

PORTSMOUTH

Community

Development

Block

Grant



Twenty Years of CDBG

1982-2002

Purpose

The goal of this report is to provide a summary of the accomplishments of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Since 1977, CDBG has funded a broad array of housing, economic development, social service, streetscape and handicapped accessibility projects. Highlights include:

- Ⓒ the Market Square Improvement Project which redeveloped the square into a vibrant, pedestrian friendly downtown center;
- Ⓒ the Osprey Landing Housing Project which renovated a dilapidated housing complex into 329 units of attractive and affordable housing; and
- Ⓒ the Children's Museum accessibility project, which addressed the need for accessibility and outdoor performance space.

Through these, and other projects, CDBG has supported local businesses, neighborhoods, and non-profit agencies.

This overview of the CDBG program is organized around the following questions:

- Ⓒ What is the CDBG program?
- Ⓒ How are projects developed and selected for CDBG funding?
- Ⓒ How are CDBG dollars spent in Portsmouth?
- Ⓒ What types of projects does the CDBG program fund?
- Ⓒ What neighborhoods have been eligible for CDBG funded projects, and why?

This overview will describe the CDBG program has influenced people and places in Portsmouth. For more information about the CDBG program, contact Community Development Department staff at 431-2000.

What is the CDBG Program?

On August 22, 1974, President Ford signed into law the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 which established the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The primary objective of this legislation was:

“The development of viable urban communities, by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low or moderate income.”

The CDBG program combined a number of federal grant programs for social services and physical improvements into one flexible “block” grant, which eligible communities and urban counties could use to meet local needs. Congress required that all projects funded meet one of the following goals: 1) benefit families and individuals earning low or moderate incomes; 2) eliminate slums or blight; or 3) meet other urgent community development needs.

From 1977 - 1982, Portsmouth applied to the state for CDBG funds as a Small Cities grantee. In 1982, Portsmouth was designated an Entitlement Grantee which made the City eligible for an annual CDBG award directly from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This direct and consistent stream of funds enabled the City to develop ongoing programs to benefit residents earning low and moderate incomes.

Twenty-five years after its inception, the CDBG program continues to provide eligible communities and urban counties (called “entitlement communities”) with annual direct block grants. CDBG funds have revitalized neighborhoods, expanded affordable housing, created economic opportunities, and improved community facilities and services, principally to benefit families and individuals who earn low and moderate incomes.



How Are Projects Developed and Selected for CDBG Funding?

The Portsmouth CDBG program depends upon its residents to identify community needs. This participation is critical to the CDBG program. The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) was initiated to provide a structure for obtaining input from Portsmouth residents. The CAC is comprised of up to fourteen residents who are appointed by the Mayor and City Council to provide diverse geographic and socio-economic representation.

In 1975, the CAC met seventeen times and held six public forums to craft a community development plan. The CAC's dedication to involving Portsmouth residents in the CDBG program has not wavered over the past two and a half decades.

The CAC's role is to listen to public input, identify community needs, review potential projects and prioritize projects for CDBG funding. Public input is sought through neighborhood meetings, citywide meetings and public hearings. Suggestions and comments made by the public at these venues provide the CAC with insight into the needs of residents, businesses, neighborhoods and other constituencies. All input received is carefully considered by the CAC in the budget development process. This process has resulted in the development of a broad range of housing, economic development, public facility and handicapped accessibility projects that address local needs.

Determining whether proposed projects will benefit residents earning low or moderate incomes is an essential factor in the budget development process. Federal regulations require that over 70% of the funds expended through the CDBG program benefit these residents.

From 1990–2002, 95% of all CDBG funds spent in Portsmouth benefited families and individuals who earn low or moderate incomes. This achievement highlights the CAC's commitment to fulfilling the CDBG program mission.

CAC Members Reflect

on the CDBG Program

As the **current Chair of the CAC**, **Bob Layton** is keenly aware of past and present community needs. He remembers the groundbreaking for the substantial improvements to Market Square, a project the CAC was very actively involved in. According to Mr. Layton, “[t]his project contributed greatly to the economic vitality of the City... and this has been sustained over the years.” One of the primary reasons he cites for the success of the CAC is that “it is a well rounded representation of the people of Portsmouth and this helps us keep abreast of needs now and in the future.”



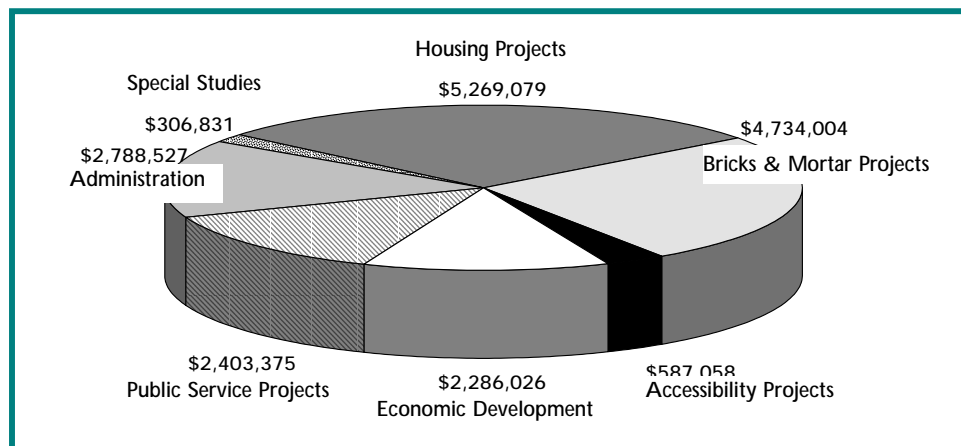
From left to right: Cindy Hayden, Community Development Director; and CAC members Nancy Emerson, Russ VanBilliard, Bob Layton, William Thorpe and Lynne Langley. Not pictured are CAC members Jean Pecunies, Cicero Lewis, Dani Rooney, Paul Staples and Gia Yannekis.

