



CITY OF
Cuyahoga Falls

2026

ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

The Consolidated Plan is implemented through Annual Action Plans, which provides a structured summary of planned activities and funding allocations. These plans utilize federal and non-federal resources to address priority needs and long-term objectives identified in the Consolidated Plan.

This Annual Action Plan represents the third year of the 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan. The City of Cuyahoga Falls receives funding through the CDBG Program, administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This third-year Action Plan outlines how the City will allocate CDBG funds for program year 2026, detailing how funded projects and activities will support established priorities.

The primary objective of the CDBG Program is to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

Objectives and Outcomes Identified in the Plan

- **Provision of Safe and Attainable Housing:** To preserve, develop, and expand availability of quality housing options for individuals and families whose income aligns with eligibility criteria, ensuring safe and sanitary living conditions.
- **Enhancement of Neighborhood Conditions:** To improve quality of life and strengthen local areas through public services, infrastructure investments, and development initiatives that address specific needs.
- **Expansion of Economic Growth Opportunities:** To support economic stability by facilitating job creation, business development, and workforce training for eligible participants.

- **Programmatic Compliance and Resource Availability:** To ensure adherence to federal regulations, uphold housing program guidelines, and expand availability of resources that enhance overall well-being.

3. Evaluation of past performance

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

Following the successful completion of several high-priority public facility and infrastructure projects—including the removal of architectural barriers at the RiverLoop and City Hall—the City of Cuyahoga Falls is focusing its resources toward direct community reinvestment for the 2026 program year.

A primary objective of this plan is economic development through continued assistance to local businesses. By providing matching equipment and facade grants and working capital loans, the City aims to foster long-term business stability and expand economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals within the community.

Additionally, the City remains committed to housing preservation through the Minor Home Rehabilitation Grant Program. This initiative addresses essential health and safety repairs to ensure that the existing housing stock remains decent, safe, and sanitary for income-eligible homeowners.

Finally, the City will continue to support non-profit organizations that provide essential public services. These partnerships are a cornerstone of the City's strategy to provide a suitable living environment and critical support for the elderly, disabled, and low- to moderate-income populations.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Citizen Participation Process

The Citizen Participation Process is conducted in accordance with the City of Cuyahoga Falls' adopted Citizen Participation Plan. This regulatory framework provides for and encourages low- and moderate-income persons to participate in the development of the Annual Action Plan and the review of program performance.

The Plan mandates a minimum public comment period for performance reports and for the Annual Action Plan to ensure residents have a reasonable opportunity to examine the proposed use of funds. Public hearings are held at convenient times and locations to obtain residents' views on housing and community development needs. All written comments received are considered, and a summary of these views is attached to the final submission to HUD.

Consultation Process

The City facilitates a consultation process with public and private agencies that provide assisted housing, health services, and social services. This collaborative approach ensures that CDBG funding allocations are coordinated with local and regional institutions, including the Continuum of Care, to address the needs of chronically homeless individuals and other special-needs populations.

The City also consults with entities responsible for economic development and public infrastructure to ensure that all activities meet a National Objective and align with the priorities identified in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

Residents and stakeholders may access the Citizen Participation Plan and additional information on CDBG-eligible activities by visiting the City of Cuyahoga Falls' official website at www.cityofcf.com/departments/community-development/block-grant-program.

5. Summary of public comments

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

Acknowledgment of Public Participation

The City of Cuyahoga Falls extends its sincere appreciation to the residents, non-profit organizations, and stakeholders who actively participated in the public comment process. Your valuable input plays a crucial role in shaping city development initiatives, ensuring that programs and resources effectively address local needs.

Through this engagement, residents and partners provided insightful feedback, recommendations, and perspectives that contribute to the planning and implementation of federally funded projects. The City remains committed to transparent governance and collaborative decision-making, recognizing the importance of resident voices in guiding future development efforts.

Public discussions for the Annual Action Plan are scheduled to occur during the July 20, 2026 Cuyahoga Falls City Council meeting and the July 23, 2026 public meeting at the Cuyahoga Falls Natatorium. Additional outreach will include social media engagement to inform residents about the draft plan and opportunities to participate. Sign-in sheets from the public meetings, along with comments received through the public participation process, will be compiled and included in the appendix titled Citizen Participation Comments.

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

Public Comment Review Process

As part of the public input process, the City of Cuyahoga Falls sought feedback on the Annual Action Plan through multiple outreach channels, including the City’s official website, Akron Beacon Journal legal ads, and social media platforms.

During the public comment period, all submitted feedback was reviewed and assessed. Comments that did not directly pertain to the Annual Action Plan—such as inquiries related to non-CDBG-funded programs, municipal services, or unrelated policy topics—were directed to the appropriate departments or agencies for response and follow-up.

7. Summary

Implementation and Ongoing Coordination

Throughout the 2026 Action Plan year, staff will actively work to address identified priorities by reviewing public input, carrying out designated initiatives, and ensuring alignment with federally funded program objectives.

To strengthen program effectiveness and adaptability, staff will engage in ongoing coordination with local organizations, service providers, and agencies. This structured approach ensures that resources are allocated strategically, projects remain flexible to meet local needs, and implementation efforts are efficient.

