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**CITY OF PORTSMOUTH FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN**  
**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM**  
**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD)**  
**PROGRAM YEARS 2020-2024/CITY FISCAL YEARS 2021-2025**

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**Executive Summary**

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

**1. Introduction**

This Consolidated Plan is a strategic plan for the next five years and discusses the goals and objectives the Portsmouth Community Development Department plans to achieve from City Fiscal Years 2021-2025 (HUD FY 2020-2024). Each year the CD Department provides an annual update to the Consolidated Plan, which serves as an action plan for the upcoming fiscal year. In addition to the five year Consolidated Plan, this year's submittal contains an Annual Action Plan for HUD FY 2020 (City Fiscal Year July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021).

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

This year's Annual Action Plan and Five-Year Consolidated Plan include goals and objectives for housing, public facilities, urgent needs and social services programs that assist individuals and families. Priority needs include creating and preserving affordable housing units, helping homeowners/renters remain in their homes through temporary interim mortgage or rental assistance, responding to urgent needs in the community, removing architectural barriers for persons with disabilities, supporting public service agencies, maintaining infrastructure, and improving access/suitability to public facilities to better meet the needs of people who earn low and moderate incomes.

**3. Evaluation of past performance**

The City of Portsmouth has administered the CDBG entitlement program in Portsmouth for over 40 years. During this time the City has ensured adherence to CDBG program rules as well as compliance with federal regulations governing the use of funds. In the previous five year consolidated planning period, progress was made on several of the community development goals established for housing, public facilities, accessibility and public services, including:

- Improved the housing stock of eligible individuals and families;
- Removed architectural barriers to accessibility for homeowners and in public facilities;
- Provided grants to agencies providing key social supports for thousands of eligible households and families;
- Leveraged funding for various public facility improvement projects for non-profit service agencies; and
- Provided grants and loans for making improvements or renovations in affordable housing complexes.

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The specific accomplishments of projects and programs undertaken during the previous five year planning period are provided in each year's Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

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

There are many worthwhile and eligible programs and projects that are considered for funding each year. To assist the Community Development (CD) Department in determining which projects are funded, a six member Citizens Advisory Committee meets to make funding recommendations to the City Manager. The CD Department oversees all project administration, including oversight of construction administration, invoicing, and Davis Bacon wage rates. The Department also regularly meets with area service providers in order to ensure the needs of partner organizations and their clients are being met.

**5. Summary of public comments**

The public comment period for this draft Consolidated Plan is open for 30 days from April 14, 2020 - May 13, 2020. Comments received will be reviewed and responded to in the final Consolidated Plan. A public hearing on the Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY21 Action Plan is scheduled for April 30, 2020. Comments received will be reviewed and responded to in the final Consolidated Plan.

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

See response in #5 above.

**7. Summary**

The City of Portsmouth receives funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Under this program, the City of Portsmouth is an entitlement community. In FY 2021 (the first year of the HUD 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan), the City of Portsmouth will receive \$533,053 to be used in carrying out various eligible programs that benefit residents who earn low or moderate incomes or address another CDBG National Objective. CDBG funds must be used to primarily 1) benefit individuals and families who earn very low, low or moderate incomes; 2) improve neighborhoods in which over 51% of the residents earn very low, low or moderate incomes; and 3) improve accessibility for people with disabilities. Additionally, the City may use up to 30% of its entitlement funding for responding to HUD-eligible Urgent Needs. Urgent Needs are Urgent Need qualified activities must meet the following criteria: 1) the existing conditions must pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community; 2) the existing conditions are of recent origin or recently became urgent (generally, within the past 18 months); 3) the grantee is unable to finance the activity on its own; and 4) other sources of funding are not available.

## The Process

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	PORTSMOUTH	Community Development Department

**Table 1 – Responsible Agencies**

### Narrative

The CD Department oversees all project administration, including oversight of CDBG-eligible construction administration, invoicing, and Davis Bacon wage rates. The Department also regularly meets with area service providers in order to ensure the needs of partner organizations and their clients are being met.

### Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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## **PR-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.110, 91.200(b), 91.300(b), 91.215(I) and 91.315(I)**

### **1. Introduction**

The Portsmouth Community Development (CD) Department is the sole agency responsible for administering the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The CD Department is responsible for developing the Consolidated Plan, providing annual updates, reporting on activities accomplished and documenting funds expended at the end of each program year. The CD Department works in cooperation with public and private agencies who serve persons who earn very low-, low- and moderate incomes. The CD Department, as a Department of the City of Portsmouth, works closely with other municipal departments including the Planning, Public Works, Legal, Finance, Inspection, Health and Welfare Departments. The Portsmouth Housing Authority is another agency with which the CD Department coordinates services because that agency serves many of the same clientele as CDBG programs. Many residents in Portsmouth Housing Authority apartments are served directly or indirectly by programming and projects funded with CDBG. The CD Department's coordination and cooperation with various entities facilitates CDBG programming and assists in identifying community needs.

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

Community Development staff is very engaged on the quality and affordability of housing. Specifically, the City participates in regional discussions on workforce housing through the Workforce Housing Coalition and its sponsor, The Housing Partnership, a local non-profit housing organization. In recognition of the housing challenge, in 2008 the Portsmouth City Council established the Blue Ribbon Committee on Housing and charged the Committee with developing a "road map", or guidance document, on local housing options and issues; identifying creative solutions to address those issues; and developing a short list of policy and action items that could be taken by the City and others to increase affordable housing options. The results of this work have been incorporated in this, as well as past, Consolidated Plans.

The CDBG program has also worked to advance fair housing through its support for New Hampshire Legal Services (NHLS) Housing Justice Program. NHLS has been regularly awarded funds through the Public Service Agency Grant Program and will continue to receive funds. The agency's work in this area includes providing assistance to Portsmouth renters with fair housing concerns as well as initiating and conducting workshops on fair housing for the benefit of landlords and direct service non-profit providers interacting with clients.

The City also supports and coordinates with area organizations such as Greater Seacoast Community Health to promote access to medical/dental and mental health services for individuals in need. Health organizations work directly with the Portsmouth Housing Authority to bring their services to low and moderate income residents.

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

The City is working with Home for All (formerly known as Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness) in order to better coordinate services targeted toward families and individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The coordinated access initiative between regional service providers is helping potential clients avoid shelters altogether and move forward directly to transitional or permanent placements that are best aligned with their needs. City staff participate in Home for All forums and meetings to discuss challenges, needs and potential collaborations for the homeless services community to focus on in the near term, including improvements to coordinated care with area hospitals, expansion of data aggregation and analysis, and improving efficiency of advocacy work. CD staff is also involved in forums and workgroups addressing issues of chronic homelessness and coordination of services for those currently or at risk of becoming homeless.

**Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards and evaluate outcomes, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the administration of HMIS**

The jurisdiction does not receive ESG funding nor does it work with HMIS. However, the CD Department coordinates and consults with the Continuum of Care coalition, Home for All, as described above. CD staff reviews periodic publications and reports associated with the homeless issue including: the New Hampshire DHHS Annual Homeless Reports and Point in Time Surveys, Homeless Teens, and the work for the New Hampshire Coalition to End Homelessness and local United Way of the Greater Seacoast-sponsored workgroups/forums to end homelessness.

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

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**Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated**

1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	CROSSROADS HOUSE
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-homeless
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Urgent Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Executive Director spoke before the Citizen's Advisory Committee explaining that the shelter provides temporary relief to homeless persons and families in the Seacoast area. In addition to providing shelter they also have comprehensive case management. Guests receive access to planning for finances, employment, medical and mental health care, and housing counseling. The facility has 96 beds and can serve up to 11 families on top of individuals. 446 individual people- approximately 130 from Portsmouth - were served last year, including 30 families with 62 children. Over the past 5 years the length of stay has increased. The Executive Director attributes this to lack of affordable and qualified housing on the Seacoast. Last year 82% of those staying at Crossroads for a period of 90 days were able to find housing.  Working through the homeless coalition, Home for All, improved coordinated entry and utilization of services is expected. Additionally, continued consultation with Crossroads House will assist the City to identify urgent needs.
2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	GREATER SEACOAST COMMUNITY HEALTH
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Health Health Agency

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	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Anti-poverty Strategy Healthcare Mental Health Services Urgent Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Executive Director came to speak to the CAC with regards to the organization's dental and behavioral health programs. The increasing number of clients they are able to accept as a result of healthcare reform was described, as well and the increasing need for behavioral/mental health services. Continued consultation and coordination with this agency as well as through coalition efforts will result in more efficient services and identification of urgent needs.
3	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	PORTSMOUTH HOUSING AUTHORITY
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing PHA
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Public Housing Needs; Urgent Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	<p>The Executive Director spoke before the CAC regarding the housing services provided to clients as well as the recent "Making Classroom and Community Connections (MC3)" program which provides recreational summer and after-school programming for resident children.</p> <p>PHA representative also discussed the Authority's 5-year capital plan for facility improvements and plans to increase the number of affordable housing units in the City.</p> <p>The PHA Executive Director is regularly consulted by City staff on many issues and emerging opportunities such as maintaining and adding additional affordable housing units, and improving service delivery for existing clients. This consultation will continue and provide opportunities for coordinated support in the area of housing needs and urgent needs.</p>

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4	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	HAVEN
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Survivors of Domestic Violence Services – Survivors of Domestic Violence
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services for Persons of Low or Moderate Income;  Urgent Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	The Executive Director spoke before the CAC regarding HAVEN's domestic violence shelter and services for survivors of sexual and domestic violence (DV) and their families. HAVEN is NH's largest DV service agency. The agency has identified a lack of transitional housing for sexual assault and domestic abuse victims.  Programmatically, HAVEN is focused on a "Housing First Approach", leveraging matched and in-kind funds to help women make steps towards housing stability.  Also discussed a about a Capital/Facilities project. The organization would like to transition from a four room emergency shelter, into a ten-thirteen room model, which would also provide guests with access to some of their own private amenities i.e., bathrooms. The City continues regular consultation with HAVEN to provide support and coordinated efforts for DV services and shelter. Additionally, identification of urgent needs is anticipated.
5	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	CHASE HOME FOR CHILDREN
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services- Youth Services – Abused or Neglected Children
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Abused or Neglected Children Services for Persons with Low to Moderate Income



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	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	<p>The Executive Directed described to the CAC the agency's residential program. Children entering the program via the Juvenile Justice System or State placement are given transitional services aimed at helping them reintegrate into a community setting. Currently this program is a 30 day intensive, which has been critiqued as an insufficient amount of time. The Chase Home would like to expand this transitional period to a 90 day program, during which the children would receive additional community based supports in their home.</p> <p>Also discussed a facility improvement project that is mandatory for the agency's accreditation process.</p>
6	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	SEACOAST COMMUNITY SCHOOL
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Youth
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Childcare Services for low to moderate income persons.
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	<p>The Executive Director presented information to the CAC about the Seacoast Community School's scholarship program. Of the families who attend the center, 20% meet the qualifications of extremely low income. Scholarships provide opportunities for families to be able to work and better their situations. The school prides itself on reaching a diverse clientele and offering enrichments such as reading programs, dental programs, an onsite food pantry, and satellite sites that serve children and families directly in their communities, including a full day program at Gosling Meadows, a Housing Authority/low income property. Challenges include teacher turnover and burnout.</p> <p>Continued consultation with the agency should result in identifying additional areas and needs, such as facility improvements.</p>
7	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	AIDS RESPONSE SEACOAST
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Health

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	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	<p>The Executive Director spoke before the CAC about the organization's goals of supporting individuals diagnosed with HIV/AIDS and living in Portsmouth. The agency provides assistance in the areas of: housing, transportation, medication access, medical care, and other support services. In this past calendar year, the agency has seen almost a doubling of new intakes (17, up from 8-10). Issues affecting this population are access to: affordable housing, public transportation, utility assistance, and mental health/medical resources.</p> <p>Also emphasized the critical issue of housing affordability in Portsmouth and the region as a whole, the challenges facing persons living with HIV/AIDS and how important stable housing is to ensuring they can manage their disease effectively. Improved areas for coordination exist in identifying more opportunities to provide safe supportive housing for those with HIV/AIDS.</p>
8	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	SOUTHERN NH SERVICES-ROCKINGHAM COMMUNITY ACTION
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Service-Homeless Prevention Service – Rental Assistance
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Tenant Based Rental Assistance/Other Interim Assistance to persons with Low to Moderate Income; Urgent Needs

