscal year	0
3. Total match available for current Federal fiscal year (Line 1 plus Line 2)	0
4. Match liability for current Federal fiscal year	0
5. Excess match carried over to next Federal fiscal year (Line 3 minus Line 4)	0

Table 5 – Fiscal Year Summary - HOME Match Report

Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year								
Project No. or Other ID	Date of Contribution	Cash (non-Federal sources)	Foregone Taxes, Fees, Charges	Appraised Land/Real Property	Required Infrastructure	Site Preparation, Construction Materials, Donated labor	Bond Financing	Total Match

Table 6 – Match Contribution for the Federal Fiscal Year

HOME MBE/WBE report

Program Income – Enter the program amounts for the reporting period				
Balance on hand at begin-ning of reporting period \$	Amount received during reporting period \$	Total amount expended during reporting period \$	Amount expended for TBRA \$	Balance on hand at end of reporting period \$
\$786,286	\$43,910.86	\$4,267.62	0	\$825,929.24

Table 7 – Program Income

Minority Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises – Indicate the number and dollar value of contracts for HOME projects completed during the reporting period						
	Total	Minority Business Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Contracts						
Number						
Dollar Amount						
Sub-Contracts						
Number						
Dollar Amount						
	Total	Women Business Enterprises	Male			
Contracts						
Number						
Dollar Amount						
Sub-Contracts						
Number						
Dollar Amount						

Table 8 - Minority Business and Women Business Enterprises

Minority Owners of Rental Property – Indicate the number of HOME assisted rental property owners and the total amount of HOME funds in these rental properties assisted						
	Total	Minority Property Owners				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number						
Dollar Amount						

Table 9 – Minority Owners of Rental Property

Relocation and Real Property Acquisition – Indicate the number of persons displaced, the cost of relocation payments, the number of parcels acquired, and the cost of acquisition						
Parcels Acquired						
Businesses Displaced						
Nonprofit Organizations Displaced						
Households Temporarily Relocated, not Displaced						
Households Displaced	Total	Minority Property Enterprises				White Non-Hispanic
		Alaskan Native or American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	
Number						
Cost						

Table 10 – Relocation and Real Property Acquisition

CR-20 - Affordable Housing 91.520(b)

Evaluation of the jurisdiction's progress in providing affordable housing, including the number and types of families served, the number of extremely low-income, low-income, moderate-income, and middle-income persons served.

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Number of Non-Homeless households to be provided affordable housing units	14	9
Number of Special-Needs households to be provided affordable housing units	0	0
Total	14	9

Table 11 – Number of Households

	One-Year Goal	Actual
Number of households supported through Rental Assistance	0	0
Number of households supported through The Production of New Units	6	1
Number of households supported through Rehab of Existing Units	8	6
Number of households supported through Acquisition of Existing Units	0	0
Total	14	6

Table 12 – Number of Households Supported

Discuss the difference between goals and outcomes and problems encountered in meeting these goals.

Applications were taken throughout 2024 and but no assistance was provided through the Homebuyer GAP funds. It continues to be a challenge to find income eligible, prepared buyers. Households below 80% level have difficulty accumulating financial resources to meet minimal purchase, credit, asset requirements and post-purchase standards. Although Covid restrictions continued to lessen in 2024, still some negative effects on the process of buying a home linger. The GAP program offers financing based on need, (maximum 20% assistance) as a deferred repayment, 0% loan. The buyer must provide a

minimum 4% investment of personal funds and attend credit/homeownership training from a HUD approved counseling agency.

The City completed one Handicapped Accessibility Rehabilitation project in 2024. This program offers grants up to \$5,000 for accessibility improvements to residential properties occupied by persons with disabling conditions. Owner occupied and rental households may participate.

The OOSF program offers grants and loans for repairs to owner occupied, income eligible households. CDBG funded Emergency Repair Program offers help for serious situations. Two homeowners were assisted with emergency funds in 2024 with one underway. Three rehabilitations were completed by HOME OOSF Program.

The production of new housing stock remains underway by our CHDO, Habitat for Humanity. Six houses total will be built on Scott Street. One was completed in 2024 and another is currently under construction. While the city did not meet the 2024 production of new housing units' goal, we continue to progress toward it.

Discuss how these outcomes will impact future annual action plans.

The city will continue to provide its affordable housing programs as funding is available. We will encourage LNDC to step back into a CHDO role. Habitat for Humanity is being assisted by the city and will soon receive six building lots for new housing. No other entities have expressed interest in becoming a CHDO.