Cicero Lewis, a member of the CAC since its initiation, scrutinizes all project proposals to ensure that people earning low or moderate incomes will benefit. He believes that although the community has changed over the years, residents’ basic needs have changed little. Looking back, Mr. Lewis points to the Osprey Landing Housing Project as a CDBG project that made a notable impact on the community. “By removing a blighted area of the City, it helped a lot of low and moderate income people.” In the years ahead, Mr. Lewis believes that the CDBG program will continue to be a strong support for residents earning low and moderate incomes.

CAC member, Russ Van Billiard has taken pride in watching the attitude of neighborhoods change from skepticism to trust when residents realized that “CAC members were genuinely there to help them improve their neighborhood.” He says the CAC listened to neighborhood needs and responded by, for example, funding neighborhood street and sidewalk improvement projects. These projects enhanced the safety and aesthetics of neighborhoods, while also building a sense of community. Looking to the future, he believes that Portsmouth’s broad range of CDBG programs supports the City’s ability to build strong neighborhoods and an involved citizenry.

How Are CDBG Dollars Spent in Portsmouth?

- Since 1977 . . . over \$18 million in CDBG funds have been spent on community development projects in Portsmouth.
- In the 1970s . . . the Housing Rehabilitation Program was a key focus of the CDBG program. Over the past 25 years, it has assisted more than 468 homeowners to make necessary home improvements. Also in the 1970s, major bricks and mortar projects, such as the Market Square Improvement Project, were key to enhancing the City's downtown.
- In the 1980s . . . the Portsmouth Economic Development Loan Program was initiated which made over \$1 million in loans to local businesses between 1984-2002. Also in the 1980s, a first time homebuyers program was initiated to provide down payment and closing cost assistance financing to first time homebuyers.
- In the 1990s . . . a number of programs were developed such as the Non-Profit Accessibility Program to help finance handicapped accessibility improvements at non-profit organizations. In addition, the Microenterprise Assistance Program, was initiated in the 1990s which provided business counseling assistance to local small businesses.
- In the Late 1990s . . . neighborhood bricks and mortar projects gained renewed importance as aging streets, sidewalks, parks and playgrounds were reconstructed. The need for affordable housing was addressed through the Osprey Landing Housing Project and the re-initiation of the first time homebuyer's program.