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	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	<p>The CAP Agency Program Director presented to the CAC describing challenges encountered from a lack of housing supply and then increased necessity for rental subsidies for families in temporary financial difficulty. He also spoke to housing needs and preventing homelessness as critical for the next five years, and that cooperation between homelessness and housing providers is becoming increasingly important.</p> <p>Mr. Bates discussed the Rockingham Community Action, Homelessness Prevention Program. This program provides assistance to primarily low to moderate income individuals or families, who are facing eviction due to inability to pay. The program provides financial assistance as well as advocacy, and individual support services.</p>
9	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	NH LEGAL ASSISTANCE
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Anti-poverty Strategy

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	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	<p>The Fair Housing Training Program Director spoke to the CAC regarding the organization's Fair Housing Project and the need for it in the next five years to ensure that persons exiting homelessness into housing their rights when difficult housing issues arise in the course of tenant-landlord relationships. Described housing education sessions that are presented by staff attorneys and take place at Crossroads house. The sessions are aimed at helping people understand types of housing discrimination and what they may be able to do about it. Agency report that many of the people who are educated go on to access the free legal assistance that NHLA offers. They often did not know that they had rights or access to counsel and feel empowered by what they learn at these sessions.</p> <p>Continued consultation with NHLA will result in fair housing information being disseminated to vulnerable populations who are exiting homelessness and will assist the City to identify additional strategies and opportunities to affirmatively further fair housing in the City.</p>
10	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	COAST – Seacoast Bus Transit Agency
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Transportation
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	<p>Transportation – Services</p> <p>Transportation – Public Facility Improvements</p>
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	

Table 2 – Other agency consultation efforts

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

N/A

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

<b>Name of Plan</b>	<b>Lead Organization</b>	<b>How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?</b>
Continuum of Care	State of NH Bureau of Homeless and Housing Services	Typical services assisting the homeless in a Continuum of Care include case management, housing counseling, job training and placement, health care, mental health services, substance abuse treatment, child care, transportation, emergency food and clothing, family violence services, education services, moving services, entitlement access assistance, referrals to veterans' services, and legal assistance. In addition to participating in the Continuum Care, the City provides funding to agencies that make up a significant portion of the Continuum of Care system. This support is provided through the City's Community Development Block Grant-funded Public Service Agency Grant Program and through the Portsmouth Welfare Department Social Service grant program, which is supported by local tax dollars.
2025 City Master Plan	Portsmouth Planning Board	One of the many priorities for action identified in the Master Plan is supporting and maintaining a diverse community in the City, which includes promoting access to affordable housing.
2014 Bike-Pedestrian Plan with 2018 Updates	Portsmouth Planning Board	The Plan calls for a connected bicycle and pedestrian network and new programs and policies to help encourage people to walk and bike on a daily basis. This Plan builds on the city's considerable attributes and growing support for walking, bicycling, and "Complete Streets" with the goal of promoting accessibility to diverse modes of transportation for the benefit of all residents.
Portsmouth Housing Authority 5-Year Plan	Portsmouth Housing Authority	The Plan's goals include increasing the quality and supply of housing for families of low or moderate income in Portsmouth, as well encouraging access to social services, healthcare, family support, youth programs and senior programs for current PHA residents.
2015 Regional Master Plan	Rockingham Planning Commission	As one of the largest communities in the County, the City has a vested interest in the success of neighboring communities. Portsmouth faces many of the same challenges as other towns in the region, albeit most other towns are significantly more rural.

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<b>Name of Plan</b>	<b>Lead Organization</b>	<b>How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?</b>
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy	Regional Economic Development Center of Southern New Hampshire	The CEDS is a plan submitted by the REDC to the Department of Commerce annually. It emerges from a continuous planning process developed with broad based and diverse community participation that addresses the economic problems and potential of an area. The strategy promotes sustainable economic development and opportunity, fosters effective transportation systems, enhances and protects the environment, and balances resources through sound management and development.
2014 Greater Seacoast Plan to Prevent Homelessness	Corporation for Supportive Housing	A thorough report on the status of the Seacoast region's efforts to prevent and end homelessness and a framework for communities and service providers to increase the success of the current work being undertaken.
2014 Housing Existing Conditions Report	Portsmouth Planning Board	An analysis of the existing housing conditions in the City with a focus on future efforts to preserve existing affordable housing and encourage redevelopment of underutilized properties with housing that is affordable to houses at or below the area median income.
2014 Economic Dev. Existing Conditions Report	Portsmouth Planning Board	An analysis of the economic conditions of the City and surrounding area focusing particularly on the composition of the current labor pool and population as a whole. Also lays out opportunities for expansion and improvement of specific areas and neighborhoods in the City.

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

**Describe cooperation and coordination with other public entities, including the State and any adjacent units of general local government, in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan (91.215(l))**

Community Development staff consult and coordinate with other City department staff who serve as staff to the City's local Economic Development Commission. City staff also coordinate with the New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority (NHCDFA). NHCDFA administers the statewide CDBG program and is a member of the three agency team that develops and implements the state's Consolidated Plan. In addition to this coordination, staff also work with the Rockingham Planning Commission, the State Bureau of Homelessness and Housing Services, the NH Housing Finance Authority, and the State Lead Poisoning Prevention Program in the course of designing and implementing programs. The CD Department also consults with liaisons to the Portsmouth Cultural Commission and the organization it established to carry out

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its work, Art-Speak, due to the critical role the arts play in the local economy. The City also has liaisons between it and several local organizations including the Portsmouth Historical Society, Greater Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Business Association, Rockingham County Economic Development Authority, and the Tenant’s Association at Pease to name a few.

## **PR-15 Citizen Participation – 91.105, 91.115, 91.200(c) and 91.300(c)**

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

The Portsmouth Community Develop (CD) Department works with a six-member volunteer Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) throughout the last year to update the Citizens Participation Plan and develop the priorities and goals to be focused on in the Consolidated Plan. The Community Development Department consults with the public and service providers during CAC meetings. When an organization is being considered for funding or will be affected by potential policy developments, they are contacted regularly throughout the decision making process.

Advertising public hearings in accordance with the Citizen Participation Plan, the CD Department sent out emails to CDBG participant organizations, posted a notice on the CD webpages, and published legal notices in the local paper to publicize public hearings and participation in CDBG programs. Notices of all public hearings were also published on the City's website and posted at Portsmouth City Hall and the Public Library. In addition, public notices and hearing dates are sent to existing public service agency grant participants and other non-profit service providers working with elderly populations, the disabled, immigrant communities and others. Specific language in Subrecipient Agreements with agencies receiving Public Service Agency Grant Program funds requires them to market their services to CDBG eligible neighborhoods as well as those living in housing developments owned or managed by the Portsmouth Housing Authority.



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**Citizen Participation Outreach**

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
1	Public Meeting	Seniors; Residents of Public and Assisted Housing at Margeson Apartments	18 residents of elderly public housing attended; various representatives of Portsmouth Housing Authority; also attending-City CD Staff; some members of CAC.	Community Needs: Transportation; Sidewalk; Accessibility; Smoking Hut; Outdoor Community Space; Access to arts and entertainment; Shuttle to Specific Destinations; Outdoor Lighting; Workout Classes; Medical and Dental; Visiting Hygienists (hair, nails, etc.); Security measures	none	
2	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community; Public Housing residents at Wamesit Place	12 community members attended public meeting at Greenleaf Recreation Center; also attending - several members of PHA Staff; CD staff	Community Needs: Handicap and guest parking; Road work; Bus shelter; COAST Bus access; Speed bumps; Program funding; Fitness center; Security cameras; Skate park; Park at bottom of the hill; Animal nests	none	

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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
3	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	11 members of the public, including CAOST representatives and social service agencies; also attending-CD staff and CAC members attended public hearing at City Hall.	Supportive Housing (Addiction Recovery) Transportation; Providing Access to Public Transit (ADA) Sidewalk repair; Transportation to Medical Appointments; COAST Bus stops and added routes; Safe affordable housing (Victims of Domestic Violence); Overlapping needs of domestic violence survivors; Medication and Treatment Costs; Sec. 8 Voucher Holders are being denied access to housing; Service agencies are already supporting the elderly; How to help people who are living in their cars.	none	
4	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community; public service agencies.	Representatives of several area organizations came to speak including: AIDS Response Seacoast, Crossroads House, Great Seacoast Community Health, New Hampshire Legal Assistance and Seacoast Community School	The primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss agencies' application for the FY21 Public Service Agency Grant Program and their perspectives on the issues most in need of addressing in the 5 year plan. See summary of comments in previous section of this Plan.	none	

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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
5	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community; public service agencies.	Representatives of several area organizations came to speak including: HAVEN, Chase Home for Children, Southern NH Services Rockingham CAP Agency, and Portsmouth Housing Authority.	The primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss agencies' application for the FY21 Public Service Agency Grant Program and their perspectives on the issues most in need of addressing in the 5 year plan. See summary of comments in previous section of this Plan.	none	
6	Public Meeting – to be held 4-30-2020	Non-targeted/broad community	TBD		none	

**Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach**

## **Needs Assessment**

### **NA-05 Overview**

#### **Needs Assessment Overview**

The Community Development (CD) Department staff maintain an open and active relationship with public service agencies, keeping staff aware of community needs. In addition, Community Development staff have been actively involved in the development of the City-wide Master Plan, Recreation Needs Study, Open Space Study, the Blue Ribbon Committee on Housing's Final Report and Recommendations, as well as other planning and community development oriented local and regional issues. CD staff is also attentive to community issues receiving particular focus during this planning period including ending homelessness, serving the aging population, and treating people with mental-illness. The CD Department is also working to address the opiate abuse through greater cooperation between other agencies and service providers including law enforcement, health care providers, and the Portsmouth Housing Authority (PHA).

Increasing affordable and assisted housing stock, and ensuring those most in need have access to public service providers are the City's most pressing priorities. The most common housing challenge is addressing the large number of cost burdened households. In addition, homelessness in Rockingham County has increased in recent years, and chronic homelessness has risen significantly.

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

### **Summary of Housing Needs**

As the Seacoast region's urban center, Portsmouth has historically provided a range of housing options to serve the needs of a wide variety of households. Approximately half of the City's housing stock is rental units, compared to 35% in the metropolitan area (Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area or PMSA, NH portion) and only 25% in Rockingham County. With 12.5% of all households in the PMSA, Portsmouth hosts 16% of the region's rental households and 20% of renters who earn the lowest incomes. Portsmouth strives to be a community with a high quality housing supply that is diverse in type, ownership and affordability, thereby promoting a healthy demographic and economic diversity within the population. Portsmouth is a regional job center with a high-cost housing market. The affordable housing supply has not kept pace with economic growth. Portsmouth's jobs-to-housing balance has changed dramatically as a result of the conversion of Pease Air Force Base into the Pease International Tradeport. The development of the Tradeport, along with other changes in the local and regional economy, has made Portsmouth a regional job hub. Despite this, very little developable land has meant the local housing supply has not been able to keep pace with expansion.

Along with the evolution of the local economy over the past 25 years, Portsmouth has become increasingly desirable as a place to live, attracting new and more affluent residents who are drawn by the amenities offered by the City and the Seacoast region. The combination of increased housing demand and limited supply has resulted in soaring housing costs. While market-rate housing costs have increased, Portsmouth has continued to provide its "fair share" of housing for households earning lower incomes. About 31% of the assisted rental housing supply available in the NH portion of the PMSA is located in Portsmouth. This does not include approximately 400 housing subsidy vouchers that are administered by the Portsmouth Housing Authority, which enable low and moderate income renters to afford housing in the private market.