Additionally, staff will refine ongoing efforts through regular assessments, performance evaluations, and stakeholder discussions to enhance program operations. By maintaining clear communication channels and fostering collaborative partnerships, the City remains committed to transparency, accountability, and the long-term effectiveness of its development initiatives.

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)

1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

Describe the agency/entity 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	CUYAHOGA FALLS	Development Department

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

CDBG Program Administration

The City's Development Department oversees the CDBG Program, which supports initiatives related to housing programs, public services, property improvements, economic development, infrastructure, and capital projects. These efforts are designed to strengthen neighborhood conditions, enhance housing quality, and facilitate local economic activity while addressing development priorities.

Cuyahoga Falls Development Division

The City's Development Division consists of three interconnected units:

- Housing and Code Compliance – Enforcing housing standards and property maintenance regulations.
- Planning and Economic Development – Supporting business growth, land use planning, and local development initiatives.
- Zoning and Federal Program Administration – Managing land use regulations and overseeing federal grant administration to align with development objectives.

Each division plays a critical role in the planning, implementation, and oversight of CDBG-funded projects and activities.

Program Oversight and Administration

CDBG funds are managed by the CDBG Program Administrator, working in coordination with the Development Director and Deputy Development Director to ensure effective program execution and compliance with federal regulations.

Oversight of funding allocations, project implementation, and expenditures is provided by:

- CDBG Loan and Grant Committee
- Board of Control
- City Council
- Mayor's Office
- City Law Department (*Director and Deputy Director*)
- City Finance Department (*Director, Deputy Director, and Treasurer*)

This structured oversight framework ensures accountability, fiscal responsibility, and adherence to federal guidelines, supporting the long-term success of local development efforts.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

For information regarding the City of Cuyahoga Falls' 2026 Annual Action Plan, contact Mary Spaugy, Development Director, at (330) 971-8137. The plan is available for public viewing on the City website at www.cityofcf.com/departments/community-development/block-grant-program.

Additional inquiries about the plan may be directed to the Development Department at the Cuyahoga Falls City Building, located at 2310 Second Street, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221.

AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(I)

1. Introduction

Consultation and Coordination Efforts

The City of Cuyahoga Falls Development Department engages in ongoing collaboration with vested local agencies to support effective program administration and resource allocation. Staff regularly consults with representatives from:

- Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA) – The local public agency overseeing federally supported housing programs.
- Summit County (CoC) – A regional group focused on housing stability efforts.
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) – Managed by United Way of Summit County, providing data-driven support for housing program administration.
- Housing Compliance & Guidance Association (HCGA) – A local organization supporting housing regulations and program alignment.

The CDBG Program Administrator actively participates in monthly CoC Steering Committee meetings and serves on the Executive Board of the Akron/Barberton/Summit County Coordination Network, contributing to policy discussions and strategic planning efforts.

Meetings focused on housing availability, program coordination, and emergency housing initiatives are conducted at United Way of Summit County (HMIS) and AMHA, ensuring service alignment. Additionally, the Housing Compliance & Guidance Association Director maintains direct communication with the Development Department’s CDBG Program Administrator regarding program guidelines, public information efforts, and compliance monitoring.

This structured consultation process supports program oversight, interagency coordination, and alignment with federally supported housing initiatives.

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))

Coordination Between Housing and Health Service Agencies

The City of Cuyahoga Falls maintains ongoing collaboration with public and assisted housing providers, as well as private and governmental health service agencies, to support effective program administration and resource alignment.

Regular meetings are scheduled with the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA), local organizations, business associations, and health service providers to facilitate communication, strategic planning, and program coordination. These engagements help identify local priorities, service needs, and operational gaps, ensuring that resources are effectively allocated to support housing programs and resident well-being.

The City works closely with AMHA and other partners to integrate housing initiatives into broader development efforts. This includes engagement with residents, local businesses, and service agencies when developing Renewal and Redevelopment Plans for targeted project areas.

For new housing projects, the City collaborates with Habitat for Humanity of Summit County as needed, ensuring efficient development and rehabilitation efforts. Additionally, the City maintains strong partnerships with Community-Based Development Organizations (CBDO) and Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO) to provide support and assistance for housing rehabilitation and new housing activities.

This structured approach strengthens service coordination, housing program consolidation, and development efforts, ensuring that residents receive comprehensive support across housing and health service sectors.

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.

CoC Program Overview

The CoC Program supports a collaborative approach to housing assistance, providing funding and strategic support to nonprofit organizations and government entities. The program focuses on expedited housing solutions for individuals and families facing housing challenges, reducing displacement, and ensuring availability of essential services that supports long-term housing security.

Summit County CoC Collaboration

The Summit County CoC is a coordinated network of housing service providers and support agencies, including the City of Cuyahoga Falls, the City of Akron, the City of Barberton, and Summit County, along with healthcare institutions, financial organizations, and educational partners such as the University of Akron, banks, and foundations. This collaboration strengthens emergency, temporary, and long-term housing solutions for individuals, families, veterans, and designated populations. The CoC system integrates housing assistance and supportive programs to equip participants with the resources needed to achieve stability.

City of Cuyahoga Falls' Role in CoC Efforts

The City of Cuyahoga Falls actively participates in the CoC Committee, engaging in regular meetings, strategic planning, and data-driven evaluations of housing service needs. The Cuyahoga Falls CDBG Program Administrator serves on the CoC Board of Directors and the Ranking and Review Committee, contributing to policy development and program oversight.