The city raised its maximum participation in the HOME OOSF rehab program due to increased costs. We plan to review interest rates on our CDBG and HOME rehabilitation programs. We will continue to review the GAP Homebuyer Program and seek actions to increase participation.

In addition to its HUD funded housing programs, the City received a total \$800,000 in 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2019 PHARE funds for Rental Rehabilitation in the Brodart Neighborhood (BNIP), Park Avenue Neighborhood (PAN), and for Historic Property listings. Basic rehabilitation of homes containing 32 units received BNIP assistance. 2 rental rehabilitations were completed in 2024 by use of these funds. The current PHARE program has ended. The City may apply for these funds to target other city neighborhoods if available in the future and will seek to eliminate the targeted area criteria making more households eligible.

The City will take increasing costs for home rehabilitation projects under consideration when preparing its one-year goals for future action plans.

Include the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income persons served by each activity where information on income by family size is required to determine the eligibility of the activity.

Number of Households Served	CDBG Actual	HOME Actual
Extremely Low-income	1	1
Low-income	1	2
Moderate-income	1	0
Total	3	3

Table 13 – Number of Households Served

Narrative Information

2024 HOME OOSF Summary – 3 cases completed

#1063- 30%, Female head household, person with disability in household, White

#1076- 50%, Female head of household, white

#1083- 50%, 2 person, white

2024 CDBG OOSF Summary - 2-cases completed

#1114- 80%, 2 person household, White

#1111-50%, 3 person household, white

2024 Accessibility Rehabilitation Summary - 1-case completed

White / 30%, Female head household, disabled member in the household

Applications are being taken for all programs and additional cases to be considered for 2025.

CR-25 - Homeless and Other Special Needs 91.220(d, e); 91.320(d, e); 91.520(c)

Evaluate the jurisdiction's progress in meeting its specific objectives for reducing and ending homelessness through:

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

The larger population of homeless people in the City of Williamsport does not meet HUD's definition of chronically homeless. The city combated chronic homelessness by supporting emergency shelters, transitional housing facilities, and permanent housing facilities. Wrap-around social services provided by these, and other organizations help to break the cycle of chronic homelessness. Upon discussions with several members of the Coordinated Services Task Force, they have expressed the need to do a more in-depth homelessness/transitional housing study and the involvement of mental health services. This is still being discussed and said to happen in the near future.

The most recent Point-in-Time survey for which data is available at the County level, which was conducted in January 2024, found seven unsheltered adults and four veterans in Lycoming County.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

In 2024, the city continued to support emergency shelter and transitional housing services through local nonprofit organizations and social service agencies by working closely with the Coordinated Task Force. Recently, the city updated its Community and Economic webpage to make services more available to agencies and people looking for assistance:

<https://www.cityofwilliamsport.org/departments/community-economic-development/community-assistance/>.

According to the Point-In-Time Count conducted in 2024, 41 adults without children were in transitional shelters and 99 adults without children were in emergency shelters. Homeless families with children accounted for 34 persons in emergency shelters and 23 persons in transitional shelters. There were five chronically homeless individuals in emergency shelters during the 2024 Point in Time count and zero chronically homeless families in emergency shelters during the 2024 Point in Time Count. There were three veterans in transitional shelters and five in emergency shelters. There were three persons with chronic substance abuse in transitional shelters and three in emergency shelters. There were 31 victims of domestic violence in emergency shelters and six victims of domestic violence in transitional shelters. One person with AIDS was in emergency shelter during the 2024 Point in Time count. There were nine unaccompanied youth in emergency shelters, 5 unaccompanied youth in transitional shelters. There were seven unsheltered persons, one unsheltered person with severe mental illness and one unsheltered person with chronic substance abuse.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: likely to become homeless after being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); and, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

Homeless prevention services are administered by a combination of public and private agencies.

In 2024, the city continued to participate in the Coordinated Task Force and the Lycoming County Housing Coalition to support the efforts of Lycoming County and social service providers in helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

In 2024, the city continued to support services to assist homeless persons and families in making the transition to permanent housing and independent living. With the advent of COVID-19, a high demand for emergency shelter and Rapid Re-Housing was identified. Emergency shelters continued to be at capacity and are struggling to comply with CDC guidelines. ESG, United Way, and Homeless Assistance Program (HAP) funds have repurposed some shelter funding to provide shelter through hotels and motels. Additionally, the Clinton County Housing Coalition received \$302,950 in ESG-CV funds and provided emergency shelter, Rapid Re-Housing, and homelessness prevention services to be distributed across Lycoming, Clinton, and Tioga counties. The city is looking at ways to create non-congregate housing shelters with non-profits for homeless people.