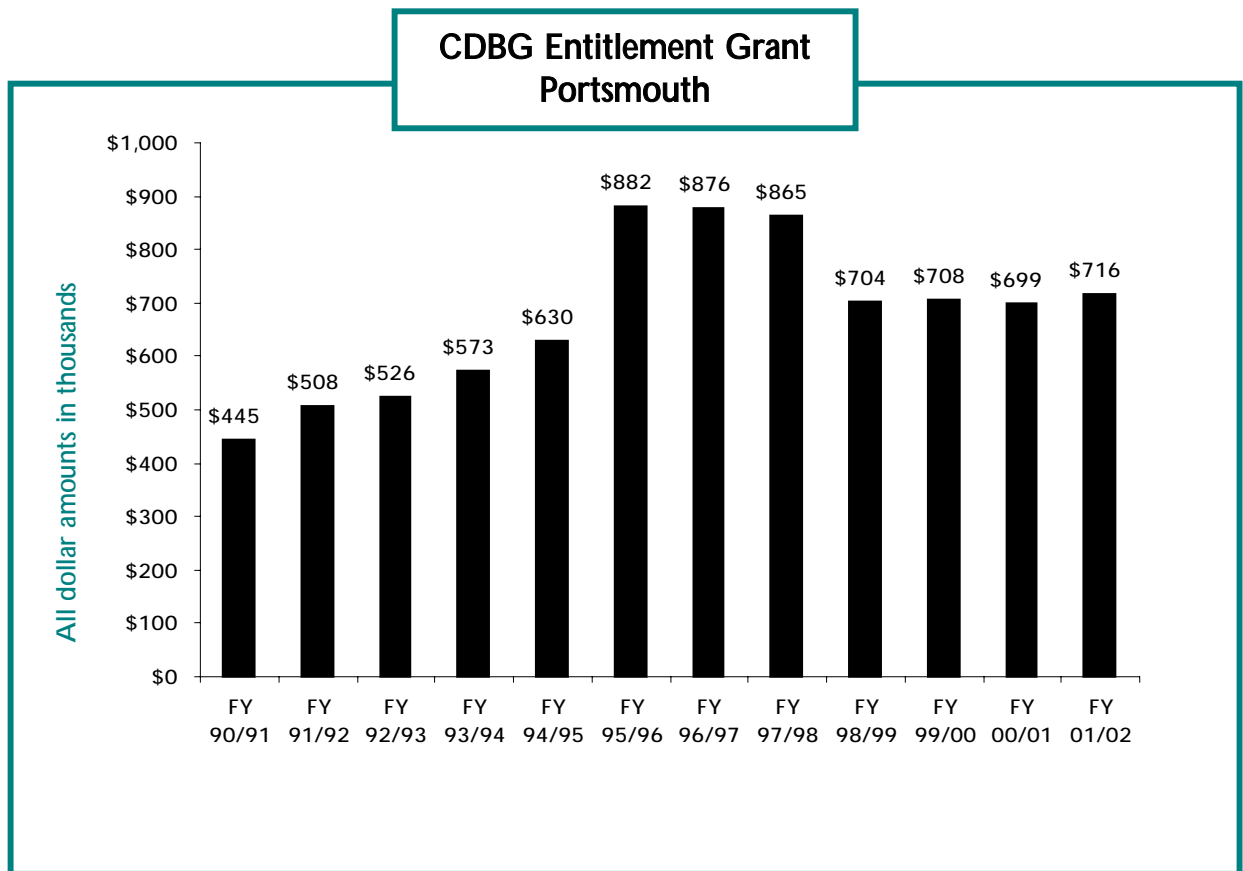


**CDBG
Expenditures
1977-2002
\$18,374,899**

As illustrated here, the Portsmouth CDBG Program funds a variety of activities.

Program Funding

CDBG funds are allocated annually to communities by HUD according to a formula developed by Congress. Since 1977, Portsmouth has enjoyed a gradual increase in the annual amount of CDBG funding provided by HUD. The chart below portrays CDBG funding levels in the last decade.



Portsmouth's CDBG program funds three revolving loan funds – the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program, the Portsmouth Economic Development Loan Program and the Portsmouth Non-Profit Loan Program. These programs provide, respectively, low interest loans for home repairs, capital for business expansion, and facility improvements to local non-profit agencies. These revolving loan funds augment the annual HUD grant that the City receives by creating additional program revenues from loan repayments.

What Types of Projects Does the CDBG Program Fund?

Portsmouth's CDBG program has funded a broad array of programs. These photos illustrate a few of the many CDBG activities in Portsmouth. Summaries of the major CDBG programs are provided on the following pages.



Market Square Improvements revitalized the Downtown in 1978.



City officials and neighborhood residents celebrate the redevelopment of Goodwin Park.



Family support programs at Families First Health and Support Center provide parents with education and support.



Reconstructed Hanscom Park welcomes residents to the neighborhood.



Activity programs at the Senior Citizens Center brings seniors and children together.

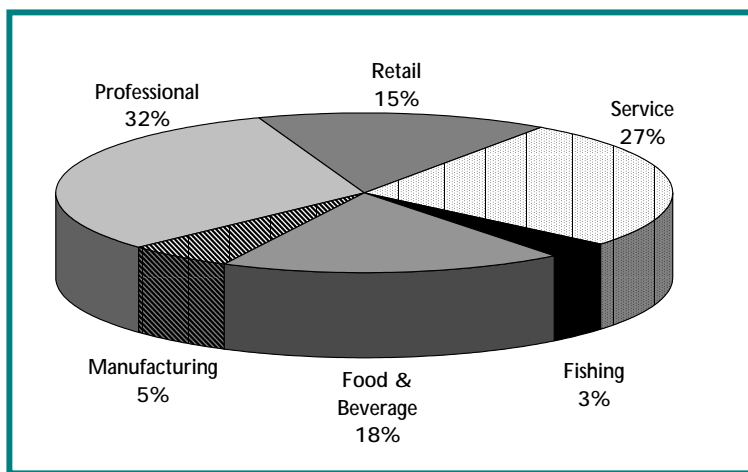


The Cottage Hospital Senior Housing Project gets underway.

Economic Development Programs

The CDBG funded **Portsmouth Economic Development Loan Program (PEDLP)** was developed in 1984 to provide low interest financing to expanding local businesses and new businesses relocating to Portsmouth. Loan repayments are made into a revolving loan fund from which new loans are made.

PEDLP has helped finance growing restaurants, manufacturers, printing establishments and fishing enterprises in Portsmouth. Since 1984, over 480 jobs have been created or retained for local residents as a result of these loans.



PEDLP Loans by Industry

This chart shows how over \$1.3 million in PEDLP funds has been distributed throughout the local economy over the last 18 years.

The Isles of Shoals Steamship Company received a PEDLP loan in the late 1980s. Ms. Whitaker, the owner of the company, noted that “[t]he Portsmouth Economic Development Loan Program played a very valuable role when we purchased the Thomas Loughton in 1992.” By providing affordable financing for the purchase of the Thomas Loughton tour boat and remaining responsive to the company’s financing needs over the years, PEDLP supported the growth of this important local business.