As part of its commitment to data-based decision-making, the City participated in the HUD-mandated Point-in-Time Count in January 2025, conducted by trained volunteers. This assessment gathered critical data on individuals experiencing housing challenges, ensuring that funding and services are effectively allocated. The CoC conducted counts in designated survey locations, centralized intake centers, and outreach-based assessment sites, providing a comprehensive snapshot of local housing needs.

This structured approach strengthens housing program coordination, service coordination, and development efforts, ensuring that residents receive comprehensive support across housing, health, and service sectors.

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

CoC and ESG Program Administration

The City of Akron, as the lead agency in collaboration with the CoC, is committed to establishing and maintaining performance standards for the Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESGP) and all CoC-funded projects. The CoC has fully implemented the HEARTH Act, ensuring adherence to federal guidelines and best practices in housing assistance and program administration.

Ongoing Program Development and Oversight

The City of Akron and the CoC continue to:

- Refine planning processes for the ESG and CoC policies and procedures manual, including committee structures, meeting protocols, roles and responsibilities, performance measures, and criteria for program evaluation.
- Assess service availability gaps within the ESG and CoC programs, establishing a data-driven process to determine funding priorities and resource allocation.
- Develop strategic goals for long-term housing programs, evaluate future housing initiatives, and establish ESGP performance measures to enhance program effectiveness.
- Update the ESG and CoC operational plan, ensuring continued participation in the Steering Committee and Board of Directors for the Akron/Barberton/Summit Coordination Network.

- Conduct the HUD-mandated Point-in-Time Count, gathering essential data on housing trends and service needs to inform policy decisions and funding strategies.

This structured approach strengthens program oversight, service coordination, and housing program effectiveness, ensuring that resources are allocated efficiently to support long-term housing solutions and local development efforts.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	United Way of Summit and Medina
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Cuyahoga Falls engaged with the United Way of Summit and Medina as part of ongoing program coordination efforts, ensuring alignment with housing program administration and data management strategies. The United Way plays a pivotal role in supporting the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), which facilitates efficient data collection and service coordination for individuals and families seeking housing resources. The collaboration focuses on strengthening HMIS data management to improve tracking and reporting of housing service needs, optimizing resource allocation through data-driven insights to ensure funding effectively supports priority areas, and expanding partnerships among local organizations to improve availability to housing-related programs. Additionally, Point-in-Time (PIT) Count findings inform long-term funding strategies and housing initiatives, allowing for more effective planning and program adjustments. This structured approach reinforces program oversight and interagency cooperation, ensuring that housing assistance efforts remain adaptable to evolving city/resident needs.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Summit County Continuum of Care
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless Regional organization

<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy</p>
<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The City of Cuyahoga Falls engages in ongoing consultations with the Summit County CoC to assess housing challenges and allocate funding for programs that assist individuals and families experiencing housing instability. These discussions, held multiple times per month, facilitate continuous coordination to address the needs of those facing prolonged housing insecurity, including families with children, veterans, and youth. This collaboration strengthens strategic planning by ensuring that housing assistance programs align with city/resident needs and funding priorities. Data-driven decision-making improves the implementation of housing assessment information, leading to better-informed program development and resource allocation. Funding strategies are refined to maximize available financial and programmatic resources, while expanded service coordination enhances partnerships among public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and service providers to improve availability to housing-related support services. Regular policy assessments and program updates ensure that housing initiatives remain effective and adaptable to evolving needs. Countywide outreach efforts increase education and awareness, encouraging greater participation among eligible residents. Improved referral systems create efficient pathways for individuals and families seeking housing stability solutions, while long-term program development fosters self-sufficiency and reduces hurdles to securing housing. This structured approach reinforces the City's commitment to strategic coordination, responsible resource management, and effective program oversight, ensuring that housing services remain responsive to the county/city/resident needs.</p>

3	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Support Services, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Cuyahoga Falls partners with CSS street outreach teams to provide housing assistance, financial resources, and supportive counseling for individuals facing housing challenges. These consultations ensure targeted outreach and availability to essential services, including emergency shelter and pathways to long-term housing stability. This partnership strengthens outreach efforts, ensuring individuals can partake in housing services and financial support. Coordination between emergency shelter programs and long-term housing initiatives improves pathways to stability. Funding distribution processes are refined to maximize support for those seeking housing security, while comprehensive data analysis helps assess service needs, identify gaps, and guide strategic resource investments. Collaboration among municipal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and service providers enhances the continuation of care and program efficiency. Engagement strategies connect individuals with appropriate housing and financial assistance programs based on their needs, while ongoing evaluation frameworks ensure program effectiveness and adaptability. County-wide education campaigns inform residents about available services, increasing participation and outreach impact. This approach reinforces the City's commitment to responsible program administration, efficient service delivery, and adaptable housing solutions that address evolving county/city/resident needs.