The City was awarded \$888,134 of HOME ARP funds to assist individuals or households who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, and other vulnerable populations, by providing housing, rental assistance, supportive services, and non-congregate shelter, to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability. The city plans to assist several local non-profits to further their initiatives in reducing the risks of homelessness.

CR-30 - Public Housing 91.220(h); 91.320(j)

Actions taken to address the needs of public housing

As of January 4, 2024, the Lycoming County Housing Authority (LCHA) provides 464 units of public housing and administers 675 Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs). There are currently 1,775 families on the public housing waiting list and 1,251 families on the Section 8 waiting list. This list is currently closed.

In addition, LHA has 241 market rate units that are under ownership by their non-profit subsidiary

Of these 318 units located in Williamsport, 139 (44%) are intended for general occupancy and 179 (56%) are reserved for elderly households. The 318 units of LHA's public housing developments are in fair condition and in need minor rehabilitation.

The LHA Housing Choice Voucher Program allows an increase in the payment standard of up to 110% for costs related to making reasonable accommodations. The waiting list for the Housing Choice Voucher Program has been closed since 2016. LHA reports that it can take from 2 - 10 years for persons on the waiting list to receive a voucher. LHA reports that 65% of voucher holders find units within 30 - 60 days and 35% of voucher holders find units within 61 - 120 days. Unmet needs include incorrect, negative perception of Section 8 participants committing crimes in the city and an insufficient supply of affordable, accessible rental units in the private marketplace. The poor condition of units can contribute to the length of time that it takes to find an eligible unit.

Of the total public housing units owned and managed by the LHA, all the public housing had an occupancy rate above 99% over the last year.

LHA reports that it is meeting the need of low-income families, elderly and disabled residents with the current housing stock. The turnover is an average of 150 units per year. Elderly, one-bedroom applicants spend the longest time on the waiting list as this population continues to grow in numbers. LHA's strategy to meeting local housing needs includes using local preferences to assure that the lowest income families are served first with preferences also given to elderly and disabled families.

Sewer laterals were replaced at the Robert Montgomery Homes in 2024.

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

LCHA continued to post employment and housing opportunities on its website and in its quarterly newsletter that is distributed to all public housing residents and at each job site. Housing opportunities include information on the Section 32 program and FSS program. LCHA continued to assist prospective homeowners by holding the note on the property and providing financial assistance and council to program participants. LCHA continued to have a Resident Advisory Board that offered insight and feedback on its Annual and Five-Year Plan. The Board reviewed the capital fund plan as well as any programmatic changes, development/disposition plans. A Section 8 participant also held/holds a position on LCHA's Board of Directors. LCHA has an active resident council.

Actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs.

There were no troubled PHA's. Additionally, the City does not manage any public housing authorities.

CR-35 - Other Actions 91.220(j)-(k); 91.320(i)-(j)

Actions taken to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment. 91.220 (j); 91.320 (i)

The City and the Lycoming Housing Authority updated its Impediments to Fair Housing Choice in 2020. The city is continuing to support several non-profits as they pursue a further in-depth analysis of housing needs and mental health study.

Actions taken to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The city continued to seek additional funding sources to address underserved needs. The city continued to support activities that create an environment for businesses to remain, expand or relocate to Williamsport. The city continued to pursue economic development opportunities through revitalization efforts. The City of Williamsport utilized Act 13 funds that support public facilities and housing rehabilitation projects that benefit LMI individuals. The city continued to revise and modify programs as they relate to affordable housing.

Actions taken to reduce lead-based paint hazards. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The guidelines for the City's Housing Rehabilitation program complied with the lead-based paint hazards at 24 CFR 35. The city continued to pursue lead hazard reduction procedures and will continue until the total number of lead contaminated homes has been significantly reduced.

Actions taken to reduce the number of poverty-level families. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The resources and opportunities that the city has for minimizing the number of families with incomes below the poverty line are limited. Since poverty is a function of income, its effect on housing opportunity and choice is apparent. Conversely, without adequate, stable housing, alleviating poverty is more difficult. Still, the means of addressing both issues are fragmented.

Several structural barriers to poverty are addressed through different local policies. For example, the City of Williamsport has adopted a Section 3 Action Plan which requires the employment of Section 3 households in construction contracts when possible. Admittedly, contractors often already have the workforce necessary to complete a construction project though. However, the City encourages contractors awarded CDBG funded contracts to hire Section 3 persons, makes all opportunities for contracts known to Section 3 businesses, and requires contractors to report on Section 3 labor hours for each project.