Despite the dramatic shift in the housing market nationally beginning in late 2008, housing affordability in the Northeast and Portsmouth in particular has changed little. The Seacoast's livability and low foreclosure activity has not altered significantly the overall picture of housing cost burden or changes in vacancy or tenure.

Given the City's limited land supply, regional approaches are needed in addition to the City's existing affordable housing initiatives, which include the Multi-Family Housing Rehabilitation Program, the non-CDBG-funded HomeTown First Time Homebuyers Program, and working to identify affordable housing projects.

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<b>Demographics</b>	<b>Base Year: 2009</b>	<b>Most Recent Year: 2015</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Population	20,779	21,425	3%
Households	9,410	10,260	9%
Median Income	\$62,395.00	\$71,392.00	14%

**Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics**

**Data Source:** 2005-2009 ACS (Base Year), 2011-2015 ACS (Most Recent Year)

**Number of Households Table**

	<b>0-30% HAMFI</b>	<b>&gt;30-50% HAMFI</b>	<b>&gt;50-80% HAMFI</b>	<b>&gt;80-100% HAMFI</b>	<b>&gt;100% HAMFI</b>
Total Households	1,065	1,255	1,360	1,145	5,435
Small Family Households	190	370	280	380	2,140
Large Family Households	10	20	10	20	195
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	285	285	285	250	915
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	260	180	275	125	335
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger	100	130	54	89	655

**Table 6 - Total Households Table**

**Data Source:** 2011-2015 CHAS

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### Housing Needs Summary Tables

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

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	0	0	10	0	10	0	0	0	0	0
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	0	10	0	0	10	10	0	0	0	10
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	440	360	65	0	865	205	115	200	4	524

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	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	130	365	340	100	935	35	140	190	175	540
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	40	0	0	0	40	4	0	0	0	4

**Table 7 – Housing Problems Table**

Data 2011-2015 CHAS  
Source:

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

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
<b>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	440	375	75	0	890	215	115	200	4	534
Having none of four housing problems	325	565	655	620	2,165	35	200	430	520	1,185
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	40	0	0	0	40	4	0	0	0	4

**Table 8 – Housing Problems 2**

Data 2011-2015 CHAS  
Source:



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**3. Cost Burden > 30%**

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	150	310	75	535	40	4	135	179
Large Related	4	4	10	18	4	15	0	19
Elderly	240	160	125	525	134	134	160	428
Other	175	265	210	650	70	95	100	265
Total need by income	569	739	420	1,728	248	248	395	891

**Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%**

Data 2011-2015 CHAS  
Source:

**4. Cost Burden > 50%**

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	150	110	25	285	30	4	55	89
Large Related	0	0	0	0	4	15	0	19
Elderly	130	95	20	245	105	19	75	199
Other	160	150	20	330	70	70	70	210
Total need by income	440	355	65	860	209	108	200	517

**Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%**

Data 2011-2015 CHAS  
Source:

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

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	0	14	0	0	14	10	0	0	0	10
Multiple, unrelated family households	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Other, non-family households	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	0	14	0	0	14	10	0	0	0	10

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

Data 2011-2015 CHAS  
Source:

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

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

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

The number of single person households in need of housing assistance is relatively small. Usually the majority of single persons in need in the City are elderly individuals living alone who have difficulty maintaining their residences and performing everyday physical tasks.

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

Nearly one third of all women in NH have experienced intimate partner violence at some point in their lifetime. This estimate would be consistent with the number of families in need of housing assistance as it would be with the population overall.

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

The most common housing problems stem from rapidly rising real estate prices that require families to spend an increasingly large percentage of their income on housing costs. There are few problems with physical issues such as substandard housing, but many families are cost burdened spending more than 30% of their income on housing costs.

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

The populations most affected by high housing costs are usually small families and the elderly. Small and single parent families have less of a combined income to draw off to defray housing costs, and many elderly persons see the costs of the residences they've lived in for most of their lives rise above their ability to pay. High rates of housing cost burdens also make it difficult for young persons to find housing in the area, and, while they are more mobile than other population groups, failure to attract and keep young people will have a distinct negative impact on the regional economy if it continues long term.

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

Low-income families are usually at risk of losing their housing due to situations outside of their control such as unanticipated healthcare costs or lack of stable employment. The best means to prevent loss of housing are to ensure families have access to affordable healthcare, stable employment, educational opportunities, and financial services. Particularly important for families transitioning back into housing is reliable transportation to service providers and place of work. In order to transition back into stable living situations and stay there, a household needs to be able to have access to a robust support network to address and deal with chronic issues and prevent recidivism.

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

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

In Portsmouth, the most pervasive issue with regards to housing instability is an increasingly high cost burden. When families are required to pay more than 30% of their income on housing costs they are left with less ability to pay for necessities such as food, healthcare, transportation, and education. This creates a downward spiral difficult to arrest, especially when families lack the resources to be able to relocate to a neighboring community with lower costs of living.

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

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

### Introduction

Using the 2007-2011 Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data, the City has calculated whether there is a disproportionately greater need from a particular racial or ethnic group in an income category that has one or more of four housing problems. These housing problems include lacking complete kitchen facilities, lacking complete plumbing facilities, more than one person per room and a cost burden greater than 30%. The CHAS data has six categories of race and ethnicity to compare along with the data from the jurisdiction as a whole. In Portsmouth, the vast majority of residents facing housing problems are dealing with cost burden; very few residences lack complete kitchen or plumbing facilities and the City as a whole has a very low average person per household rate at 2.03 persons per unit.

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

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	820	195	44
White	660	175	44
Black / African American	25	10	0
Asian	25	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	50	15	0

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

**Data Source:** 2011-2015 CHAS

\*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

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

<b>Housing Problems</b>	<b>Has one or more of four housing problems</b>	<b>Has none of the four housing problems</b>	<b>Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems</b>
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,000	260	0
White	875	220	0
Black / African American	0	0	0
Asian	70	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	30	35	0

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

**Data Source:** 2011-2015 CHAS

\*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

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

<b>Housing Problems</b>	<b>Has one or more of four housing problems</b>	<b>Has none of the four housing problems</b>	<b>Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems</b>
Jurisdiction as a whole	805	555	0
White	715	495	0
Black / African American	70	40	0
Asian	20	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	0	0

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

**Data Source:** 2011-2015 CHAS

\*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

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

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	280	865	0
White	265	745	0
Black / African American	0	20	0
Asian	0	80	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	0	0

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

**Data Source:** 2011-2015 CHAS

\*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

**Discussion**

Portsmouth is a relatively homogeneous City with a white population of greater than 91% according to data from the 2018 American Community Survey. As such, it was expected to see that there is a disproportionately greater need for whites across the board. What the data tells us is that there is not a racially-based disproportionately greater need. At the same time, the City will continue to work to solve the four housing problems for all categories.

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

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

### Introduction

As a relatively homogenous community, the City does not have a significant disproportionately greater need among racial or ethnic minorities.

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

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	655	360	44
White	585	250	44
Black / African American	10	25	0
Asian	0	25	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	4	60	0

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

**Data Source:** 2011-2015 CHAS

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

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

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	490	765	0
White	435	665	0
Black / African American	0	0	0
Asian	0	70	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0

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<b>Severe Housing Problems*</b>	<b>Has one or more of four housing problems</b>	<b>Has none of the four housing problems</b>	<b>Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems</b>
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	30	35	0

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

**Data Source:** 2011-2015 CHAS

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

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

<b>Severe Housing Problems*</b>	<b>Has one or more of four housing problems</b>	<b>Has none of the four housing problems</b>	<b>Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems</b>
Jurisdiction as a whole	275	1,085	0
White	275	935	0
Black / African American	0	110	0
Asian	0	20	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	0	0

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

**Data Source:** 2011-2015 CHAS

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%



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

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	4	1,140	0
White	4	995	0
Black / African American	0	20	0
Asian	0	80	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	0	0

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

**Data Source:** 2011-2015 CHAS

\*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than 1.5 persons per room,
4. Cost Burden over 50%

**Discussion**

Severe housing problems data largely mirrors the housing problems analysis in the previous section. The data confirm that the most pressing severe housing problem is cost burden.

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

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

### Introduction/Discussion:

As a relatively homogenous community, the City does not have a significant disproportionately greater need among racial or ethnic minorities. The portion of racial or ethnic minorities experiencing housing cost burdens is reflective of the percentage of the population experiencing cost burdens overall.

### Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	6,835	1,945	1,424	50
White	6,175	1,650	1,305	44
Black / African American	120	90	10	0
Asian	320	115	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Hispanic	145	70	35	0

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

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

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

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

Portsmouth is not a very ethnically diverse community, and the income categories are on par with the demographics of the City overall.

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

The needs of minorities are deemed no different from the population at large.

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

The number of racial or ethnic groups in the City is small enough that there are no large identifiable concentrations in specific areas or neighborhoods in the community.

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## NA-35 Public Housing – 91.205(b)

### Introduction

The Portsmouth Housing Authority works to serve the housing needs of individuals and families who very low, low, and moderate incomes. The Housing Authority manages several residential complexes serving the elderly, families with children, and families with disabilities. In addition, the Authority manages a tenant-based Section 8 program and waiting list. The Housing Authority has also worked with local public safety providers to ensure effective screening policies, strict lease enforcement and the maintenance of healthy and safe neighborhoods. The Housing Authority also provides employment and education incentives to tenants as well as youth risk prevention services.

The City of Portsmouth and the Portsmouth Housing Authority have worked closely on addressing the need for public housing units including the retention, renovation and development of housing units as well as improvements to livability and access to services by residents. This section provides a description of the existing public housing resources as well as the goals for the future.

### Totals in Use

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers in use	0	0	418	376	42	333	1	0	0

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

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

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

--DRAFT--  
**CITY OF PORTSMOUTH FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN**  
**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM**  
**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) PROGRAM YEARS 2020-2024**  
**CITY FISCAL YEARS 2021-2025**

**Characteristics of Residents**

	Program Type							
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers				
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher	
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
Average Annual Income	0	0	13,882	14,935	16,958	14,659	22,048	0
Average length of stay	0	0	6	7	0	7	1	0
Average Household size	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0
# Homeless at admission	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	0	0	176	114	37	77	0	0
# of Disabled Families	0	0	150	142	5	137	0	0
# of Families requesting accessibility features	0	0	418	376	42	333	1	0
# of HIV/AIDS program participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of DV victims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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

**Data Source:** PIC (PIH Information Center)

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**CITY OF PORTSMOUTH FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN**  
**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM**  
**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) PROGRAM YEARS 2020-2024**  
**CITY FISCAL YEARS 2021-2025**

**Race of Residents**

Race	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				Vouchers					
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
White	0	0	389	342	41	300	1	0	0
Black/African American	0	0	22	33	1	32	0	0	0
Asian	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition									

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

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

**Ethnicity of Residents**

Ethnicity	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				Vouchers					
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	0	0	18	10	3	7	0	0	0
Not Hispanic	0	0	400	366	39	326	1	0	0
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition									

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

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

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

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**CITY OF PORTSMOUTH FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) PROGRAM YEARS 2020-2024  
CITY FISCAL YEARS 2021-2025**

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The Portsmouth Housing Authority has identified that approximately 34% of families on the waiting list for housing units are disabled and conducts regular needs assessments to ensure potential residents' concerns are being addressed. In order to meet the need of a growing number of disabled tenants the PHA has begun housing non-elderly residents with disabilities in previously senior-only housing in order to prevent disabled potential residents from being disproportionately on the waiting list for long periods of time. Tenants and those on the waiting list have the same need for access to services such as healthcare, education, and employment support. In order to ensure applicants on the waiting list don't decline into unstable living situations it's important that there are measures in place to prevent them from becoming too cost burdened in their current living situation and that they are able to support themselves while they are under consideration. If waiting times for applicants become long enough to impose a burden on them, applicants become increasingly at risk of being homeless and an increase in housing stock is needed.