4	Agency/Group/Organization	Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs

	<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>AMHA collaborates with the City of Cuyahoga Falls to provide insights into local housing needs and identify necessary facility improvements. This consultation process ensures that housing programs and infrastructure initiatives align with county priorities and federal requirements, supporting efficient resource allocation and development. The City of Cuyahoga Falls conducts reviews for AMHA projects upon request, facilitating compliance with HUD regulations and promoting responsible land use practices. These assessments help minimize environmental impact while ensuring the integrity of housing initiatives within the city. This collaboration strengthens alignment between housing programs and city needs by refining coordination efforts and data-driven decision-making. It improves efficiency in meeting federal and state housing regulations through streamlined review processes and adherence to evolving HUD requirements. Efforts also expand responsible practices in housing projects, reducing long-term ecological impact. Funding distribution strategies are assessed to ensure priority investments maximize available financial and programmatic resources. Increased engagement among public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and city and county partners fosters a more coordinated approach to service delivery. Ongoing evaluation strengthens policies, procedures, and operational strategies, ensuring adaptability to changing housing trends and city/county needs. Housing assistance programs and related services are improved through initiatives that enhance availability and impartial resource distribution. Outreach efforts increase public awareness of available housing programs, improving participation rates and fostering resident engagement. This structured approach reinforces operational transparency, strategic resource management, and long-term housing program effectiveness, ensuring that services remain responsive to evolving city/resident needs.</p>
5	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Fair Housing Advocates Association</p>
	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Service-Fair Housing Regional organization</p>

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Reasonable Accommodations
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Fair Housing Representative actively participates in public meetings on the Annual Action Plan, ensuring that housing policies and regulatory requirements are incorporated into local planning efforts. In addition to public engagement, the representative is consulted individually for in-depth planning discussions specific to Cuyahoga Falls, providing expert guidance on program administration, compliance measures, and policy implementation. Ongoing communication is maintained with the CDBG Program Administrator and the Housing Department to address housing-related cases, regulatory matters, and policy enforcement, ensuring adherence to federal housing guidelines. This approach strengthens housing policy compliance by aligning efforts with federal regulations, optimizes case management through direct coordination with city officials, and expands public awareness initiatives to encourage resident participation in housing programs. Additionally, strategic planning is refined by integrating housing priorities into broader local development initiatives. This structured consultation process enhances program oversight, supports policy implementation, and improves service coordination, ensuring that housing assistance efforts remain adaptable to evolving city/resident needs. The consultation addressed Fair Housing Act topics, including reasonable accommodations, reasonable modifications, and associated landlord compliance responsibilities.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Neighborhood Development Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Lead-based Paint Strategy Housing Rehabilitation for LMI residents

<p>Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The City of Cuyahoga Falls conducts regular consultations with Neighborhood Development Services (NDS) to coordinate and oversee owner-occupied housing rehabilitation efforts, ensuring structured planning, efficient project execution, and alignment with broader housing assistance objectives to support eligible homeowners. Through ongoing collaboration, NDS also serves as a subrecipient for public facilities projects, contributing expertise in project management, resource allocation, and service coordination. This partnership strengthens infrastructure improvements, ensuring they are strategically planned and effectively implemented to enhance city/resident development initiatives. These efforts improve alignment between project objectives and identified city housing priorities, increasing efficiency in funding allocation to maximize impact. Coordination between housing rehabilitation services and broader city-wide development programs is refined, while stakeholder engagement is expanded to foster stronger collaboration among municipal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and service providers. Regularly scheduled assessments allow project strategies to adapt to evolving housing assistance needs and regulatory requirements, reinforcing the City's commitment to data-driven decision-making, operational transparency, and strategic resource management to support long-term city-wide development.</p>
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Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

Agency Types Not Consulted and Rationale

The City of Cuyahoga Falls actively engages with county and city partners and maintains open communication to explore potential collaborations that align with local development priorities.

At this time, certain agency types may not be directly consulted due to the following considerations:

1. Program Scope Alignment – Agencies whose missions or services do not currently align with the objectives of CDBG-funded initiatives.
2. Existing Service Coverage – Areas where established partnerships sufficiently address city-wide needs, reducing the necessity for additional agency involvement.
3. Regulatory or Funding Parameters – Agencies that may fall outside the jurisdiction or funding eligibility requirements of federally supported programs.

The City remains committed to evaluating opportunities for future collaborations that can further strengthen city-wide development efforts, ensuring effective resource allocation and coordinated service delivery.

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

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	City of Akron	The City of Cuyahoga Falls is an active member of the Summit County CoC, participating, funding, and implementing the regional organization's efforts towards ending homelessness in Summit County.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

City Partnerships and Engagement

The City of Cuyahoga Falls recognizes that strong county-wide partnerships are essential to fostering effective programs and services that support residents across a range of income levels. These collaborations serve as a foundation for innovative solutions, ensuring that resources are strategically allocated to address housing, economic development, public services, and infrastructure needs.

To enhance partner-driven initiatives, the City actively engages with stakeholders, nonprofit organizations, local businesses, and residents, encouraging open dialogue and collaboration. Through public meetings, advisory committees, and direct consultations, the City gathers valuable input that informs policy decisions, funding priorities, and program development.

By maintaining ongoing communication with engaged organizations and individuals, the City ensures that city/resident needs are accurately identified and that solutions remain adaptable to evolving challenges. This type of approach strengthens public trust, program effectiveness, and long-term sustainability, reinforcing the City's commitment to responsive and evenly distributed city-wide development.

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

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

Citizen Participation Process and Impact on Goal-Setting

The City of Cuyahoga Falls facilitated public engagement in the development of the FY2026 Action Plan through multiple outreach methods, ensuring that residents and stakeholders had opportunities to review and provide input.