More direct efforts to alleviate poverty by combining case management, social services, job training, and housing assistance are more common through collaboration with the Coordinated Services Task Force. In addition to CDBG and HOME activities included in the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan, the city is also

continuing to promote and participate in local coordination with service providers and regional organizations to encourage public/private partnerships, develop new opportunities, and ensure that the goals and objectives of the Consolidated Plan are addressed in a holistic manner. This strategy provides the best avenue to addressing poverty in the city.

The goals of the FFY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan concerning economic development include:

Community Development Priority (High Priority):

There is a need to improve the public and community facilities, infrastructure, public services, code enforcement, public safety, clearance, and the quality of life in the City of Williamsport.

- **Public Facilities (High Priority):** The City recognizes the need to improve its facilities and infrastructure throughout the city. This includes creating a safe and suitable living environment via street reconstruction and the improvement of parks and recreation facilities. The installation and/or reconstruction of ADA compliant curb ramps also meets the priority for special needs populations.
- **Blight Elimination (High Priority):** Blight elimination will be conducted on a spot and/or area basis; specifically, this will include the demolition of severely code-deficient structures that are a detriment to public health and safety.

Economic Development Priority (Low Priority):

There is a need to increase employment, self-sufficiency, education, job training, technical assistance, and economic empowerment of the residents of the city. However, this is often undertaken with funds other than CDBG or HOME.

Although the city attempted the Business Assistance Loan Program, unfortunately it was not of great success through the administration of the program. The city altered paths and has put more money toward the rehabilitation side to assist with current trends. The city is exploring alternatives through economic revitalization but are only in discussion phases currently.

Actions taken to develop institutional structure. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City and SEDACOG will coordinate activities amongst public and private agencies, and other organizations that serve the municipality. Many public and private agencies provide services on either a county or multi-county level. As a result of this administrative structure, the efforts to implement the strategies produced from this Five-Year Consolidated Plan will require greater cooperation across Lycoming County.

The city joined with non-profit CHDO's, for-profit developers and various local groups to increase housing opportunities for targeted income groups. The city communicated with housing service providers, banks, and realtors making them aware of City programs. The city continued to work with community-based organizations that effectively deliver programs and services through monthly

meetings with the Coordinated Services Task Force. This organization brings together representatives from various sectors of the community to improve the quality of life through a volunteer collaborative process.

Actions taken to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies. 91.220(k); 91.320(j)

The City of Williamsport continued to interact with the various public and non-profit institutions that provide housing and supportive services to low-income residents. Although the agencies are independent of one another, they work together through the Coordinated Services Task Force to ensure coordination. Communication is very open in the group and typically all members will respond in less than 24 hours.

Identify actions taken to overcome the effects of any impediments identified in the jurisdictions analysis of impediments to fair housing choice. 91.520(a)

The City of Williamsport updated its Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) in 2020. The AI is a review of a jurisdiction's laws, regulations, and administrative policies, procedures and practices affecting the location, availability, and accessibility of housing, as well as an assessment of conditions, both public and private, affecting fair housing choice. The chart in the discussion includes recommended actions to affirmatively further fair housing choice planned through 2025, many of which are ongoing and will be taken into consideration for 2025. The city will continue to explore inclusionary options such as adjustment of minimum parting requirements for new units and incentives for partnerships with developers to provide a variety of affordable housing options for low- to moderate-income households.

SEDA-COG worked with the city to distribute social media outreach. The "Fair Housing Financial Awareness/Home Ownership Social Media" project reached out to Fair Housing institutions; two of which developed short video segments, within the scope of Financial Awareness/Home Ownership. The Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) created a poster, "Getting a Home Loan: Be Your Own Best Advocate". The videos and poster were uploaded for broadcast on SEDA-COG's Facebook, LinkedIn, X (Twitter) and Instagram accounts during the months of April and July 2024. Grantees and community partners were encouraged to share the videos and poster across various social media platforms, with the goal of raising Fair Housing Financial Awareness and encouraging Home Ownership.