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

The number of families on the waiting list for PHA units as of 2019 was 207. 70% were white, nearly a quarter were elderly, a third had disabilities, and roughly 18% had children. The number of families on waiting lists fluctuates but has gone up in recent years with increasing housing costs. Applicants' most immediate needs are assistance maintaining their stability with regards to their current housing situation. Most applicants apply once they realize their current living arrangements are unsustainable, and therefore will need some form of housing support while they wait in order to prevent them from falling into homelessness. Families in transition also need healthcare services, employment support, and access to transportation in order to ensure they are able to maintain a regular source of income and can maintain good health and minimize unexpected expenses.

### **How do these needs compare to the housing needs of the population at large**

All persons, regardless of income level, have the same basic needs and expenses. Families with higher incomes are better able to address their own chronic needs and deal with any unexpected costs that come up, whereas many times families of low or moderate income live in constant uncertainty when they lack access to community support services. By identifying and addressing the needs of those most at risk of housing instability before they fall into homelessness, the community defrays costs long-term and improves quality of life for residents overall.

### **Discussion**

In recent years the PHA has experienced a significant amount of administrative change with a focus on improving service delivery, adding new units, and ensuring the quality of existing units. The PHA is a participant in community issues and concerns, and the City will continue to work with the PHA as its principle housing partner.

## **NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)**

### **Introduction:**

The data collected for use in this plan was collected by the State of New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Homelessness and Housing Services (BHH). BHH is responsible for compiling the homelessness data for the Balance of State Continuum of Care (BOSCO). The BOSCO homelessness information consists of data representing the whole of Rockingham County.

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

This discussion is severely limited by available data; info from Crossroads Home indicates the shelter is full year round and has a diversity of clientele including families with children.

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

Families with several children and adults who are underemployed or unable to work are most at risk of housing instability and in need of assistance. Families with children constitute nearly 600 of the persons experiencing homelessness in NH in a given year.

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

Demographics of homelessness are relatively equivalent to the population of the community as a whole.

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

The community of Portsmouth has sufficient resources to ensure as many persons have access to shelter as necessary. Unsheltered populations in the city many times are chronically homeless individuals who resist services and do not seek out shelter, and may have untreated mental illnesses. Sheltered homeless are usually families and individuals suffering from housing instability and previously lacked access to basic support services, and unsheltered homeless populations usually fluctuate seasonally.

### **Discussion:**

The network of area homeless advocates is currently working on implementing best practices in the area of coordinating intake and access to services with medical providers. The local subgroup of the Balance of State meets regularly to discuss ways to support the chronic homeless



## **NA-45 Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment - 91.205 (b,d)**

### **Introduction:**

Combination Federal, State and local funding are required to meet non-homeless special needs in the Consolidated Plan. Agencies serving special needs populations rely on various combinations of funding from public and private sources. Continued support for these programs will directly affect the ability of the programs to meet the needs identified in the Consolidated Plan.

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

The special needs population in Portsmouth largely consists of the elderly and those with physical or mental disabilities. The City has a large senior population who in many cases require supportive housing but are able to live semi-independent lives and continue to be active members of the community. Recent increases in the number of persons with disabilities requiring supportive housing has required the Portsmouth Housing Authority to place younger disabled residents in previously designated senior housing, but through administrative changes and partnering with the community the PHA is confident they can continue to meet the needs of both populations.

New Hampshire has been dealing with high rates of alcohol abuse for decades, and over the past several years Portsmouth, along with many other communities in New England, has seen a substantial rise in opiate use and related drug overdoses. As the problem continues and more residents become impacted, it is becoming increasingly apparent that there is a lack of access to treatment services, especially for individuals of low or moderate income. Substance misuse has a negative impact not only on the long-term development of the economy, but even more importantly on the personal lives of residents and their families; alcohol and drug abuse are prevalent among family incidents of child abuse and neglect, and 43% of perpetrators of domestic violence homicide in NH had a history of substance abuse.

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

Senior populations are very likely to be at risk of being cost burdened if they live in private rental units; they require access to prompt medical services, assistance with everyday household tasks, and a supportive communal environment to keep them socially engaged. The City targets support to seniors by funding social programs targeted toward the elderly community, and by maintaining a large stock of senior supportive housing in order to minimize the costs and risks associated with elderly individuals living alone in apartments or large homes. Those with mental or physical disabilities have similar needs to seniors, in that it's important for the City to ensure they have access to preventative medical services and are integrated as valuable members of the community. This is achieved through programs such as Friends in Action, which promotes social opportunities for those with developmental disabilities who may otherwise be isolated, and supportive housing opportunities to ensure those who need regular care and assistance have it.

Persons suffering from substance abuse require significant support from the community in order to recover, including access to medical services and supportive housing options. Lack of adequate services in

Rockingham County is reflective of the lack in access to services state-wide, and will require a significant renewed effort by the state government in cooperation with municipalities in order to properly address.

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

The population in Portsmouth affected by HIV/AIDS and receiving services is identified as only 16 individuals, but nevertheless there are supportive services available throughout the Seacoast region to provide medical and housing assistance to best address each individual's specific needs and prevent hospitalization.

**Discussion:**

The City plans to continue to make progress in the next five years in addressing the needs of special needs populations. This includes making improvements to accessibility of public transportation and facilities, and significant ongoing investments into ensuring universal access to services.

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

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

Public Facility needs are being addressed by the City, but include plans over the next several years to renovate additional facilities including the outdoor pool and fire station. These plans will benefit all residents of the City, including individuals and families of low or moderate income.

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

Public facility needs were identified through the City's capital improvement planning process in which the Planning Board's Capital Improvement Plan Subcommittee works with each City department and the City Manager's office to identify, prioritize, and schedule needed capital improvements in the City over a six-year period. The Planning Board recommends the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to the City Council and to the public in the form of public hearings. In turn, the City Council utilized the 6-year Capital Improvement Plan to develop the City's Annual Budget. The CIP and the Annual Budget are used as management tools to achieve a balance between competing needs, while ensuring that the City is financially capable of meeting those needs. The public hearing process that is carried out prior to CIP adoption by the City Council is a critical one. Two key purposes of the CIP are to inform the taxpayers of anticipated future improvements and to provide an opportunity for the public to express their reactions to such projects. Public facility projects are also identified through consultation with representatives of eligible CDBG neighborhoods, representatives of public service organizations, and through the public hearing process. Needed facility improvements at Portsmouth Housing Authority owned and managed properties are addressed in the Portsmouth Housing Authority's Five-Year Plan.

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

The Portsmouth Community Development Department has recognized an increased need for accessibility improvements at the Municipal Complex and other locations throughout the City. Plans have been studied to undergo renovations to update entrances to City Hall to facilitate ease of access for those with disabilities. In 2014 the senior center was closed, and since then seniors have had to utilize temporary spaces. In 2019-2020, with the support of CDBG funds, a new Senior Center has been constructed and programming space is more than doubled.

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

Public Improvement projects in CDBG eligible neighborhoods are carried out based on project eligibility and funding availability, and most project plans originate directly from the neighborhood. No specific projects were identified in this Consolidated Plan in CDBG eligible neighborhoods.

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

Community Development Staff maintain an open and active relationship with public service agencies to stay aware of community needs. Public Service agencies in the City more than address the needs of residents, and

in many cases the City is seen as a hub for services in Rockingham County. This can create difficulties with access to services for clients from outlying communities, but the City has been working with COAST transportation services in order to determine the best timing schedule and bus routes in order to best serve the public.

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

Public Service needs were determined through close consultation with service providers and clients in order to best identify inefficiencies and gaps in delivery. Previous discussions about public service needs and consultation is in the Consultation section of this Plan.

# Housing Market Analysis

## MA-05 Overview

### Housing Market Analysis Overview:

Portsmouth has a booming housing market, but it is growing at such a rate as to make it significantly difficult for residents to find affordable housing opportunities and to threaten the labor pool of service industry workers that the City relies upon as a hub of tourism. Recent data to make particular note of include the rapidly rising cost of housing in the City; home prices rose 90% and rent rates rose 50% from 2000-2010, and continued to rise through the current Five Year Consolidated Plan period. This reflects an increasingly expensive housing market further compounded by Portsmouth's low household occupancy rate of 2.03 persons per household.

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

### Introduction

Portsmouth is fortunate to have a diverse supply of housing types including:

- Owner-occupied housing in single family neighborhoods;
- Large, older homes converted to condominiums;
- Upper story downtown apartments;
- Privately and publicly owned large and small apartment complexes;
- Several older mobile home parks; and
- The World War I era planned residential neighborhood of Atlantic Heights.

The neighborhoods immediately surrounding the downtown area provide a mix of single and multi-family housing; some are predominantly single family in character, while others are primarily multi-family. Outside of these areas, neighborhood housing stock is more homogenous in nature. Entire single family neighborhoods, such as Elwyn Park, Pannaway Manor, Maple Haven and the Woodlands, are comprised exclusively of single family homes. Outside of the city center there are also a large number of multiple-unit condominium/apartment style developments such as Beechstone, Osprey Landing, Sagamore Court, and Patriots Park.

### All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	4,320	40%
1-unit, attached structure	1,005	9%
2-4 units	2,070	19%
5-19 units	1,985	18%
20 or more units	1,115	10%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc	290	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,785</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 26 – Residential Properties by Unit Number**

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

### Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	10	0%	285	6%
1 bedroom	250	5%	1,720	35%
2 bedrooms	1,565	29%	2,015	42%
3 or more bedrooms	3,590	66%	835	17%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,415</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4,855</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 27 – Unit Size by Tenure**

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

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

Portsmouth has nearly 1,100 units of assisted affordable housing targeted to families of low or moderate incomes, seniors, and adults with physical or mental disabilities.

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

The City doesn't expect to lose any affordable housing units in the near future, and is planning on increasing the current stock over the next 5 years.

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

The current availability of housing units unfortunately does not meet the needs of the population. With an average household size of 2.03 persons Portsmouth's measure is considerably lower than other Seacoast communities and NH overall. Although Portsmouth's household size is low, there is a large number of houses with 3 or more bedrooms, reflecting what seems to be a high bedroom vacancy rate.

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

Reflecting the low household size, there is a need for a greater number of smaller affordable housing units. There is also greater need for assistive housing for seniors and persons with disabilities.

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

### Introduction

The rapidly rising costs of housing in Portsmouth represent the City's increasing popularity as a destination for both tourists and prospective residents. This is compounded by a lack of affordable housing that is becoming increasingly difficult to address as high property values make it difficult to site non-luxury developments.

### Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2015	% Change
Median Home Value	329,600	352,700	7%
Median Contract Rent	988	1,037	5%

Table 28 – Cost of Housing

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS (Base Year), 2011-2015 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than \$500	720	14.8%
\$500-999	1,575	32.5%
\$1,000-1,499	1,955	40.3%
\$1,500-1,999	400	8.3%
\$2,000 or more	200	4.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,850</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 29 - Rent Paid

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

### Housing Affordability

% Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	450	No Data
50% HAMFI	945	160
80% HAMFI	2,470	385
100% HAMFI	No Data	779
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,865</b>	<b>1,324</b>

Table 30 – Housing Affordability

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS



## Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent (\$)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent					
High HOME Rent					
Low HOME Rent					

**Table 31 – Monthly Rent**

Data Source: HUD FMR and HOME Rents

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

No, there is unfortunately a lack of affordable housing in Portsmouth. Rent and ownership costs have skyrocketed in the past ten years, pricing many families out and imposing significant financial burdens on current residents.

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

From 2000-2010 average home values rose 90% and rent payments rose 51%. These increases continued to rise, at slower rates, through 2020, reflecting Portsmouth's increasing popularity as a community to live and work in. While the City is exploring opportunities to increase affordable housing stock, it is likely that rent and property values will continue to rise in the near future.

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

HOME/Fair Market rent is considerably lower than Area Median Rent, reflecting a need for greater numbers of affordable housing units. The increasingly high value of property in the Downtown area makes it difficult to site affordable housing units in accessible areas of the city and necessitates further research on potential areas of development.