A legal notice announcing the proposed plan was published in the Akron Beacon Journal, a newspaper of general circulation, allowing interested parties to submit written comments to the Development Department. Additionally, a press release was posted on the City's official website and the public comment information was shared via the City's social media platforms to enhance public awareness and viewability.

Public Meetings and Stakeholder Engagement

The City hosted two public meetings, each announced 14 days in advance through the Akron Beacon Journal and the City's website. These meetings provided a forum for discussion, allowing residents and county/city partners to share feedback and recommendations. Representatives from Neighborhood Development Services and the City's Fair Housing Office participated, offering insights on CDBG funding priorities, including housing assistance and rehabilitation initiatives.

Impact on Goal-Setting

The citizen participation process played a vital role in shaping the FY2026 Action Plan, ensuring that city/resident needs and priorities were reflected in funding allocations and program development. Feedback gathered from residents, stakeholders, and local organizations helped refine program objectives, resource distribution, and implementation strategies.

By maintaining open communication throughout the plan submission process, the City reinforced public trust, transparency, and collaboration, demonstrating its commitment to responsive and city-wide input-driven development.

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	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	See attachment: sign-in sheets	See attachment: public meeting comments	All comments were accepted or redirected to the appropriate department.	www.publicnoticesohio.com/Search.aspx
2	Internet Outreach	Non-targeted/broad community	See attachment: sign-in sheets	See attachment: public meeting comments	All comments were accepted or redirected to the appropriate department.	www.cityofcf.com/news
3	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	See attachment: sign-in sheets	See attachment: public meeting comments	All comments were accepted or redirected to the appropriate department.	https://www.cityofcf.com/calendar

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City of Cuyahoga Falls anticipates leveraging a combination of federal, state, and local resources to support development initiatives. These resources are allocated to address housing, economic development, public infrastructure, and public service programs that align with identified priorities.

Funding sources include allocations from the CDB) program, as well as potential contributions from other governmental and nonprofit entities. The City's approach to resource management emphasizes strategic investment, ensuring that financial allocations effectively support program objectives and provide viable benefits to residents.

Through ongoing assessments and stakeholder engagement, the City periodically evaluates funding opportunities to maximize impact, enhance program delivery, and strengthen partnerships across sectors. This process ensures that available resources are utilized efficiently to enhance long-term city-wide development efforts.

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: \$		

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	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	698,388.00	0.00	307,691.00	1,006,079.00	1,396,776.00	The City of Cuyahoga Falls, Development Department anticipates receiving an annual CDBG allocation of an estimated \$698,388.00 for each upcoming year covered in the 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan. The total amount received over the next 3 years is \$1,396,776.00.

Table 5 - 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

Leveraging Federal Funds and Matching Requirements

The City of Cuyahoga Falls strategically utilizes federal funding to complement additional resources from private, state, and local sources, ensuring effective program implementation and broader city-wide impact.

Through collaboration with the CIC revolving loan program, the City facilitates financial support for local businesses, fostering economic growth and job creation. This partnership improves the availability to capital, enabling businesses to expand operations and strengthen financial stability.

Additionally, the City integrates CDBG funds with County-administered programs, including:

- Lead Hazard Reduction Program – Mitigating lead-based paint hazards to enhance housing safety and regulatory compliance.

- Healthy Homes Funding – Supporting home improvements that supports health and residential well-being for residents.
- Home Weatherization Program – Increasing energy efficiency and reducing utility costs for households through weatherization initiatives.

Satisfying Matching Requirements

The City meets matching requirements through coordinated funding strategies, including:

1. Local Contributions – Direct financial support from municipal programs and county/city partnerships.
2. Private Investment – Engagement with businesses and nonprofit organizations to supplement federal funding and expand resources.
3. State and County Allocations – Collaboration of regional funding sources to enhance program availability and effectiveness.

By utilizing federal funds in coordination with local and private resources, the City supports viable program development, efficient service delivery, and long-term city-wide benefits.

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

Publicly Owned Land and Its Role in Addressing Public Needs

The City of Cuyahoga Falls strategically utilizes publicly owned land and facilities to advance city-wide development initiatives outlined in the Annual Action Plan. These properties serve as valuable assets for addressing housing, economic development, infrastructure, and public service priorities.

Potential sites include:

- Municipal-Owned Buildings – Utilized for city-wide programs, public services, and outreach initiatives.
- Vacant City-Owned Lots – Evaluated for potential green space enhancements, infrastructure improvements, or future development opportunities.
- Public Parks and Recreational Areas – Integrated mobility enhancements, ecologically sound efforts, and city-wide engagement programs.

The City monitors available land and properties to determine optimal uses that align with federal guidelines and local priorities. Through ongoing evaluation and collaboration, the City ensures these public assets contribute to long-term city-wide development efforts.

Discussion

Projected CDBG Funding Allocation

The City of Cuyahoga Falls anticipates receiving an estimated \$698,388 annually in CDBG funds for the remainder of the 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan. Over the next two years, the total projected allocation is approximately \$1,396,776, supporting city-wide development initiatives, housing rehabilitation, public services, infrastructure enhancements, and economic development programs.