Fair Housing Issue/Barrier to Affordable Housing: Racially/Ethnically Concentrated Areas of Poverty:
Goal #1: Provide education to housing services providers and developers
Strategies:
(A) Participate in Fair Housing Month to raise awareness about fair housing rights and how to file grievances
(B) Issue an annual proclamation to recognize key local players who have made a positive contribution to fair housing
(C) Explore the feasibility of developing a mandatory landlord education program
(D) Include a contract clause to ensure that CDBG/HOME recipients fulfill the obligation to affirmatively further fair housing
(E) Continue to submit an annual Right To Know request to PHRC and address any grievances received
(F) Pass and Enforce an anti-discrimination ordinance
(G) Ensure that municipal staff understand and have access to fair housing educational materials that are shared with the public
(H) Create a Fair Housing Hub on the SEDA-COG website and promote it to community partners
(I) Include tenant rights information on the Fair Housing Hub
(J) Publicize and promote an annual fair housing hearing to provide residents with the opportunity to ask questions and share concerns
(K) Provide a fair housing workshop for housing providers
Goal #2: Continue to fund existing housing programs
Strategies:
(A) Inform the local Center for Independent Living (MyCIL) about new projects
(B) Explore the feasibility of creating a program that provides resources to help older adults age in place
(C) Provide materials about utility assistance programs available at City Hall
(D) Create a link to SEDA-COG's weatherization program on the Fair Housing Hub
(E) Continue to address blight by allocating CDBG funding

(F) When opportunities arise, support public and private efforts to create new units of affordable housing
(G) Consider affordable housing needs when allocating CDBG funding
Fair Housing Issue/Barrier to Affordable Housing: Access to Opportunity
Goal #1: Continue to fund public services for vulnerable populations such as low and moderate income households
Strategies:
(A) Explore feasibility of creating a program that provides resources to help older adults age in place
(B) Support MyCIL efforts through agency sharing
(C) Contribute to SEDA-COG's Transportation study and advocate for Williamsport's inclusion in the pilot route
(D) Establish a partnership between social service agencies and local banks to help connect with and assist first time homebuyers
(E) Provide outreach materials in Spanish to connect with local Hispanic/Latino mortgage applicants
Goal #2: Increase supply of affordable housing
Strategies
(A) Inform MyCIL about new projects
(B) Incentivize developers to build affordable/accessible housing, particularly on lots where blighted properties are razed
(C) When opportunities arise, support public and private efforts to create new units of affordable housing
Fair Housing Issue/Barrier to Affordable Housing: Community Health
Goal #1: Improve the quality of existing housing, including home repairs and accessibility modifications
Strategies:
(A) Establish a partnership between code enforcement staff and social service agencies to address quality issues with landlords who are reluctant to make repairs

(B) Ensure that new multi-unit developments include accessible housing as required by ADA
(C) Ensure that out-of-state landlords with rental quality issues are directly addressed by code enforcement staff
(E) Continue to address blight by allocating CDBG funding
Fair Housing Issue/Barrier to Affordable Housing: Public Transit
Goal #1: Maintain key partnerships with STEP and RVT to ensure access to lower opportunity areas
Strategies:
(A) Contribute to SEDA-COG's Transportation study and advocate for Williamsport's inclusion in the pilot route
(B) Assess the accessibility of sidewalks and other public spaces and identify other priority projects
Fair Housing Issue/Barrier to Affordable Housing: Lender Discrimination
Goal #1: Continue to support fair housing services offered by the City of Williamsport's Fair Housing Commission and West Branch Valley Association of Realtors
Strategies:
(A) Establish a partnership between social service agencies and local banks to help connect with and assist first time homebuyers
(B) Ensure that municipal staff understand and have access to fair housing educational materials to share with the public
(C) Establish a relationship with HUD-Approved housing counseling agency to offer financial education including credit rehabilitation and first-time homebuyer program in the area
(D) Provide a fair housing workshop for lenders and Realtors

CR-40 - Monitoring 91.220 and 91.230

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

The Office of Economic & Community Development oversees Williamsport's housing and community development programs and is responsible for all performance measurement activities. The standards and procedures of the Office of Economic & Community Development for monitoring are designed to ensure that:

1) Objectives of the National Affordable Housing Act are met; 2) Program activities are progressing in compliance with the specifications and schedule for each program; and 3) Recipients are in compliance with other applicable laws, implementing regulations, and the requirements to affirmatively further fair housing and minimize displacement of low-income households.

The Office of Economic & Community Development monitors all proposed activities to ensure long-term compliance with program requirements. The objectives of this monitoring are to insure those activities:

1) comply with all regulations governing their administrative, financial, and programmatic operations; 2) achieve performance objectives within schedule and budget; and 3) comply with the Consolidated Plan.