## MA-20 Housing Market Analysis: Condition of Housing – 91.210(a)

### Introduction

High demand for housing in the City ensures properties are well kept and do not stay vacant or in substandard condition or long periods of time. Only a few properties are vacant and abandoned, all of which have been identified and are currently being addressed.

### Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	1,530	28%	1,900	39%
With two selected Conditions	10	0%	25	1%
With three selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	3,870	72%	2,925	60%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,410</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4,850</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 32 - Condition of Units**

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

### Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	400	7%	125	3%
1980-1999	880	16%	1,290	27%
1950-1979	1,635	30%	1,405	29%
Before 1950	2,495	46%	2,025	42%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,410</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>4,845</b>	<b>101%</b>

**Table 33 – Year Unit Built**

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

### Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	4,130	76%	3,430	71%
Housing Units build before 1980 with children present	319	6%	165	3%

**Table 34 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint**

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS (Total Units) 2011-2015 CHAS (Units with Children present)

## Vacant Units

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

**Table 35 - Vacant Units**

## Definitions

The jurisdiction defines substandard condition as a property that is in disrepair to such an extent as to pose a hazard or housing problem to its occupants. Properties deemed to be suitable for rehabilitation are considered to not cost more to rehabilitate than the overall assessed value of the property as a whole.

## Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation

Portsmouth has a high turnover rate with units and rarely has extended vacancies. The 8 abandoned vacant units have all been identified and are currently being addressed through a city-wide initiative of the City Council

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

Approximately 70% of the City's properties were constructed before 1978 and are therefore at risk of Lead Based Paint hazards. Nearly 1,700 family households and over 2,500 non family households are considered to have low or moderate income. Comparing the population of households of low or moderate income against the number of housing units at risk of LBP hazards results in an estimate of roughly 2,500 households living in a unit built before 1978. Many households built before 1978 have had their LBP hazards addressed, but the City is in constant cooperation with State agencies to ensure new problems are addressed and the safety of City residents is maintained, including through its own Housing Rehab Program.

## MA-25 Public and Assisted Housing – 91.210(b)

### Introduction

The Portsmouth Housing Authority (PHA) owns seven housing complexes- Gosling Meadows, Wamesit Place, Woodbury Manor, State Street, Pleasant Street, Feaster, and Margeson Apartments and leases three other developments, Lafayette School Senior Apartments, Atlantic Heights Elderly and Disabled Apartments and the Cottage Affordable Senior Housing. A total of 421 public housing units for families who earn low-moderate-income and elderly individuals are located at these facilities. 327 of the housing units located at these facilities are targeted for the elderly, and 224 are family units.

### Totals Number of Units

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers available	0	0	421	406	12	394	0	0	0
# of accessible units									
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition									

Table 36 – Total Number of Units by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

### Describe the supply of public housing developments:

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

There are currently 421 housing units owned and managed by the Portsmouth Housing Authority, as well as 160 units owned by other entities but managed by the PHA. All of the units are currently in good physical condition and the PHA regularly inspects and updates facilities as needed.

### Public Housing Condition

Public Housing Development	Average Inspection Score

Table 37 - Public Housing Condition

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

In the past several years the PHA has renovated the apartments at Wamesit Place, undergone substantial accessibility and infrastructure improvements to residences at Gosling Meadows, and conducted internal

facility updates to Feaster Apartments. The PHA has the budget and resources necessary to undertake updates and renovations as needed.

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

The PHA constantly strives to encourage more residents to become involved with the community through resident advisory boards. The PHA has also engaged in organizing afterschool and summer recreation programs for children at New Franklin Elementary School, Making Classroom and Community Connections (MC3), which encourages socialization between resident and non-resident students.

## MA-30 Homeless Facilities and Services – 91.210(c)

### Introduction

The City's Continuum of Care assists the homeless with such services as case management, housing counseling, job training and placement, healthcare, mental health services, substance abuse treatment, child care, transportation, emergency food and clothing, family violence services, education services, moving services, entitlement access assistance, referrals to veteran's service, and legal advice. The City has no shortage of housing facilities targeted to homeless, and supports homeless populations throughout the county with its robust Continuum of Care.

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

The organizations involved in the Continuum of Care are able to sufficiently cover all the needs of the homeless population in the area, and have partnerships with other related organizations in the area not specifically targeted towards the homeless in order to best ease the transition out of homelessness. All mainstream services are committed to identifying individuals and families at-risk of becoming homeless and referring them to the appropriate service agencies.

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

*Crossroads House* (CRH) provides emergency and transitional housing to families and individuals who have become homeless. In addition to emergency shelter services, CRH also provides transitional housing services. The Crossroads House facility underwent a major renovation which was completed in 2009, and additional improvements are planned in the agency's family building. Individuals and families staying at CRH have access to food, clothing, laundry facilities, telephones, and case management referrals to the City's social service network. Supportive services are available through CRH staff and referral to outside agencies. CRH maintains a staff of direct care service providers who co-ordinate services for transitional housing clients.

*HAVEN* is a specialized shelter and support to battered women and their children. Supportive services are provided to all victims of battering, such as legal support, support groups, and assistance seeking social safety net services including aid to families with dependent children, and food stamps. Because of the nature of the population served by this shelter, no one is denied shelter. If the shelter is at capacity, HAVEN expands its capacity by using volunteer homes and other shelters.

*Southern NH Services - Rockingham County Community Action Program* (RCCAP) is a key regional anti-poverty agency whose services include assisting the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless. RCCAP's Housing Services Program provides up to 80% of a required security deposit to enable a homeless family to secure housing. In addition, RCCAP will refer families at risk of becoming homeless to appropriate agencies that will help the family avoid eviction. RCCAP also administers the Fuel Assistance Program and

Weatherization Program, both of which are crucial to helping families who earn low incomes avoid homelessness.

The Portsmouth *Welfare Department* provides emergency assistance to families who are in need of shelter. Consistently, the expenditures related to emergency shelter are the most expensive service related expense for the Welfare Department.

*Portsmouth Special Needs Fund* is the City's emergency mortgage payment fund which makes funds available to families who are temporarily unable to pay their mortgage through no fault of their own.

*Seacoast Mental Health Center* (SMHC) has a homeless outreach coordinator who works with the unsheltered homeless and assists them in accessing important local services. This coordinator actively works with partners in the Seacoast Area Continuum of Care.

## **MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services – 91.210(d)**

### **Introduction**

Services for special needs non-homeless populations are funded by a combination of Federal, State, and local sources both public and private, and are reliant on CD funds in order to continue functioning. Continued support for these programs will directly affect the ability of the programs to meet the needs of the targeted populations in the area. In order to support the welfare of special needs residents of Portsmouth, the City works with a number of different local and regional organizations to ensure all their needs are met.

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

With the elderly and those with disabilities or HIV the main goal with regard to housing and supportive services is to prevent hospitalization and promote healthy lifestyles. With residents recovering from alcohol or drug addictions it is also important to maintain healthy living habits, but with a greater focus on preventing relapse and regression in treatment. Public Housing residents require stable comfortable housing, as well as access to quality healthcare, transportation and employment resources.

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

The City partners with organizations such as Greater Seacoast Community Health, Seacoast Mental Health and Area HomeCare & Family Services to ensure that those in need have access to services including therapy and homecare assistance.

**Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. 91.315(e)**

During the next year the City will pursue its goals by continuing to support programs that provide home care, support activities and medical care for those with special needs. The City will also promote programs that provide social activities that will support the physical and emotional health of senior citizens. The City will also support organizations such as AIDS-Response Seacoast in order to provide case management and support services to individuals in low or moderate income households living with HIV/AIDS.



## **MA-40 Barriers to Affordable Housing – 91.210(e)**

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

As a well preserved historic city, Portsmouth has a vested interest in continuing to maintain the culture and heritage of the community; this is especially true with regards to the downtown area. While Portsmouth has historically allowed housing types that provide for a diverse range of housing options, the opportunities for producing significant numbers of housing units is currently constrained by the lack of availability of developable land. On the other hand, there may be untapped potential for redeveloping underutilized parcels to meet local housing needs and other planning goals.

## MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets – 91.215 (f)

### Introduction

Portsmouth enjoys a healthy economy, with a diversity of businesses meeting the needs of local residents. Moreover, with the growth of Pease International Tradeport as an industrial and business center over the past decade, Portsmouth has also become a major source of employment in the Seacoast region. While almost half of the City's working residents are employed locally, nearly 80 percent of the employees in Portsmouth businesses commute in from other communities.

### Economic Development Market Analysis

#### Business Activity

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	10	0	0	0	0
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	1,443	3,835	14	13	-1
Construction	337	572	3	2	-1
Education and Health Care Services	1,697	4,648	16	15	-1
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	1,000	3,766	10	13	3
Information	352	1,891	3	6	3
Manufacturing	936	2,602	9	9	0
Other Services	327	699	3	2	-1
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	1,308	4,325	13	14	2
Public Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	1,428	3,247	14	11	-3
Transportation and Warehousing	255	567	2	2	-1
Wholesale Trade	529	1,252	5	4	-1
Total	9,622	27,404	--	--	--

**Table 38 - Business Activity**

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS (Workers), 2015 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (Jobs)

#### Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	12,855
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	12,360
Unemployment Rate	3.66
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	11.91
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	2.39

**Table 39 - Labor Force**

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	4,480
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	370
Service	985
Sales and office	2,930
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	450
Production, transportation and material moving	355

**Table 40 – Occupations by Sector**

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

## Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	8,925	78%
30-59 Minutes	1,685	15%
60 or More Minutes	865	8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,475</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 41 - Travel Time**

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

## Education:

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

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	225	15	105
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	1,030	105	450
Some college or Associate's degree	2,290	65	445
Bachelor's degree or higher	6,840	135	790

**Table 42 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status**

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

### Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	30	4	0	34	120
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	55	55	70	175	230
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	465	445	305	865	990
Some college, no degree	500	425	465	890	530

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Associate's degree	25	265	185	605	250
Bachelor's degree	675	2,245	1,185	1,755	845
Graduate or professional degree	25	785	555	1,355	725

**Table 43 - Educational Attainment by Age**

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

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

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	20,893
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	28,977
Some college or Associate's degree	37,629
Bachelor's degree	49,923
Graduate or professional degree	66,473

**Table 44 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months**

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

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

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

Portsmouth's has a diverse workforce, with most jobs being in the sectors of education and health care services, retail trade, arts/entertainment/accommodations, and finance/insurance/real estate.

Most of Portsmouth's workforce is either service-based or office/professional, necessitating a need for diverse housing supplies to ensure employers have consistent access to affordable labor. Due to Portsmouth's high quality of life and geographic assets, many individuals and families of higher income choose to live in the area and commute to work outside the City, necessitating easy access to highways and main transit routes. Portsmouth has a well-known reputation for its large number of high-quality restaurants, but many service industry employees are forced to commute as it becomes increasingly difficult to find affordable housing within the City, adding increased transportation costs for workers. As a shopping and dining destination, many businesses rely on ample parking as a necessary source of income and customers, and as developments have grown parking shortages become an increasing concern.

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

The workforce of the City is highly educated, and is able to meet the needs of the high-skill employer base in the area. The current workforce is for the most part suited to employment opportunities in the jurisdiction,

except in many cases the lack of affordable housing requires service and retail employees to commute from neighboring communities with less expensive housing costs.

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

The City collaborates with Great Bay Community College to provide access to workforce training programs to residents of low and moderate income. This is in line with the City's plans to promote opportunities for upward mobility among residents.

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

Yes

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

Portsmouth is a member of the Regional Economic Development Center of Southern New Hampshire. The REDC's CEDS goals and objectives for 2014 include Economic Development, Infrastructure Development, Regional Cooperation, Workforce Development, Workforce Housing, and Environmental Preservation. The City of Portsmouth is particularly committed to: increasing cooperation with regional service providers and organizations such as the Rockingham Planning Commission and Greater Seacoast Coalition to End Homelessness; promoting targeted economic development through the neighborhood charrette process, establishment of Economic Revitalization zones, and adoption of Character-Based Zoning Districts; supporting workforce development through increased collaboration with Great Bay Community College for vocational training opportunities targeted to low/moderate income residents; and encouraging greater opportunities for workforce housing through a long-term focus on pedestrian-friendly mixed-use developments closer to the City center with zoning ordinances that incentivize efficient higher density developments that promote affordability. In the last five year Portsmouth has also undertaken a city-wide overhaul of its structurally deficient arterial bridges, identified and begun to address the long term issues posed by and solutions to the City's growing parking shortage, and conducted a Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan as part of a regional Coastal Resilience Initiative in order to address future hazards posed to the area by climate change.