These funds will be strategically utilized to address local priorities, ensuring compliance with federal guidelines while maximizing impact for eligible residents. The City remains committed to responsible resource allocation, program oversight, and ongoing collaboration with stakeholders to support ecological sound development and the city's well-being.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Public Services	2024	2028	Non-Homeless Special Needs	City-Wide	Public Services	CDBG: \$82,325.00	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 500 Persons Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 5 Persons Assisted
2	Affordable Housing	2024	2028	Affordable Housing	City-Wide	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$198,937.00	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 3 Household Housing Unit
3	Economic Development	2024	2028	Economic Development	City-Wide	Economic Development	CDBG: \$484,875.00	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation: 1 Business Jobs created/retained: 15 Jobs Businesses assisted: 10 Businesses Assisted
4	Public Facilities and Improvements	2024	2028	Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide	Public Facilities and Improvements	CDBG: \$100,265.00	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Persons Assisted

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Public Services
	Goal Description	<p>Public Service Activities Supported by CDBG Funds</p> <p>The City of Cuyahoga Falls will allocate CDBG funds to support public service initiatives that address essential city/resident needs and enhance overall quality of life. These funds will be directed toward the following pivotal programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Assistance and Stability – Providing case management, supportive services, and financial resources to individuals and families seeking housing security. • Fair Housing Initiatives – Supporting education, outreach, and compliance efforts to ensure impartial housing availability and prevent unfair practices. • Food Assistance Programs – Funding food distribution initiatives to enhance nutrition availability for households experiencing food insecurity. • Support for Older Adults – Offering wellness programs, mobility improvements, and emergency support services to help older residents maintain independent living. • Literacy and Learning Resources – Expanding educational opportunities for children and adults, improving reading proficiency, workforce readiness, and lifelong learning. • Academic Enrichment Programs – Providing skill development, academic support, and enrichment activities to enhance educational outcomes. <p>These CDBG-funded initiatives are designed to strengthen city-wide resilience, improve availability to essential services, and provide opportunities for all city residents. The City remains committed to efficient program administration, strategic resource allocation, and ongoing collaboration with its county/city-wide partners to maximize impact.</p>

2	Goal Name	Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	<p>Minor Housing Rehabilitation Program</p> <p>The City of Cuyahoga Falls utilizes CDBG funds to support the Minor Housing Rehabilitation Program, which provides essential home repairs for eligible homeowners. This program is designed to preserve housing quality, improve safety, and enhance long-term livability for residents who may need financial assistance to address critical maintenance needs.</p> <p>Program Objectives and Scope CDBG funding will assist qualifying homeowners with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structural Repairs – Addressing roofing, foundation, and exterior improvements to maintain housing integrity. • Safety Enhancements – Installing smoke detectors, addressing electrical concerns, and improving plumbing systems to support safe living conditions. • Mobility Modifications – Providing ramps, grab bars, and other improvements to ensure that residents can be mobile in their own-homes. • Energy Efficiency Improvements – Upgrading insulation, windows, and HVAC systems to reduce utility costs. <p>Impact and City-wide benefits by investing in housing rehabilitation, the City aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve Neighborhood Integrity – Maintaining existing housing stock and preventing deterioration. • Support Homeownership Stability – Assisting residents in addressing critical repairs to provide long-term occupancy. • Enhance Public Health and Safety – Ensuring homes meet essential health and safety standards. • Provide Long-Term Housing Cost-effectiveness – Reducing maintenance burdens for homeowners and preventing costly future repairs. <p>The Minor Housing Rehabilitation Program reflects the City's commitment to responsible resource allocation, ensuring that CDBG funds effectively support housing assistance and city-wide development efforts.</p>

3	Goal Name Goal Description	<p>Economic Development</p> <p>Economic Development Initiatives Supported by CDBG Funds</p> <p>The City of Cuyahoga Falls will utilize CDBG funds to support local businesses, encourage job creation, and strengthen economic development efforts. These funds provide targeted financial assistance, helping businesses expand operations, improve efficiency, and sustain workforce opportunities.</p> <p>Eligible Economic Development Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment Matching Grants – Assisting businesses with equipment purchases to enhance productivity and operational sustainability. • Working Capital Loans – Providing financial resources to help businesses manage expenses, stabilize cash flow, and support growth initiatives. • Façade Matching Grants – Funding exterior improvements to increase business visibility and contribute to commercial corridor revitalization. • Sign Matching Grants – Supporting updated signage to improve awareness and customer engagement. <p>Impact on Business Growth and Employment</p> <p>These initiatives aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate Business Growth – Helping businesses invest in infrastructure improvements and operational enhancements. • Encourage Private Investment – Strengthening local economic activity by fostering engagement with private sector stakeholders. • Support Workforce Development – Creating and sustaining employment opportunities across various industries. • Enhance Commercial Areas – Improving business aesthetics and contributing to broader city-wide development efforts. <p>By strategically directing CDBG funds to economic development initiatives, the City supports long-term economic resilience, business sustainability, and workforce stability.</p>
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4	Goal Name	Public Facilities and Improvements
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<p>Goal Description</p>	<p>Public Facilities and Infrastructure Improvements Supported by CDBG Funds</p> <p>The City of Cuyahoga Falls will utilize CDBG funds to enhance public facilities and infrastructure, improving mobility and essential services. These projects will be implemented citywide, with a focus on areas where investments can support overall city-wide development and provide safe, functional spaces to city residents/visitors.</p> <p>Eligible Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobility Enhancements – Installing ramps, railings, doorways, and other modifications to support mobility and compliance with mobility standards. • Curb and Sidewalk Improvements – Repairing and upgrading pedestrian pathways to enhance safety and infrastructure quality. • Utility and Water Line Upgrades – Strengthening public utility systems, including water and sewer lines, to support reliable service and long-term use. • Playground Enhancements – Installing or upgrading recreational equipment to provide safe and fair play opportunities. • Park and Green Space Improvements - Enhancing parks located in Low- and Moderate-Income Areas (LMA) through landscaping, seating, lighting, and other features that improve neighborhood livability for residents of qualifying areas. <p>Impact</p> <p>These CDBG-funded initiatives aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve Public Safety and Mobility – Ensuring infrastructure meets established standards and enhances mobility for all residents. • Strengthen Infrastructure Resilience – Upgrading utility systems to support long-term use and efficient service delivery. • Expand Recreational Opportunities – Creating safe and well-maintained spaces for resident and visitor interaction and engagement.
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Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The 2026 Action Plan outlines projects scheduled for the third year of the 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan, ensuring that city-wide priorities are addressed through targeted initiatives. These projects are developed based on comprehensive assessments and stakeholder engagement, including public meetings and public comment opportunities, to align with local planning objectives and federal funding guidelines.