The Office of Economic & Community Development utilizes project checklists to insure and document program compliance. The Director of the Office of Economic & Community Development is also responsible for the timely implementation of activities. Quarterly, the Director reviews the expenditures against the ratio used by HUD (1.5 times the allocation on hand at the end of the program year) to ensure that the goal will be met. The city was not compliant with the timeliness standard in 2023. A Timeliness Workout Plan is in place.

All subrecipients of CDBG and HOME funds are subject to monitoring. The Office of Economic & Community Development maintains a written policy for the monitoring of its subrecipients. Fiscal monitoring includes review and approval of budgets, compliance with executed grant agreements, beneficiary reports, review of fiscal reports, and a review of audits on an annual basis. Outreach is conducted using the SBA HUBZone database, HUD Section 3 business registry, SEDA-COG MBE/WBE/S-3 list and locally known contacts.

When activities require outside contracting, Williamsport encourages participation by minority owned businesses. Williamsport shall maintain records concerning the participation of minority owned businesses to assess the results of its efforts.

Annually, in the preparation of the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), the Office of Economic & Community Development will review whether the specific objectives outlined

in this strategic plan are being met. Further, this review will be an opportunity to assess if the strategic plan goals continue to address community priorities and if adequate resources are available to meet the objectives. Community input will be sought in this analysis.

Internal controls have been designed to ensure adequate segregation of duties. The Office of Economic and Community Development prepares agreements for non-housing activities supported by CDBG and establishes accounts. Invoices are monitored for compliance with the approved spending plan and federal regulations.

In Program Year 2023, the city has entered into a formal legal agreement with SEDA-COG to provide full administration of the grant(s). SEDA-COG Community Development Staff will manage project development and application preparation responsibilities including citizen participation requirements, preparation of the Consolidated and Annual Action Plans, and satisfaction of federal regulatory requirements related to plan submission, including the Consolidated Action Plan Evaluation Report (CAPER).

Specific grant administration responsibilities will include assistance in record keeping and financial management (including preparation and approval of invoice forms and IDIS draws), contract review and finalization of project scope, project coordination, procurement; regular review of required policies/plans, preparation, approval, and submission of progress reports, and close-out/monitoring. Specific project management responsibilities to be carried out on a project-by-project basis include Labor Standards Enforcement and completion of the required Environmental Review(s).

As the grantee, the city will retain control of grant funds and will retain overall control of the financial management system through invoice drawdown and preparation of bank drafts. After final execution of the contract between the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the city, SEDA-COG shall assist the city in preparing the necessary contract documents. SEDA-COG shall set up, maintain, and requisition funds through the IDIS system. The City of Williamsport, however, shall have final authority on the actual issuance of payment.

The chief elected official shall serve as the contact person between the city and SEDA-COG in order to assist in the coordination of grant management activities. The City Council may also utilize other necessary expertise, at their discretion. Specific activities may require certain delivery services over and above the activities listed. HUD funds may be utilized to support archaeological, architectural, and/or engineering services, in addition to legal consultation.

SEDA-COG is an established Council of Governments created by eleven (11) counties with a mandate to provide planning and development assistance services to governments within its region. The agency provides a variety of services and has a successful track record in community development, project development, and contract administration. SEDA-COG's Community Development Program is also an approved Commonwealth vendor under ITQ Solicitation No. 4400007410 and Vendor Contract No.

4400014141 for Technical Assistance – Federal Grant or Loan Programs. SEDA-COG is also a COSTARS Participating Member (No. 3186).

SEDA-COG's Community Development team consists of fourteen experienced professionals and numerous support personnel, including secretarial, word and data processing, and graphics staff. Additional specialized technical expertise is available through other SEDA-COG program staff with credentials in business development, finance, accounting, design, construction management, inspection, and supervision.

SEDA-COG's Community Development team is comprised of the following individuals:

- Tyler Dombroski, Director
- Jamie Shrawder, Program Manager
- Angie Kemberling, Senior Program Analyst
- Tonia Troup, Program Analyst
- Leslie Hosterman, Program Analyst
- Monica Fox, Program Analyst
- Carol Kearney High, Program Analyst
- Michelle Koslap, Program Analyst
- Hanorah Lucas, Program Analyst
- Sarah Biddle, Program Assistant
- Andrea Genovese, Program Assistant
- Debra Lyons, Program Assistant
- Paige Campbell, Program Assisant

The grant is managed by Jamie Shrawder, with supervision provided by Tyler Dombroski, Director of the Community Development Program at SEDA-COG. Collectively, team members have over 50 years of experience in the housing and community development field, successfully administering and completing over 1,000 federally funded projects.

Citizen Participation Plan 91.105(d); 91.115(d)

Describe the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports.