The **Microenterprise Assistance Program**, offered from 1994-2001, facilitated the growth of very small Portsmouth businesses, or microenterprises, by providing one-on-one technical support and business counseling in the areas of marketing, accounting, and business planning. This program successfully used CDBG dollars to leverage additional program funding from local banks and utilities - for every \$1 of CDBG funds invested into this program, the private sector contributed \$.50.

Over 187 businesses were counseled through this program. One local businesswoman, reflecting on her experience with the program, noted how “amazingly helpful [the Microenterprise Assistance Program] has been to me in my business.”

Housing Programs

The **Housing Rehabilitation Program**, initiated in 1977 and still active today, has funded over \$2 million in home improvements in Portsmouth. Improvements have included the replacement of windows and septic systems and repairs to roofing, plumbing and electrical systems.

Single family homeowners, including senior citizens and young families, have received low interest loans and grants for home improvements through this program. This financing has not only helped make necessary home improvements but, for some, made it possible for them to remain in their homes. The daughter of one elderly homeowner wrote, "Thanks for helping [my mother] to find a way to keep her house fixed up. She has struggled to keep that house. I hope she can live there for many more years."

Multi-family property owners and their tenants have also benefited from the Housing Rehabilitation Program. Low interest financing through this program has made it possible for owners of rental properties to keep rents affordable in their buildings while providing safe, healthy, quality housing.



The Housing Rehabilitation Program financed the construction of a new roof and other improvements for a young single homeowner.

The **Residential Accessibility Program** was initiated in 1989 to help individuals with disabilities remain in their homes through the construction of handicapped accessible ramps, bathroom modifications and widened doorways. Since 1989, \$373,000 in grant funds has been awarded to 44 homeowners for these improvements.

In 1997, the Osprey Landing Housing Project received the John J. Gunther “Best Practice Award” from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. This project entailed the rehabilitation of a 50-year old substandard 600-unit garden apartment complex which was almost two-thirds vacant.

A broad partnership of federal, state and local agencies came together to develop this project. The result was a \$24 million financing package that pooled \$1.3 million in CDBG funds with funds from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, the federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program and the federal HOME program. Today, Osprey Landing consists of 329 attractive townhouse apartments. 167 of the apartments are preserved for 30 years as affordable to households earning low and moderate incomes.



Prior to its rehabilitation, much of the housing (left) at Mariners Village was substandard.



Osprey Landing, previously Mariners Village, (right) now offers residents clean, safe and attractive housing.

HomeTown: Portsmouth’s First Time Homebuyer Program, initially known as the Portsmouth Housing Endowment Fund (PHEF), has provided Portsmouth families with the resources needed to enter the housing market. The program, then known as PHEF, helped 54 families purchase homes between 1989 and 1994. In 1999, the program was restructured to become the HomeTown Program. Between 1999-2002, seven households purchased homes with assistance through the HomeTown Program.

Through the Fair Housing Project, the City has contracted with New Hampshire Legal Assistance to educate landlords, tenants and social service providers about fair housing issues. This education ensures that tenants and landlords understand their housing rights and responsibilities. The Fair Housing Project has promoted and helped to maintain an open and fair housing climate in Portsmouth.

Programs for Non-Profit Agencies

In the 1990s, the CAC initiated the **Non-Profit Accessibility Program** in response to requests for funding for handicapped accessibility improvements from a number of non-profit agencies. For example, Cross Roads House, a local homeless shelter, received funding through this program for a feasibility study to determine how their facility could be made accessible and, then, for the construction of the improvements. Other participants have included The Music Hall and the Seacoast Repertory Theatre, which were both able to improve the accessibility of their seating areas with CDBG funding.



The ramp at the front entrance to the Senior Citizens Center provides seniors and people with disabilities access to the many activities and services available at the center.

Past Recipients of Grants through the Non-Profit Accessibility Program

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| € A Safe Place | € Portsmouth Regional Health Support |
| € Betty's Dream | € Prescott Park |
| € Community Development Services | € Seacoast Family YMCA |
| € Cross Roads House, Inc. | € Seacoast Repertory Theatre |
| € Frank E. Booma Post, VFW #168 | € The Children's Museum |
| € Loyal Order of the Moose | € The Music Hall |
| € New Hampshire Legal Services | € Visiting Nurses Association |

The installation of a new handicapped accessible lift at City Hall and automatic doors at the Portsmouth Public Library were also CDBG-funded. All of these improvements have enabled individuals with disabilities to have improved access to services, cultural and recreational programs and employment opportunities in Portsmouth.