Through the strategic implementation of the CDBG Program, the City of Cuyahoga Falls supports city-wide development efforts, infrastructure enhancements, and economic development initiatives, contributing to long-term city use and growth.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	ADMIN/PLANNING
2	PUBLIC SERVICE
3	HOUSING
4	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
5	PUBLIC FACILITIES & IMPROVEMENTS (INFRASTRUCTURE)

Table 7 - Project Information

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

The City of Cuyahoga Falls allocates funds strategically to address pivotal city/resident priorities while navigating challenges that impact service delivery and resource distribution.

Allocation Priorities

- Housing Stability & Availability– Expanding housing opportunities for eligible households to support safe, attainable living environments and provide long-term stability.
- City Infrastructure Enhancements – Investing in ADA-compliant upgrades, public spaces, and essential facilities that strengthen neighborhood connectivity and safety.
- Economic Opportunity & Workforce Development – Encouraging initiatives that foster job growth, business retention, and availability to skill-building programs that enhance economic mobility.
- Essential City-wide Services – Expanding resources such as healthcare availability,

childcare support, and social services to ensure individuals and families receive necessary assistance.

- Strategic Planning & Program Administration – Strengthening data-driven approaches to resource allocation, ensuring compliance with regulatory standards and effective management of federally supported initiatives.

Obstacles

- Funding Limitations & Resource Allocation Challenges – Demand for assistance often exceeds available program funding, requiring strategic prioritization to maximize impact.
- Regulatory & Programmatic Requirements – Compliance with federal, state, and local regulations may introduce administrative coordination needs, affecting project timelines and implementation.
- City-wide Outreach & Participation Issues – Engaging a broad and varied stakeholder base is essential for fair resource distribution, though outreach efforts may require expanded capacity-building.
- Infrastructure & Facility Constraints – Aging public assets and mobility upgrades necessitate phased approaches for long-term improvements.
- Economic & Workforce Development Issues– Strengthening pathways to economic opportunity in documented economically challenged areas requires targeted strategies that align with long-term city-wide goals.

By addressing these priorities while navigating deep-seeded challenges, the City continues its commitment to responsible resource allocation and sustained city-wide development.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	ADMIN/PLANNING
	Target Area	City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing Public Facilities and Improvements Economic Development Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing Acquisition/Demolition/Remediation Historic Preservation Public Facilities and Improvements Economic Development Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$139,677.00
	Description	The City of Cuyahoga Falls will utilize CDBG funds to support administrative and planning activities, ensuring effective program management and regulatory compliance. Administrative funds will cover salaries, wages, and associated costs for personnel responsible for overseeing program operations, financial management, and compliance with funding requirements. This includes staff responsible for grant administration, reporting, and coordination, as well as public agency personnel engaged in program implementation and oversight. Additionally, individuals performing administrative functions play a pivotal role in maintaining efficiency and accountability. Planning funds will be allocated to activities that improve program operations and align with local development priorities. These resources support program development and evaluation to enhance effectiveness, city-wide assessments, and strategic planning to guide funding allocations, and compliance and reporting measures that strengthen transparency and operational integrity. By investing in administrative and planning efforts, the City ensures that CDBG funds are managed responsibly, contributing to long-term city-wide development and long-term resource allocation.
	Target Date	12/31/2026

<p>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</p>	<p>Estimated Beneficiaries of Admin/Planning Activities</p> <p>Based on available data, approximately 8.22% of the City’s estimated 50,000 residents—equating to around 4,044 individuals—are living at or below the poverty level. Administrative and planning activities will support initiatives that advance city-wide development, infrastructure enhancements, and economic opportunity, ensuring effective program management and resource allocation.</p> <p>Projected Impact</p> <p>Administrative and planning funds will facilitate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Service Support – Strengthening city-wide programs that provide housing assistance, financial resources, and essential social services. • Housing Rehabilitation and Mobility Enhancements – Supporting safe and well-maintained living environments through strategic investment in housing improvements. • Economic Development Initiatives – Expanding employment opportunities and fostering business development to benefit eligible residents. • Public Facilities and Infrastructure Investments – Improving mobility, viability, and city spaces through targeted enhancements. <p>By funding strategic planning and administrative efforts, the City ensures that CDBG resources are effectively utilized to address local priorities, support long-term stability, and enhance overall city-wide well-being.</p>
<p>Location Description</p>	<p>Program Administration and Planning activities primarily take place at City Hall, 2310 Second Street, serving as the central hub for coordination and oversight. Additionally, project-related public meetings and stakeholder consultations may occur at various locations throughout the city to facilitate city-wide engagement and participation.</p>