The city published notices in the Williamsport Sun-Gazette and on the City's website regarding the availability of the 2024 CAPER for review. A newspaper advertisement was published in the Williamsport Sun-Gazette on March 6, 2025, and a notice was added to the Community Development page of the City's web site (cityofwilliamsport.org) to make citizens aware that the draft 2024 CAPER was available for public review and public comment. The public hearing date of March 13, 2025, was also provided in the notice.

SEDA-COG notified all the organizations that initially participated in the consultation process, during the development of the FFY 2020-FFY 2024 Consolidated Plan and FFY 2024 Action Plan, that comments for the FFY 2024 CAPER were being accepted.

The city conducted its 15-day public comment period for its FFY 2024 CAPER between March 6, 2025, and March 21, 2025. No comments were submitted to the City of Williamsport or SEDA-COG concerning the FFY 2024 CAPER. The city provided a draft copy of the CAPER for public comments at the following locations:

- SEDA-COG website (www.seda-cog.org).
- City Community Development office at Trade and Transit Centre 1.

Please refer to the minutes of the public hearing, which provides comment documentation for the public hearing.

According to the 2020 Decennial Census data, ACS, the city has a Limited Proficiency population of 1.8% and a Hispanic population of 2.33%; however, the CAPER notice, translated into Spanish, is available at the city.

The City of Williamsport does make every effort to make all programs and activities accessible to the learning, mobility, visually, hearing, language-impaired persons, and those with limited English proficiency. Therefore, persons with a disability or limited English proficiency that require an auxiliary aid, service, or accommodation to participate, are invited to contact SEDA-COG to discuss how to best accommodate needs. Translators are also made available at public meetings upon advance request.

Any complaints, grievances, or comments written and submitted to SEDA-COG are addressed within fifteen working days when practicable.

CR-45 - CDBG 91.520(c)

Specify the nature of, and reasons for, any changes in the jurisdiction's program objectives and indications of how the jurisdiction would change its programs as a result of its experiences.

The city completed one Substantial Amendment to Program Year 2023's Annual Action Plan to reprogram funds from the Street Reconstruction and Removal of Architectural Barrier – Curb Cuts into the Little League Blvd Reconstruction project. This change was made based on the city's priorities for street reconstruction.

The city does not plan to change any program objectives at this time. The City has closed out several activities and is reviewing any that are not drawing funds down in a timely manner.

Impact of COVID-19 on CDBG formula program:

The Public Facilities and Infrastructure and Public Service goals were achieved.

The Accessible Housing, Blight Elimination, and Home Ownership goals fell short of the expected outcomes due to the extreme increase in cost to materials, labor, and the housing available on the market caused by COVID-19.

Changes made to priorities or objectives in responding to coronavirus:

The city funded the following activities under the Community Development Priority: Basketball Court Resurfacing at Young Woods Park and Splash Pad Installation at Newberry Park. The Splash Pad project was abandoned for a complete park improvement project in Newberry Park.

Changes to CDBG Funded Programs due to Response to Coronavirus:

The Brandon Park Bandshell Restoration project funded with FFY 2019 and 2023 funds remained on hold until additional funds could be allocated due to the extreme rise in cost of construction. Construction was completed in 2024. Design and engineering was started for the Newberry Park Improvements project.

Does this Jurisdiction have any open Brownfields Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants?

No

CR-50 - HOME 24 CFR 91.520(d)

Include the results of on-site inspections of affordable rental housing assisted under the program to determine compliance with housing codes and other applicable regulations

Please list those projects that should have been inspected on-site this program year based upon the schedule in 24 CFR §92.504(d). Indicate which of these were inspected and a summary of issues that were detected during the inspection. For those that were not inspected, please indicate the reason and how you will remedy the situation.

The City Community & Economic Development Department is now aware that no inspections were conducted. Staff members responsible for 2024 inspections (Director of Community and Economic Development and Program Administrator) are no longer employed by the City of Williamsport. The department is willing to do what is necessary to remediate this finding and will complete inspections as required. A new Director of Community and Economic Development was hired 7/11/2024.

Provide an assessment of the jurisdiction's affirmative marketing actions for HOME units. 24 CFR 91.520(e) and 24 CFR 92.351(a)

The City has policies and procedures in place to affirmatively market housing. Management of City formerly assisted sites maintain Affirmative Marketing Plans that include advertisements stating requirement compliance with Equal Opportunity, Fair Housing and outreach actions. Management maintains web sites with detailed descriptions of living units, including units that are handicapped accessible and those that meet the needs of persons with visual/hearing impairment. All HOME assisted projects are required to display Fair Housing information in public areas. Advertisements include the Fair Housing Equal Opportunity logo. The following documents are displayed in site rental offices: Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan, Tenant Grievance and Appeal Procedure, and Tenant Selection Criteria. Newspaper and other media announcements, and any printed materials, include the Equal Housing Opportunity logo, slogan, or statement.