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

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

There are very few homes in the City with multiple housing problems, but the ones that do exist are dispersed and not concentrated in any specific area. Areas would be defined as concentrated if there were a substantial number of households with multiple housing problems and a majority or large portion of them were located in a specific neighborhood or group of neighborhoods.

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

While the City has a very small and dispersed population of racial or ethnic minorities, low-income families are concentrated in the Downtown and Upper Woodbury Block Groups. The concentration is determined by these areas containing the substantial majority of the city's low-income populations from the 2006-2010 American Community Survey.

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

The characteristics of the market in these areas is strong and vibrant, especially in Downtown. The reason for the Downtown's inclusion as an area with a concentration of low-income households is mainly because of the large populations of the Margeson and Feaster senior assisted living public housing developments. Upper Woodbury is more defined by planned housing developments (including the large 346-unit mixed income Osprey Landing, and the Gosling Meadows family development owned by the PHA) and neighboring commercial retail space in the adjacent jurisdiction of Newington.

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

Yes, the Downtown as the center of the City has substantial community assets. Upper Woodbury however is on the edge of the City's jurisdiction and public facilities, but is serviced by a regional bus-line and has significant access to commercial entities and employment opportunities.

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

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

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

## **MA-65 Hazard Mitigation - 91.210(a)(5), 91.310(a)(3)**

**Describe the jurisdiction's increased natural hazard risks associated with climate change.** Flooding is a significant risk in the jurisdiction. The City has a Sustainability Committee and a Hazard Mitigation plan.

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

Low risk of housing occupied by low- and moderate-income households due to the most likely natural hazards.



# Strategic Plan

## SP-05 Overview

### Strategic Plan Overview

The Portsmouth Community Development Department is the sole agency responsible for administering the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The CD Department is responsible for developing the Consolidated Plan, providing annual updates, reporting on activities accomplished and addressing funds expended at the end of each program year. The CD Department works in cooperation with public and private agencies who serve persons who earn very low-, low- and moderate incomes. The CD Department, as a Department of the City of Portsmouth, works closely with other municipal departments including the Planning, Public Works, Legal, Finance, Inspection, Health and Welfare departments. The Portsmouth Housing Authority is another City agency with which the CD Department coordinates services because that agency serves many of the same clientele as CDBG programs. Many residents in Portsmouth Housing Authority apartments are served directly or indirectly by programming and projects funded with CDBG. Working with area service providers the CD Department over the next 5 years plans to address the most prevalent issues facing individuals and families of low or moderate income in the areas of housing affordability and quality, accessibility improvements, ensuring high quality public services and facilities.

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

### **Geographic Area**

The CDBG Program will work City-wide and in area-benefit Census Block Groups to undertake CDBG-eligible projects.

### **General Allocation Priorities**

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

The citizen participation process, community needs, and available funding drive the geographical allocation of investments in the community. In this Five-Year Consolidated Plan, investment of community development resources are planned for projects and programs located throughout the jurisdiction. Specifically, the Multi-Family Housing Rehabilitation Program is undertaken without regard to geography, but instead, are based on income of the property owners. Public service agencies that receive CDBG grant funds are scattered through the City and public facilities projects occur in locations that directly benefit those who earn low or moderate incomes or those who are presumed to earn low or moderate incomes. The City of Portsmouth has three (3) Census Block Groups where a majority of residents earn low or moderate incomes. Projects in these areas are carried out based on project eligibility and funding availability. In the next five years, there is no plan to target CDBG or other HUD resources in a particular area as there has been in recent past plans. However, in this Five Year period, the City is planning to assess and address Urgent Needs, which may benefit certain geographic areas or citywide services/facilities.

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

### Priority Needs

Table 45 – Priority Needs Summary

1	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Housing
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	City-wide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Housing Rehabilitation
	<b>Description</b>	To support the creation and preservation of housing opportunities for people who earn very low-, low- and moderate-incomes and to support the ability of people with disabilities to remain in their homes.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	With significantly rising housing costs the City of Portsmouth is committed to supporting households of low- moderate- income in creating affordable housing opportunities or staying in their homes.
2	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	ADA Accessibility and Public Facility/Infrastructure Improvements
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High

	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	City-wide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Citywide Accessibility Improvements Public Facility/Infrastructure Improvements Program Administration
	<b>Description</b>	To improve infrastructure in areas where a majority of residents earn very low-, low-, and moderate-incomes with the objective of improving safety and aesthetics; and to improve accessibility for people with disabilities.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	It's important for the City to keep up with needs for public facility/infrastructure improvements in order to ensure sustainable living environments for persons with low-to moderate incomes and provide improved ADA access/removal of architectural barriers for individuals with disabilities across the jurisdiction.
<b>3</b>	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Public Services
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High

	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	City-wide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Public Services Program Administration
	<b>Description</b>	To support public service agencies that provide services important to the health of people who earn very low-, low-, and moderate-incomes.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Portsmouth has a substantial safety and support network for residents of low-moderate- income and recognizing the need for Public Services ensures they have access to necessary services.
	<b>4 Priority Need Name</b>	Youth Programs
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High

	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Public Housing Residents Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	City-wide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Youth Programs Program Administration
	<b>Description</b>	To support public service agencies that provide services for children and youth from families who earn very low-, low-, and moderate-incomes that will foster their growth into healthy adults.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Portsmouth has a substantial amount of low- moderate- income families with children, and Youth Programs are necessary in order to provide support for working parents and developing young persons.
5	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Special Needs/Non-Homeless Services
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Elderly Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	City-wide

	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Special Needs/Non-Homeless Services Program Administration
	<b>Description</b>	To support public service agencies that provide services to help prevent the hospitalization of the elderly and those with disabilities by providing home care, support activities and medical care; provide programming that will support the physical and emotional health of senior citizens.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Portsmouth has a substantial and growing population of seniors, as well as a large number of adults with disabilities. In order to ensure these populations to not become isolated or at risk of homelessness the City is committed to providing supportive housing and homecare services.
6	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Homeless Individuals and Families and Persons Living with HIV/AIDS
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Families with Children Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse Veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	City-wide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Homeless Goal and HIV/AIDS Program Administration
	<b>Description</b>	To support public service agencies that provide emergency and transitional shelter for the homeless, including survivors of domestic violence and facilitate their movement into permanent, safe housing through life skills enhancement activities; and help prevent the hospitalization of those living with HIV/AIDS through the provision of supportive services.

	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	While the City doesn't have a significantly large population impacted by HIV/AIDS, there is a substantial number of homeless in need of services. Portsmouth provides greater services than the vast majority of communities in the region, and therefore has the burden of addressing the needs of homeless families and individuals from many neighboring towns and cities. Domestic violence shelter and services are regionally supported.
<b>7</b>	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Urgent Needs
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	City-wide
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	City-wide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Public services Public facilities/infrastructure
	<b>Description</b>	Urgent support and funding needs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic; CARES Act CDBG funds
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Urgent support and funding needs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic; CARES Act CDBG funds
<b>8</b>	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	Program Administration
	<b>Priority Level</b>	Low



	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	City-wide; CDBG eligible area Census Block Groups
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Program Administration
	<b>Description</b>	General program administration of the City's CDBG Entitlement Program.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	Administration monitoring of CDBG Program.

### Narrative (Optional)

Priority needs include housing, accessibility and infrastructure, public services, youth programs, special needs/non-homeless services, homeless & HIV/AIDS and urgent needs.

## SP-30 Influence of Market Conditions – 91.215 (b)

### Influence of Market Conditions

<b>Affordable Housing Type</b>	<b>Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type</b>
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	An increasingly strong rental market will necessitate deeper subsidies but will also most likely result in an increased gap between rents available under voucher programs and those outside the programs.
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	Rising rents will necessitate deeper subsidies.
New Unit Production	Rising real estate prices will necessitate higher funds for any future new unit production.
Rehabilitation	There will be no effect on the Rehab program.
Acquisition, including preservation	Rising real estate prices will make acquisition more expensive.

**Table xx – Influence of Market Conditions**

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

### Introduction

This section is intended to summarize the funding sources which may be available to the CDBG program to make progress on priority needs and Consolidated Plan goals.

### Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Housing; Public Facility/Infrastructure Improvements; Public Services; Urgent Needs; Acquisition; Admin and Planning	533,053	13,000	621,244	1,167,297	2,132,202	CDBG dollars will be used to fund projects and activities benefiting low to low-moderate income individuals, and to address identified urgent needs.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
General Fund	public - local	Admin and Planning Public Improvements	200,000	0	0	200,000	800,000	General Fund dollars are anticipated to be matched with CDBG funds as projects are identified on an annual basis. Typically, projects funded in part with CDBG for public facilities will see a cost share with local general fund dollars, primarily through the City's capital budget.
LIHTC	public - federal	Housing	0	0	0	0	1,000,000	The funding source and amount is intended to serve as a placeholder for potential partnerships in the five-year period that may result in the preservation of existing affordable units or the expansion of the inventory of affordable units in the City.

Table xx - Anticipated Resources

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

General fund dollars are anticipated to be matched with CDBG funds as projects are identified on an annual basis. Typically, public facilities projects funded in part with CDBG dollars assume a cost share with local general fund dollars, primarily through the City's capital budget.

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

N/A

## SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure – 91.215(k)

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

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
Crossroads House	Continuum of care	Homelessness	Region
Greater Seacoast Community Health	Regional organization	Homelessness Non-homeless special needs	Region
NH Legal Assistance	Non-profit organizations	Ownership Rental	State
Portsmouth Housing Authority	PHA	Public Housing	Region
SNHS Rockingham Community Action	Regional organization	Economic Development Ownership Rental Assistance public services	Region
Seacoast Mental Health Center	Regional organization	Homelessness Non-homeless special needs	Region
NH Community Development Finance Authority	Redevelopment authority	Economic Development Homelessness Non-homeless special needs Ownership Planning Public Housing Rental neighborhood improvements public facilities public services	State
City of Portsmouth Welfare Department	Government	Economic Development Homelessness Non-homeless special needs Public Housing public services	Jurisdiction
Planning Department, City of Portsmouth	Government	Planning	Jurisdiction

**Table xx - Institutional Delivery Structure**

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

In the past no gaps were identified in the institutional delivery system, but in recent years the City has seen a substantial increase in heroin and opiate related overdoses. Agencies in the region provide a full spectrum of delivery of services for homeless persons within the city, yet there is a growing need and opportunity for service providers working directly with those most at risk or impacted by substance abuse.

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

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

Table xx - Homeless Prevention Services Summary

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

In order to reach out to unsheltered homeless, Seacoast Mental Health Center employs a homeless outreach coordinator who assists unsheltered homeless in accessing important local services and actively works with

partners in the Seacoast Area Continuum of Care/Home for All. AIDS Response of the Seacoast provides education, advocacy, support services, rental assistance, and referral to any persons whose life is affected by HIV/AIDS.