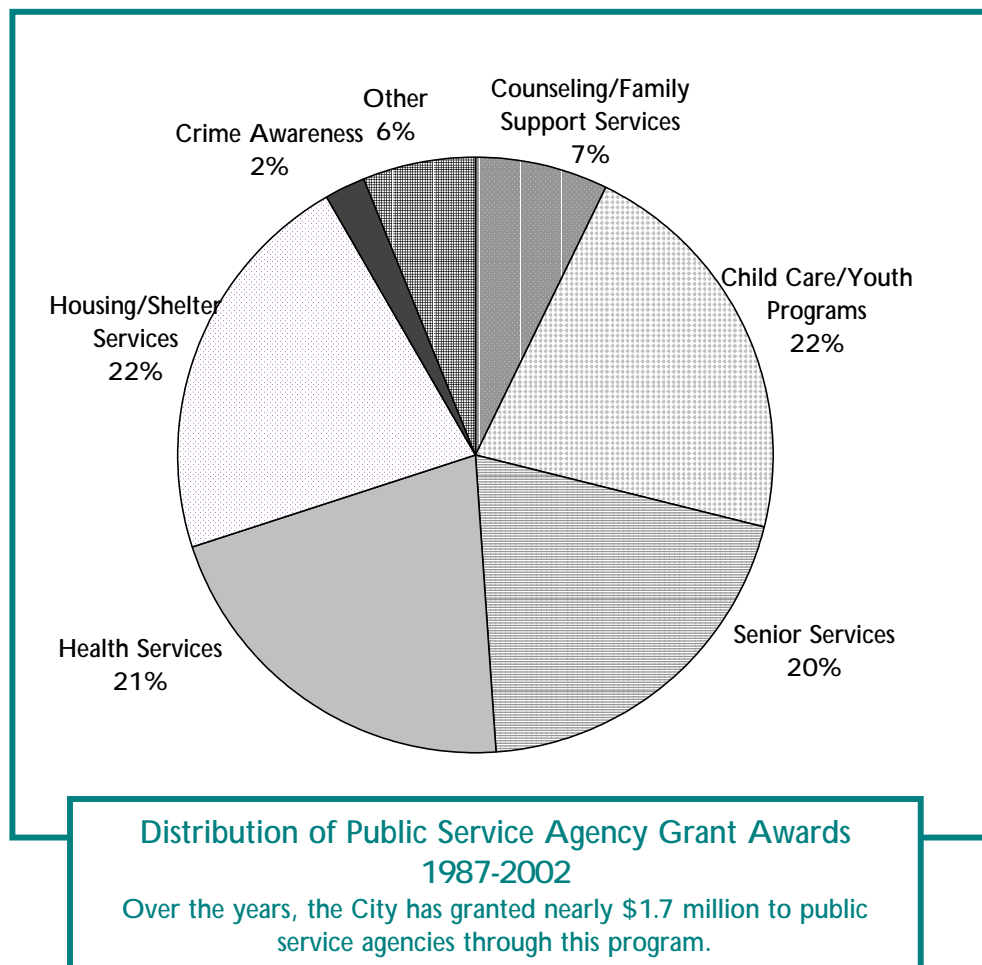
The **Public Service Agency Grant Program** has provided grants to agencies including A Safe Place, Area Home Care and Family Services, and Cross Roads House since the 1980s.

Demand for this program has been strong throughout its history. CDBG grants to public service agencies for operating costs support the provision of critical child care, shelter, and health services. Annually funding requests exceed available funds.

Agencies awarded funding represent a wide spectrum of services, however, one common thread unites them all: the services they provide primarily assist individuals and families earning low or moderate incomes.



These boys attend the Community Child Care Center which has been awarded CDBG Public Service Agency Grant funds in past years.



CDBG Bricks and Mortar Projects

Since the inception of the CDBG program in 1977, public facility projects, commonly known as bricks and mortar projects, have provided neighborhoods with improved streetscapes, sidewalks, water mains, parks and playgrounds. Descriptions of major CDBG-funded bricks and mortar projects follow.

Neighborhood Improvements

Numerous streets have been upgraded with CDBG funds over the last 25 years. The goal of these projects has been not only to improve aesthetics, but also to provide safe, usable sidewalks and increase the supply of on-street parking where possible. The construction of these types of projects is limited to CDBG eligible neighborhoods. Over time, some of the neighborhoods in which these projects were conducted have become ineligible for CDBG funding. The Section "What Neighborhoods are Eligible for CDBG Funding and Why?" on page 17 discusses what determines neighborhood eligibility for CDBG funding.



In the Atlantic Heights Neighborhood, streetscape improvements have improved parking and aesthetics.

Neighborhood Improvements

- | | |
|---|---|
| € Atlantic Heights Sidewalks and Streetscapes | € Maplewood Avenue Sidewalk |
| € Bartlett Street Improvements | € McDonough Street Improvements |
| € Borthwick Avenue Street Improvements | € Pannaway Manor Sidewalks |
| € Cabot Street Sidewalk | € Sagamore Avenue Sidewalks |
| € Greenleaf Avenue Sidewalk Reconstruction | € South Street Sidewalk |
| € Lafayette Road Sidewalk | € Union Street Sidewalk |
| | € Woodbury Avenue Sidewalk |
| | € Seacrest Village Street Improvements (now Osprey Landing) |

Handicapped Accessibility Improvements

Improving handicapped accessibility in a city that was founded in the 1600s is an ongoing challenge – buildings are built close to street edges and sidewalks are narrow. Since 1989, more than \$150,000 has been spent to construct over four dozen curb cuts in the downtown area.



New curb cuts and sidewalks at the Keefe House.

Market Square Improvements

In the 1970s, many downtown businesses were struggling to survive. The Market Square Improvement Project was developed to improve the economic vitality of the central business district. The landscaping and streetscape improvements constructed helped increase foot traffic, improve traffic flow and beautify the downtown. Today, the success of this project is apparent in Portsmouth's vibrant downtown streetscape and vital central business district.