Management Rental staff and persons involved with tenant selection for HOME units are trained to conduct business in accordance with federal, state, and local fair housing laws and are advised that it is illegal to discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin. Rental staff track applicant data and attend annual training from qualified professionals regarding fair housing law. All rental managements participate in the PHFA <http://www.pahousingsearch.com> listing service which includes assisted rentals, disaster, veterans, and homebuyer resources. Area support and social service agencies are aware of the availability and location of affordable housing. The city requires CHDO's to perform outreaches for all newly constructed units. The city provides Fair Housing Posters to Cooperative Task Force attendees, local agencies, and housing providers.

Refer to IDIS reports to describe the amount and use of program income for projects, including the number of projects and owner and tenant characteristics

OOSF Rehab #1093, 50%, FHH, Hispanic \$113.12 of PI funds.

OOSF Rehab #1063, 30%, FHH, white \$2,699.50 of PI funds

OOSF Rehab #1076, 50%, FHH, white \$1,455 of PI funds

Describe other actions taken to foster and maintain affordable housing. 24 CFR 91.220(k) (STATES ONLY: Including the coordination of LIHTC with the development of affordable housing). 24 CFR 91.320(j)

All agreements for HOME funded rental units and Homebuyer units contain required appropriate affordability periods to ensure that the units remain affordable. City staff inspects and verifies occupancy as applicable, and the rents for HOME assisted units annually. The Fair Housing Amendments Act (FHAA) includes Accessibility Guidelines that dictate how all new multifamily housing of four or more units must be designed and constructed to be accessible. It also gives a renter the right to make accessibility modifications to a home or apartment as long as the unit is returned to its original condition when they leave. CDBG and HOME funds are used to support the City's comprehensive housing programs including rehabilitation of owner-occupied single-family housing, accessibility rehabilitation and construction of new housing by one of the City's two certified CHDO's.

No new multi-unit HOME funded activity was funded in 2024, but City rental projects must benefit lower income occupants, helping them retain housing as they age or if they become disabled. Factors such as the high cost of land for residential development and unprecedented increases in construction costs continue to constrain development.

CR-58 – Section 3

Identify the number of individuals assisted and the types of assistance provided

Total Labor Hours	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Total Number of Activities	2	0	0	0	0
Total Labor Hours	4050				
Total Section 3 Worker Hours	0				
Total Targeted Section 3 Worker Hours	0				

Table 14 – Total Labor Hours

Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program	CDBG	HOME	ESG	HOPWA	HTF
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Public Housing Targeted Workers					
Outreach efforts to generate job applicants who are Other Funding Targeted Workers.					
Direct, on-the job training (including apprenticeships).					
Indirect training such as arranging for, contracting for, or paying tuition for, off-site training.					
Technical assistance to help Section 3 workers compete for jobs (e.g., resume assistance, coaching).					
Outreach efforts to identify and secure bids from Section 3 business concerns.	1				
Technical assistance to help Section 3 business concerns understand and bid on contracts.					
Division of contracts into smaller jobs to facilitate participation by Section 3 business concerns.					
Provided or connected residents with assistance in seeking employment including: drafting resumes, preparing for interviews, finding job opportunities, connecting residents to job placement services.					
Held one or more job fairs.					
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that can provide direct services or referrals.					
Provided or connected residents with supportive services that provide one or more of the following: work readiness health screenings, interview clothing, uniforms, test fees, transportation.					
Assisted residents with finding child care.					
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend community college or a four year educational institution.					
Assisted residents to apply for, or attend vocational/technical training.					
Assisted residents to obtain financial literacy training and/or coaching.					
Bonding assistance, guaranties, or other efforts to support viable bids from Section 3 business concerns.					
Provided or connected residents with training on computer use or online technologies.					
Promoting the use of a business registry designed to create opportunities for disadvantaged and small businesses.					
Outreach, engagement, or referrals with the state one-stop system, as designed in Section 121(e)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.					

Other.					
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Table 15 – Qualitative Efforts - Number of Activities by Program

Narrative

Lose School Park Improvements and the 2022 Street Reconstruction projects were completed in Program Year 2024.