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

While there are gaps in Rockingham County as a whole, Portsmouth houses 60% of the County's total emergency beds and promotes a robust spectrum of support services, although transportation to services in Portsmouth from outside the area may prove challenging. Typical services assisting the homeless in the City's Continuum of Care include case management, housing counseling, job training and placement, health care, mental health services, substance abuse treatment, child care, transportation, emergency food and clothing, family violence services, education services, moving services, entitlement access assistance, referrals to veterans' services, and legal assistance. In 2013 the Greater Seacoast Coalition on Homelessness (now called Home for All) collaborated with other area non-profits to organize the Coordinated Access program in Strafford and Rockingham Counties with the goal of streamlining and centralizing the process for client assessment and referral to best provide the most effective services as efficiently as possible. Representing one of the delivery system's strongest improvements in recent years, the Coordinated Access system reduces burdens on those in need by allowing clients to begin the process to receive services through one phone call, when previously it could take as many as five. In addition to participating in the Continuum of Care, the City provides funding to agencies that make up a significant portion of the Continuum of Care system. This support is provided through the City's Community Development Block Grant-funded Public Service Agency Grant Program and through the Portsmouth Welfare Department Social Service grant program, which is supported by local tax dollars. The most significant identified gap in the delivery system is a lack of local organizations specifically targeting individuals affected by substance abuse; while there are service providers in neighboring communities, Portsmouth does not have a developed substance abuse recovery infrastructure. This lack of services in the City is quickly becoming an issue that needs to be addressed, especially with the increase in opiate overdoses in recent years.

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

The City of Portsmouth provides for capacity of services greater than its individual needs, yet unfortunately many persons of need from outside the City do not have access to reliable transportation to get to service providers. In order to better address the needs of the County as a whole the City should continue to promote public transportation options such as the regional COAST Bus and encourage expansion of service providers in other population centers in the county to decrease the burden on those seeking services. This issue is reversed with regards to substance abuse treatment, and while improved transportation will assist in the short-term, concerted effort by the City in cooperation with service providers is necessary to address identified needs. The City is planning to pursue a strategy of rapid rehousing on a regional level to best meet the needs as quickly as possible of those experiencing homelessness.



## SP-45 Goals Summary – 91.215(a)(4)

### Goals Summary Information:

#### Goal Descriptions

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvements
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Projects will provide funding for the design and construction of public facilities, including buildings, parks, playgrounds, sidewalks, neighborhood facilities that primarily benefit persons earning low to moderate incomes. Public facility projects/infrastructure improvements may also be undertaken in CDBG area-benefit Census Block Groups.
2	<b>Goal Name</b>	ADA Improvements/Removal of Architectural Barriers to Accessibility
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Projects will provide funding for the design and construction of ADA accessibility improvements at public facilities city-wide.
3	<b>Goal Name</b>	Housing
	<b>Goal Description</b>	To support the creation and preservation of housing opportunities for people who earn very low-, low- and moderate-incomes and to support the ability of people with disabilities to remain in their homes.
4	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	To support public service agencies that provide services important to the health, economic sustainability, quality of life and overall benefit of people who earn very low-, low-, and moderate-incomes.
5	<b>Goal Name</b>	Urgent Needs
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Projects will support CDBG-eligible activities under the Urgent Needs National Objective.
6	<b>Goal Name</b>	Transportation Improvements
	<b>Goal Description</b>	To support transportation improvements in area-eligible Census Block groups and for individuals earning very low-, low-, and moderate-incomes.
7	<b>Goal Name</b>	Program Administration
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Program/general administration of the City's CDBG Entitlement Program.

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

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

No, the Portsmouth Housing Authority is not required and does not need to increase the number of accessible units. The PHA continuously undertakes renovations and improvements to its properties in order to further increase accessibility and quality of life for its residents, including most recently the completion of construction of 188 ramps and stairs at Gosling Meadows which increased resident safety and the attractiveness of the community.

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

The Portsmouth Housing Authority believes in the importance of resident participation in all of their administered neighborhoods and that strong resident participation in their communities improves social outcomes, reduces crime, fosters greater civic engagement, and assures more caring and compassionate communities. For example, the PHA Making Community and Classroom Connections program (MC3) is supported in part with a Public Service Grant awarded from the Portsmouth CDBG program. The program provides after school and summer programming to at risk youth from Gosling Meadows. In addition to focusing on adding more programs and services and programming for their tenants, the PHA's goal is to try to more actively engage residents in their communities. The City also continues to rent the Greenleaf Recreation Center to local organization Operation Blessing of NH in order to allow them to develop and implement a free recreation program including basketball, soccer, skateboarding, and after school programming and other activities designed to keep children off the streets and focused on healthier choices.

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

No

### **Plan to remove the 'troubled' designation**

N/A

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

### **Barriers to Affordable Housing**

As a well preserved historic city, Portsmouth has a vested interest in continuing to maintain the culture and heritage of the community; this is especially true with regards to the downtown area. While Portsmouth has historically allowed housing types that provide for a diverse range of housing options, the opportunities for producing significant numbers of housing units is currently constrained by the lack of availability of developable land. On the other hand, there may be untapped potential for redeveloping underutilized parcels to meet local housing needs and other planning goals.

### **Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing**

In preparing the City's Housing Existing Conditions Report for the 2015 Master Plan Update, the planning consultants met with and interviewed various persons who are involved or interested in local housing issues. Several respondents commented that city government presents a challenging climate for permitting new development. Permitting hurdles are especially discouraging for investment in workforce housing, as higher end and luxury residential projects can more easily absorb the premium costs associated with building in Portsmouth. The Community Development Department has also identified a lack of data and access to education resources on fair housing laws and protections as having a negative impact on the City's ability to encourage detection, reporting, and prevention of housing discrimination by advocates, tenants, and landlords.

## **SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.215(d)**

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

The City of Portsmouth already sufficiently reaches out and works closely with area organizations that provide sufficient services to all homeless persons within the City, and will continue support of programs providing direct assistance to the homeless sub-populations and chronic-homeless persons. In order to better serve populations in the County the City's priorities include providing support for regional facilities, which promote expansion of service accessibility, and promoting development of new housing facilities for homeless and at risk populations, including supportive, transitional and permanent housing. The Community Development Department will also continue support for services which assist in preventing homelessness for individuals and families, including temporary emergency rent assistance.

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

Throughout the current Five Year Consolidated Plan period, the City has worked with area organizations to increase the number of emergency shelters beds, and in the next five years will continue to work to maintain and increase the number of transitional shelter units.

**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.**

Area homeless service providers plan to increase the number of permanent-supportive units available in order to better facilitate the transition to independent living and reduce homeless recidivism.

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

The City will continue to work with service providers and support organizations in order to prevent at-risk individuals and families from becoming homeless by ensuring access to support such as physical and mental health services as well as fuel and rent assistance in order to avoid eviction.

## **SP-65 Lead based paint Hazards – 91.215(i)**

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

The NH Department of Health and Human Services Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program maintains an extensive blood lead surveillance system for the purposes of monitoring trends in blood lead levels in adults and children in New Hampshire. The data is used to help identify populations at risk for elevated blood lead levels (BLLs) to determine whether screening guidelines are being followed in high-risk populations and to ensure that appropriate environmental and medical follow-ups are provided to children with elevated BLLs. An estimated 50 licensed laboratories that serve approximately 1,500 medical clinics, hospitals, and employer groups report to the program ensuring that incidents are identified and addressed as quickly as possible in order to minimize health risks to the public.

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

Portsmouth is not classified as one of the state’s “higher risk” communities, and therefore is not the focus of primary prevention strategies. While LBP hazards in households with children are not as significant of an issue in Portsmouth as in other communities in NH, the city actively monitors at-risk populations and still has access to the states substantial resources to identify and address situations if and when an incident does occur.

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

The City integrates the above actions into housing policies and procedures by ensuring all LBP hazards are identified and referred to the state in order to coordinate efforts state-wide. The City only uses contractors that have been certified for LBP removal in the Housing Rehabilitation Program, and has expanded the LBP protocols in municipal operations.

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

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

The City of Portsmouth is committed to supporting and promoting opportunities for families in poverty to achieve stability and success. By focusing on the three areas of housing, financial, and healthcare security, the City will work to provide a framework and support network for families to assist them in lifting themselves out of poverty. The City works closely with the Portsmouth Housing Authority to ensure residents have access to and are able to utilize supportive programs.

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

The Portsmouth Housing Authority (PHA) has already embraced exploring opportunities to increase workforce and affordable housing stock as one of its primary objectives, and the City is undertaking promotion of increased development of affordable housing opportunities as one of its priorities. The City will continue to work with the PHA to better provide access to financial literacy and education resources among residents of the PHA in order to promote saving and asset building to help families achieve economic independence and self-sufficiency. The City promotes access to preventative medical care service for individuals and families earning low or moderate income through community organizations such as Greater Seacoast Community Health, and encourages residents to enroll for insurance under the Affordable Care Act to minimize the amount of uncompensated care provided.

## **SP-80 Monitoring – 91.230**

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

The Community Development Department has the responsibility to ensure compliance with federal regulations by all of its contractors and subrecipients, and does this by close monitoring of the projects and programs determined to be of the greatest risk of non-compliance. Whether a program or project is considered high-risk is determined by the following factors: length of program history, amount of funding, complexity of terms in Subrecipient Agreement, and familiarity of subrecipient of personnel assigned to duties under the CDBG agreement. Grantees in the Public Service Agency Grant Program are required to submit quarterly reports to CD staff, who also conduct on site monitoring visits annually to those agencies deemed high-risk. The progress of all housing projects funded is monitored by the Housing Specialist, and construction and rehabilitation of projects within the City are also monitored by the City Inspection Department for compliance with building codes. The progress of all public facilities projects is monitored by CD staff; the staff person in charge of the project is responsible for ensuring that the project is carried out in accordance with all pertinent HUD regulations, bid specifications and plans to meet project goals. The CD Coordinator provides final approval on all payments made for project expenses.

## Expected Resources

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

#### Introduction

This section is intended to summarize the funding sources which may be available to the CDBG program to make progress on priority needs and Consolidated Plan goals.

#### Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Housing; Public Facility/Infrastructure Improvements Public Services; Urgent Needs; Acquisition; Admin and Planning	533,053	13,000	621,244	1,167,297	2,132,202	CDBG dollars will be used to fund projects and activities benefiting low to low-moderate income individuals and to address identified urgent needs.



Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
General Fund	public - local	Admin and Planning Public Improvements	200,000	0	0	200,000	800,000	General Fund dollars are anticipated to be matched with CDBG funds as projects are identified on an annual basis. Typically, projects funded in part with CDBG for public facilities will see a cost share with local general fund dollars, primarily through the City's capital budget.
LIHTC	public - federal	Housing	0	0	0	0	1,000,000	The funding source and amount is intended to serve as a placeholder for potential partnerships in the five-year period that may result in the preservation of existing affordable units or the expansion of the inventory of affordable units in the City.

Table 46 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

General fund dollars are anticipated to be matched with CDBG funds as projects are identified on an annual basis. Typically, public facilities projects funded in part with CDBG dollars assume a cost share with local general fund dollars, primarily through the City's capital budget.

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

N/A

# Annual Goals and Objectives

## AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

### Goals Summary Information:

### Goal Descriptions

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvements
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Projects will provide funding for the design and construction of public facilities, including buildings, parks, playgrounds, sidewalks, neighborhood facilities that primarily benefit persons earning low to moderate incomes. Public facility projects/infrastructure improvements may also be undertaken in CDBG area-benefit Census Block Groups.
2	<b>Goal Name</b>	ADA Improvements/Removal of Architectural Barriers to Accessibility
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Projects will provide funding for the design and construction of ADA accessibility improvements at public facilities city-wide.
3	<b>Goal Name</b>	Housing
	<b>Goal Description</b>	To support the creation and preservation of housing opportunities for people who earn very low-, low- and moderate-incomes and to support the ability of people with disabilities to remain in their homes.
4	<b>Goal Name</b>	Public Services
	<b>Goal Description</b>	To support public service agencies that provide services important to the health, economic sustainability, quality of life and overall benefit of people who earn very low-, low-, and moderate-incomes.
5	<b>Goal Name</b>	Urgent Needs
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Projects will support CDBG-eligible activities under the Urgent Needs National Objective.
6	<b>Goal Name</b>	Transportation Improvements
	<b>Goal Description</b>	To support transportation improvements in area-eligible Census Block groups and for individuals earning very low-, low-, and moderate-incomes.
7	<b>Goal Name</b>	Program Administration
	<b>Goal Description</b>	Program/general administration of the City's CDBG Entitlement Program.