Park and Playground Projects

CDBG-funded park improvement projects have helped build community by providing neighborhood meeting places. One example of a park project is the rehabilitation of Hanscom Park, a World War II Veteran's memorial park located in Atlantic Heights. This project included the installation of walkways, granite curbing, benches, a flagpole, pedestrian scale lighting, plantings and ten granite markers each bearing the name of an Atlantic Heights resident that served in World War II. Other parks have undergone similar transformations with funding from the CDBG program.

CDBG Funded Parks & Playgrounds

- € Big Rock Park
- € Cater Park
- € Clough Field
- € Goodwin Park
- € Hislop Park
- € Lafayette Playground
- € Leary Field
- € Ledgewood Playground
- € North Mill Pond Viewing Area
- € Peirce Island Playground
- € Pine Street Park
- € Rock Street Park
- € Sherburne Playground

This partial list of CDBG park projects spans the history of the CDBG program. Some of the neighborhoods in which these projects are located are no longer eligible for CDBG funding.

Other Bricks and Mortar Projects

Public service agencies have been able to rehabilitate their facilities with assistance from the CDBG program as well. Two notable projects are described below.

- € Extensive improvements were carried out at the City-owned Seybolt Building which houses seven non-profit agencies serving low and moderate income residents. These improvements included replacement of all windows, installation of a new HVAC system, elevator replacement and electrical upgrades.
- € Lead based paint abatement and asbestos removal activities created a safe and healthy environment for children at the Community Child Care Center's old location on Middle Street.

Through these projects, the City helped public service agencies serve their Portsmouth clients.



CDBG funds were key to financing renovations at the Seybolt Building which now provides energy efficient and accessible office space to AIDS Response of the Seacoast, Child and Family Services, the Community Council of Senior Citizens, Family Service Association, the Seacoast Chapter of the American Red Cross, the Rockingham Community Action Program, and Sexual Assault Support Services.

Projects with the Portsmouth Housing Authority

The City has collaborated with the Portsmouth Housing Authority (PHA) throughout the history of the Portsmouth CDBG program to preserve and improve affordable housing. This alliance with the Portsmouth Housing Authority has been an important part of the City's strategy for meeting the housing needs of residents. A few significant projects which the CDBG program helped finance are described below.

- € The affordability of the 100-unit Wamesit Place family housing complex was preserved through the efforts of the CDBG program and the PHA Housing Corporation, a non-profit affiliate of the PHA. This housing development had been federally financed, however, by the early 1980's, when the owners of this federally financed housing complex wanted to sell, the PHA Housing Corporation was able to purchase it with funding from the CDBG program.
- € The exteriors of the Woodbury Manor, State Street and Pleasant Street housing developments, which provide a total of 60 units of low and moderate income senior housing, were painted.
- € A sidewalk was constructed on Greenleaf Avenue to provide residents of Wamesit Place, with safe pedestrian access from their location on Holiday Drive to the Route 1 Bypass.
- € New playground equipment was installed at both Gosling Meadows, a 124-unit family housing complex, and at Wamesit Place.

In 2002, the City embarked on an ambitious project with the Portsmouth Housing Authority – the redevelopment of the long vacant Cottage Hospital, located adjacent to City Hall, into 20 units of affordable senior housing. In addition to CDBG dollars, funding for this \$3 million redevelopment project included federal HOME funds and a grant from the Federal Home Loan Bank. Equity for the project was provided from the sale of low income housing tax credits and federal historic tax credits.