## Projects

### AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

#### Introduction

In FY 21, the CDBG program plans to make progress on an number of high priorities including public facilities upgrades to address accessibility needs and needs of the senior population; assistance to non-profit partners with public facilities improvements, as well as continuing long standing programs in support of homeowners in need.

#### Projects

#	Project Name
1	Housing Rehabilitation
2	Public Facilities/Infrastructure Improvements
3	ADA Accessibility Improvements
4	Public Services Grant Program
5	Transportation Improvements
6	Urgent Needs
7	Program Administration

**Table xx – Project Information**

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

This year, the CDBG Consolidated Plan does not allocate resources based on geographic areas or targeting assistance. All programs and projects are intended to benefit residents earning low and moderate incomes accessing services as well as ensuring access for people with disabilities throughout the City.

## AP-38 Project Summary

### Project Summary Information

1	<b>Project Name</b>	Housing Rehabilitation
	<b>Target Area</b>	City-wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Housing Special Needs/Non-Homeless Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$85,744
	<b>Description</b>	Provides grants or loans for multi-family housing for low and moderate income households to rehabilitate housing in order to prevent the risk of falling into homelessness. Housing rehab funding may be provided as grants for nonprofits providing housing to income-eligible individuals/families.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2021
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The grant/loan program plans to benefit 4 households annually in both rental and owned units.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Portsmouth
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Housing rehabilitation administration and costs for grants/loans in order to conduct home improvements to address housing code deficiencies or ADA accessibility in multi-family units. Single family units may be assisted.
2	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Facilities/Infrastructure Improvements
	<b>Target Area</b>	City-wide; CDBG-eligible Block Groups
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Facilities/Infrastructure Improvements
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Public Facilities/Infrastructure Improvements
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$505,653
	<b>Description</b>	The City will undertake public facilities upgrades to locations that primarily serve low to moderate income individuals and families throughout the City.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2021
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	350 low-moderate income persons will be assisted.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Portsmouth

	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The City will undertake improvements to sites serving primarily low to moderate income individuals throughout the City and in income eligible Block Groups
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	ADA Accessibility Improvements
	<b>Target Area</b>	City-wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Citywide Accessibility Improvements
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Accessibility and Infrastructure
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$176,500
	<b>Description</b>	The City will undertake improvements to sites throughout the City in order to remove architectural barriers and improve ADA accessibility for residents and visitors.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2021
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	125 low-moderate income persons will be assisted.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Portsmouth
<b>4</b>	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The City will undertake improvements to sites throughout the City in order to remove architectural barriers and improve ADA accessibility for residents and visitors.
	<b>Project Name</b>	Transportation Improvements
	<b>Target Area</b>	City-wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Increased & Improved Access to Public Facilities/Infrastructure
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Accessibility and Infrastructure
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$55,000
	<b>Description</b>	The City will undertake design/engineering and construction projects for improved transportation/access to transportation for residents living in low-moderate areas/block groups or who have low-moderate incomes.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2021
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	150 low-moderate income persons will be assisted.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Portsmouth

	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The City will undertake improvements to sites throughout the City in order to remove architectural barriers and improve accessibility for residents and visitors
5	<b>Project Name</b>	Public Services Grant Program
	<b>Target Area</b>	City-wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Accessibility and Infrastructure Public Services Youth Programs Special Needs/Non-Homeless Services Homeless and HIV/AIDS
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$81,900
	<b>Description</b>	The City provides grants to local nonprofit organizations providing public services citywide.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2021
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	An estimated 1,500 individuals earning low to moderate income will benefit from social services provided by local agencies; an estimate 10 households will benefit from rental assistance.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Portsmouth
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Organizations apply for a grant and are assessed on an individual basis.
6	<b>Project Name</b>	Urgent Need
	<b>Target Area</b>	City-wide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Urgent Need
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Urgent Need
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$150,000
	<b>Description</b>	Urgent Need qualified activities must meet the following criteria: 1) the existing conditions must pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community; 2) the existing conditions are of recent origin or recently became urgent (generally, within the past 18 months); 3) the grantee is unable to finance the activity on its own; and 4) other sources of funding are not available. These funds may go to public services or to facility/infrastructure activities.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2021

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	200 individuals will be assisted with urgent need activities.
	<b>Location Description</b>	City-wide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	These funds may go to public services or to facility/infrastructure activities. Priorities include emergency shelter and services, domestic violence shelter and services, homeless prevention activities, medical/health supply and services, and other homeless support facilities or services.
7	<b>Project Name</b>	Program Administration
	<b>Target Area</b>	City-Wide Former Doble Army Reserve Base City Hall Operation Blessing Center
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Program Administration City Senior Center Operation Blessing Emergency Power Installation Citywide Accessibility Improvements Housing Non Profit Planning and Programs Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Program Administration
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$112,500
	<b>Description</b>	General program administration of the CDBG Program.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2021
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Program Administration
	<b>Location Description</b>	Portsmouth
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Program Administration Citywide Accessibility Improvements Housing Public Facility/Infrastructure Improvements Public Services Transportation Improvements Urgent Need projects as identified



## **AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)**

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

The citizen participation process, community needs, and available funding drive the geographical allocation of investments in the community. In this five-year Consolidated Plan investment of community development resources are planned for throughout the jurisdiction.

#### **Geographic Distribution**

<b>Target Area</b>	<b>Percentage of Funds</b>
City-wide	100

**Table 47 - Geographic Distribution**

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

This Five-Year Plan does not identify any geographic concentration of resources. Specifically, the Housing Rehabilitation Program is undertaken without regard to geography, but instead, are based on income of the property owners. Public service agencies that receive CDBG grant funds are scattered through the City and public facilities projects occur in locations that directly benefit those who earn low or moderate incomes or those who are presumed to earn low or moderate incomes. The City of Portsmouth has three Census block groups where a majority of residents earn low or moderate incomes. Projects in these areas are undertaken based on project eligibility and funding availability. For at least the most recent two Consolidated Plans the City has identified significant public infrastructure needs, in CDBG eligible neighborhoods. Urgent Need projects and activities will be undertaken City-wide according to priorities described earlier in this section.

# Affordable Housing

## AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

### Introduction

While wages in the Seacoast area are on par with state averages overall, average housing purchase and rental costs are the most expensive in New Hampshire by considerable margins. Unfortunately it seems that the gap in affordability is growing again. A diverse workforce is vital to a thriving regional economy and if the Seacoast region continues to become more expensive to live in, the lack of affordable housing will increase commuting distance, making it more difficult for employers to recruit workers and more costly to retain them.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	150
Non-Homeless	200
Special-Needs	45
Total	395

**Table 48 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement**

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	25
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	100
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	125

**Table 49 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type**

## **AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)**

### **Introduction**

The Portsmouth Housing Authority works to serve the housing needs of individuals and families who have very low, low, and moderate incomes. The Housing Authority manages several residential complexes serving the elderly, families with children, and families with disabilities. In addition, the Authority manages a tenant-based section 8 program and waiting list. The Housing Authority has also worked with local public safety providers to ensure effective screening policies, strict lease enforcement and the maintenance of healthy and safe neighborhoods. The Housing Authority also provides employment and education incentives to tenants, as well as youth risk prevention services. The City of Portsmouth and the Portsmouth Housing Authority have worked closely to address the need for public housing, including on retention, renovation and development of housing units as well as improvements to livability and access to services by residents.

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

The PHA has made great strides in the past several years in areas including security, accessibility, and partnerships with the community. Challenges to address in the future include the increasing number of non-elderly disabled persons being served, and expanding housing opportunities. Recently the PHA has been required to house greater numbers of non-seniors with physical and/or mental disabilities in traditionally senior housing buildings; this creates a difficult situation to manage but one in which the PHA is confident it can continue to serve both populations through new administrative strategies and community partnerships. With over 200 families on the PHA's waiting list and sustained lack of affordable housing for the Seacoast's workforce, the PHA is looking for new opportunities to increase housing units through acquisition or new construction. While this process can take years, opportunities for potential projects are currently being developed. The PHA has also committed to increase collaboration between other regional or statewide Housing Authorities and non-profit developers. This includes cooperating on issues like policy development, purchasing, back office operations and wait lists in order to decrease costs and improve customer service, with the long-term goal of creating a stronger and more disciplined organization.

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

The PHA is committed to encouraging resident participation in all of its neighborhoods in order to improve social outcomes, reduce crime, foster greater civic engagement, and assure more caring and compassionate communities. Besides working to add more programs and services for tenants, the PHA encourages residents to seek leadership roles and actively engage with the future of the community by joining Resident Advisory Boards.

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

N/A

## **Discussion**

The Portsmouth Housing Authority is seen as an invaluable partner in addressing housing needs in Portsmouth. Through its Five-Year Plan, the PHA is engaged on the issue of creating additional units, preserving existing units, and ensuring high quality services and linking with other resources in the community.

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

### **Introduction**

The City already has a robust Continuum of Care and continues to work with regional organizations such as the Home for All to improve coordination between service providers and develop and implement strategies to expand and refine services.

### **Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including:**

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

The City will promote the availability of Public Service Grants to shelters, healthcare and public welfare agencies in order to strengthen the already robust continuum of care.

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

The City will conduct certifications of consistency for new proposals, as well as providing support through the funding for public facilities projects. The City will also encourage close cooperation and participation in the Continuum of Care.

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

The City will continue providing Public Service Grants for agencies providing supportive services and will support the increase of transitional and permanent-supportive housing.

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

The City will help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless through working with organizations such as the Rockingham County Community Action Program, the Portsmouth Special Needs Fund, NH legal Assistance, and Operation Blessing in order to provide financial and legal support for individuals and families at-risk of becoming homeless. The City will also consult with organizations such as

Southeastern New Hampshire Services, Greater Seacoast Community Health, Seacoast Mental Health Center, One Sky Community Services, and Area Home Care to support those with disabilities or substance abuse issues.

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

### **Introduction:**

As the downtown area of the City continues to expand, opportunities to address the lack of affordable housing are beginning to come to light through increased potential for development of previously underutilized and underdeveloped sites.

**Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment**

Workforce housing in most circumstances is only going to be able to be affordable for developers and residents when undertaken on a large scale or as part of a larger development project. The City is also working to encourage workforce housing developments in the last sections of the City's undeveloped developable land (mainly in the Gateway District). Development of workforce housing may largely be incentivized by allowing zoning easements on setbacks, height, and yard frontage in exchange for developers designating a certain as yet to be determined percentage of units as affordable workforce housing with the goal of increasing densities and promoting more reasonable rates.

## **AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)**

### **Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs**

This year the CDBG Consolidated Plan does not allocate resources based on geographic areas or targeting assistance. All programs and projects are intended to benefit residents earning low and moderate incomes accessing services as well as ensuring access for people with disabilities throughout the City.

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

The City's plan to foster and maintain affordable housing is discussed in AP-55, AP-75, SP-45, SP-55. See also NA-10, MA-10, SP-25.

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

These actions are discussed in SP-65.

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

These actions are discussed in SP-70.

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

The City of Portsmouth and the Community Development Department monitor and participate in regional discussions about issues impacting residents earning low to moderate incomes and special populations. The City is actively involved in supporting efforts to address substance misuse and homelessness prevention efforts through regional dialogues and resulting interventions and programs. The City will continue to be engaged in order to have an impact in these areas.

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

The City of Portsmouth and its residents benefit from a good network of social services and public and privately-assisted housing. For its size, Portsmouth benefits from a wide range of social service providers to assist those in need in Portsmouth. This is due in part to Portsmouth's role as an economic, cultural, and social hub of the region. Many larger non-profits are located in Portsmouth but have service areas beyond the City's borders. In addition, the leading agency in Portsmouth for housing issues, the Portsmouth Housing Authority, is heavily involved in the constellation of non-profit service providers and participates extensively in regional efforts to address substance misuse and homelessness issues. Most all of the City's publicly and privately assisted housing developments are served by regional transportation.



## Program Specific Requirements

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

#### Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

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

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
<b>Total Program Income:</b>	<b>0</b>

#### Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	\$150,000
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021	70.00%

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