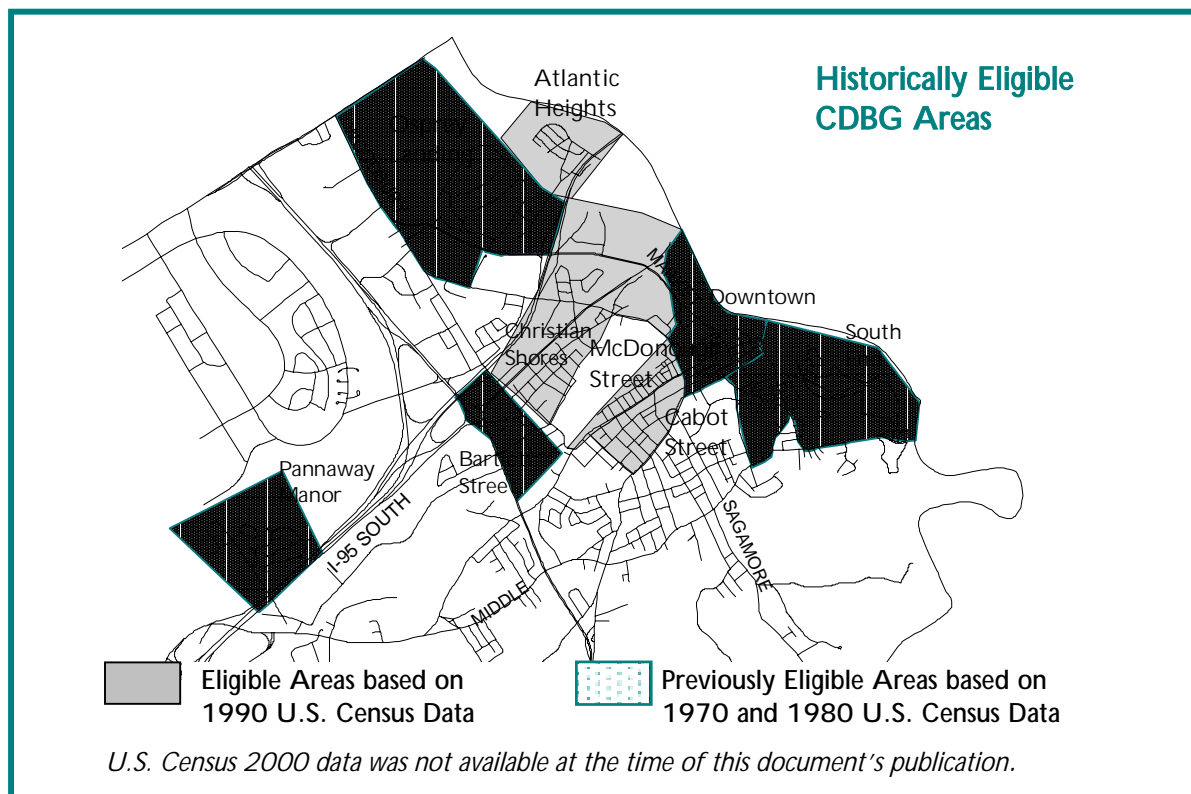


Congressman Sununu and U.S. Housing and Urban Development Secretary Martinez visit the Cottage Hospital Senior Housing Project.

What Neighborhoods Have Been Eligible for CDBG Funded Projects, and Why?

The CDBG program has funded nearly \$7 million in housing rehabilitation, streetscape, sidewalk and park projects in eligible neighborhoods. Eligible neighborhoods are those in which over 51% of the residents earn low or moderate incomes. These neighborhoods have historically been located in the more populous northern sections of the City.

U.S. Census Bureau data is used to define the eligible neighborhood areas. Census data is issued every ten years for the City as a whole, and for smaller geographic areas within the City called census tracts and census block groups. The map below depicts neighborhoods which have been the focus of CDBG funds over the program's history.



Over time, some previously eligible neighborhoods, such as the South End and the Bartlett Street neighborhood became ineligible for CDBG funds because the majority of residents no longer earned low or moderate incomes. Neighborhoods such as McDonough Street, Cabot Street, and Atlantic Heights, have been CDBG eligible throughout the last 25 years. CDBG-funded neighborhood projects are highlighted on the following pages.

Eligible CDBG Neighborhoods (based on 1990 Census Data)

McDonough Street Neighborhood

This neighborhood, bounded by Islington Street, Bridge Street, the North Mill Pond and Bartlett Street, was one of the first neighborhoods to be identified as a CDBG eligible area. Homeowners in the neighborhood who earned low or moderate incomes or who rented to people earning low or moderate incomes were eligible to receive low interest loans and grants for home improvements through the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program. In order to complement the improvements to residents' homes, CDBG funds were also used to repave streets, install new sidewalks and curbs, plant street trees, create Rock Street Park and, 20 years later, upgrade Rock Street Park.

Focus on Neighborhoods: McDonough Street Neighborhood

Total CDBG-Funded Projects to Date: \$1,430,110

Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program: 56 housing units improved

Additional Projects Include:

- ⌘ Storm and Sewer Drain Upgrades
- ⌘ Street and Sidewalk Improvements
- ⌘ Rock Street Park Creation and Reconstruction
- ⌘ Street Tree Planting
- ⌘ Victory Garden Improvements
- ⌘ Fire Alarm Upgrades
- ⌘ McDonough Street Parking Lot Improvements
- ⌘ North Mill Pond Feasibility Study
- ⌘ North Mill Pond Viewing Area



Celebrating the Redevelopment of
Rock Street Park

Cabot Street Neighborhood

This neighborhood, which abuts the McDonough Street neighborhood, is bounded by Islington Street, Middle Street and Cass Street. The Cabot Street Neighborhood became an eligible neighborhood in the early 1980s. Housing rehabilitation loans were the focus at that time. More recently, between 1996 and 1998, \$275,000 was spent to reconstruct brick sidewalks on Cabot Street and Union Street which improved neighborhood safety and aesthetics.

Substantial improvements were also undertaken in two neighborhood parks: Cater Park in 1998 and Goodwin Park in 2000-2002. At Cater Park, a new handicapped accessible playground facility and half basketball court were completed. Improvements at Goodwin Park included extensive landscaping, the installation of new lighting, benches and walkways, and the conservation of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. Neighborhood residents, through work sessions and neighborhood meetings, were involved in guiding and designing these projects to ensure their success.

Focus on Neighborhoods: Cabot Street Neighborhood

Total CDBG-Funded Projects to Date: \$1,524,110

Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program: 110 housing units improved

Additional Projects Include:



Cabot Street Sidewalk
Improvement Project

- ⊘ Cabot Street and Sidewalk Improvements
- ⊘ Cater Park Redevelopment
- ⊘ Goodwin Park Rehabilitation
- ⊘ Soldiers & Sailors Monument Restoration
- ⊘ Storm and Sewer Drains Update

Atlantic Heights Neighborhood

This neighborhood, located off Market Street Extension, was built in 1918 to serve as employee housing for the adjoining private shipyard that existed at that time, known as the Atlantic Corporation. Atlantic Heights was designed and built as a self-contained village where residents could walk to the neighboring shipyard to work, thereby eliminating the need for cars, garages and street curbing. Almost one hundred years later, the needs of neighborhood residents are much different, particularly with regard to parking and traffic.

Between 1980 – 1982, CDBG funds were used to upgrade nearly fifty homes in the Atlantic Heights neighborhood through the Housing Rehabilitation Program. In 1990, this neighborhood became ineligible for CDBG funding based on 1990 Census data, which showed that more than half of the residents earned incomes above a moderate income for Portsmouth. However, in 1998, the City conducted an income survey of the neighborhood, which demonstrated that nearly 56% of the residents in this neighborhood earned low or moderate incomes making this neighborhood eligible again for CDBG funding. Since then, projects have been carried out to improve parks, traffic circulation, parking, pedestrian safety and the visual quality of the neighborhood.

In 2001, a substantial streetscape improvement project was carried out on Kearsarge Way, Falkland Place and a portion of Ranger Way which included new concrete sidewalks, granite curbing, street paving and the planting of two dozen new street trees. Other CDBG-funded projects included upgrades to the basketball court at Maynard Park and the parking area at Hislop Little League field, as well as more rehab projects at Hanscom Park, and Big Rock Park. The City has worked closely with neighborhood residents on the design of these improvements and the outcome reflects their commitment to preserving their historic neighborhood.

Focus on Neighborhoods: Atlantic Heights Neighborhood

Total CDBG-Funded Projects To Date: \$969,697

Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program: 50 housing units improved

Additional Projects Include:



Hanscom Park after its reconstruction, provides a community meeting place.

- € Hanscom Park Reconstruction
- € Hislop Parking Area Improvements
- € Hislop Park Playground Installation
- € Kearsarge Way, Falkland Place, Saratoga Way, Ranger Way Streetscape Improvements
- € Maynard Park Improvements

Osprey Landing

The housing development, originally known as Wentworth Acres, then Seacrest Village, then Mariner's Village, and now known as Osprey Landing, has received CDBG funding for a variety of projects. This housing development, at one time, provided 600 affordable rental units. By the 1970s, the infrastructure was in significant disrepair. In order to address these needs, new sidewalks, streets and curbs were constructed. However, due to a lack of maintenance, the housing itself deteriorated over time and, by the late 1980s, only 220 of the 600 rentals were occupied. In 1997, CDBG funds were combined with federal, state, and private funds to redevelop the housing complex into a 329-unit mixed income housing development.

Focus on Neighborhoods: Osprey Landing Neighborhood

Total CDBG-Funded Projects to Date:	\$1,573,694
Additional Projects Include:	☒ Seacrest Village Street and Sidewalk Improvements
	☒ Osprey Landing Housing Project

Neighborhoods That Are No Longer CDBG Eligible

(based on 1970 and 1980 Census Data)

In 1970, census data showed that a majority of the residents in the Downtown, Bartlett Street, Christian Shores, Pannaway Manor and South End neighborhoods earned low or moderate incomes. In the 1970s and 1980s, these areas were targeted for CDBG-funded streetscape and housing improvements. By 1990, data from the U.S. Census Bureau showed that the majority of the residents in these neighborhoods earned greater than moderate incomes and these areas were no longer eligible for CDBG funding. The improvements funded when these neighborhoods were eligible during the 1970's and 1980's are provided on the following page.

Focus On Neighborhoods That Are No Longer CDBG Eligible

Downtown

Total CDBG-Funded Projects: \$467,110

Projects Include:

- € Market Square Improvements
- € Aldrich Park Reconstruction
- € Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program: 10 housing units improved

Bartlett Street Neighborhood

Total CDBG-Funded Projects: \$62,847

Additional Projects Include:

- € Street and Sidewalk Improvements
- € Pine Street Playground Renovations
- € Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program: 4 housing units improved

Christian Shores Neighborhood

Total CDBG-Funded Projects: \$258,227

Additional Projects Include:

- € Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program: 69 housing units improved

Pannaway Manor Neighborhood

Total CDBG-Funded Projects: \$109,778

Additional Projects Include:

- € Sidewalk Improvements
- € Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program: 7 housing units improved

South End Neighborhood

Total CDBG-Funded Projects: \$599,462

€ Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program: 66 housing units improved

Citizen's Advisory Committee

Robert Layton, *Chairperson*
Cicero Lewis, *Vice Chairperson*
Russell Van Billiard
Nancy Emerson
Lynne Langley
Jean Pecunies
Dani Rooney
Paul Staples
William Thorpe
Gia Yannekis

Portsmouth City Council

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Alex Hanson, *Assistant Mayor*
Joanne M. Grasso
Bradley M. Lown
John W. Hynes
Laura C. Pantelakos
Harold Whitehouse Jr.
Evelyn E. Marconi
William L. St. Laurent

John P. Bohenko
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Dan Hartrey, *Housing Specialist*
Karen Jacoby, *Program Manager*
Terry Poulin, *Office Manager*

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