	<p>Planned Activities</p>	<p>Program Administration Overview</p> <p>Program administration encompasses a range of essential activities to ensure the effective management and oversight of the CDBG program. These functions support regulatory compliance, strategic planning, and efficient implementation.</p> <p>Pivotal administrative activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Outreach and Communication – Informing local officials, stakeholders, and residents about program goals, eligibility, and implementation processes. • Financial Management and Reporting – Preparing and updating budgets, schedules, and necessary amendments to support effective resource allocation. • Regulatory Compliance Systems – Establishing procedures to ensure adherence to federal, state, and local requirements. • Interagency and Partner Agreements – Developing collaboration frameworks with subrecipients, contractors, and other entities to facilitate program activities. • Monitoring and Performance Assessment – Conducting regular evaluations to measure program progress, compliance, and effectiveness. • HUD Reporting and Documentation – Preparing required reports and submissions to maintain accountability and transparency. • Audit and Compliance Resolution – Coordinating responses to audit findings and regulatory reviews, ensuring corrective actions are implemented. • Program Evaluation and Strategic Planning – Assessing program outcomes to refine strategies, improve efficiency, and align initiatives with city-wide priorities. • Personnel Oversight – Supervising staff involved in program operations to ensure continuity and effective administration. <p>By implementing strong administrative practices, the City ensures that CDBG funds are utilized efficiently, supporting long-term city-wide development and compliance with federal standards.</p>
2	<p>Project Name</p>	<p>PUBLIC SERVICE</p>
	<p>Target Area</p>	<p>City-Wide</p>

Goals Supported	Public Services
Needs Addressed	Public Services
Funding	CDBG: \$82,325.00
Description	<p>CDBG funds support initiatives that enhance workforce development, safety, healthcare availability, and financial stability. Employment assistance programs provide job training and career readiness resources, while public safety efforts strengthen emergency response and crime prevention. Childcare services offer cost-effective options for working families, and healthcare initiatives expand medical services, preventive care, and wellness programs. Substance use recovery programs provide counseling and treatment services, fair housing counseling educates residents on tenant rights and protections, and educational support enhances literacy, tutoring, and workforce training. Energy conservation programs provide home efficiency improvements, and senior services address wellness, mobility support, and home assistance. Housing stability efforts fund case management, emergency shelter, and temporary housing solutions. Financial assistance initiatives help individuals cover essential living expenses, while homebuyer programs support families in securing ownership opportunities. City-wide recreation efforts improve public parks, public use centers, and shared spaces to encourage social engagement. These CDBG-funded efforts strengthen economic stability by providing employment and financial assistance, improve public safety and well-being through healthcare and city-wide safety programs, and expand housing security through fair housing protections and homeownership opportunities. By increasing availability to educational, recreational, and social service resources, the City prioritizes long-term development and growth while ensuring responsible resource allocation.</p>
Target Date	12/31/2026

<p>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</p>	<p>Projected Impact</p> <p>CDBG-funded public service activities will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand Availability to Essential Services – Improving availability of healthcare, housing assistance, and city-wide programs. • Support Stability – Providing financial assistance, employment resources, and housing rehabilitation efforts. • Enhance Availability – Ensuring older adults and individuals with disabilities receive necessary support and accommodations. • Strengthen City-wide Available Resources – Investing in public services that address priority needs and enhance long-term initiatives <p>By addressing pivotal city-wide needs, these initiatives contribute to resource development and fair availability of essential programs, fostering economic resilience and improved living conditions for eligible residents.</p>
<p>Location Description</p>	<p>Planned activities will be carried out across the City, with targeted implementation in designated areas that serve program eligible residents. These locations have been identified to ensure fair distribution of resources and maximize city-wide impact while maintaining compliance with funding guidelines.</p>

	<p>Planned Activities</p> <p>Public Service Activities Planned for Program Year 2026</p> <p>The City of Cuyahoga Falls will implement the following public service programs to support resident well-being and enhance availability to essential resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Pantry Program – Providing food assistance to individuals and families experiencing food insecurity. • Food Distribution Support Program – Strengthening local food distribution networks to ensure consistent access to nutritious food for low-income households. • Fair Housing Program – Promoting fair housing opportunities through education, outreach, and compliance efforts. • HMIS Program – Supporting the Homeless Management Information System to improve service coordination and data collection. • Emergency Rental Assistance Program – Providing short-term rental assistance and case management to stabilize households experiencing financial hardship and prevent eviction. • Preschool Literacy Program – Providing rotating early-learning books and materials to preschool classrooms to support reading readiness. • STEM Learning Program – Supporting hands-on STEM education and enrichment activities that build problem-solving skills and expand learning opportunities for youth. • Severe weather Event Snow Removal Program (Nov 2026 - May 2027) – Offering emergency weather event snow removal assistance for older adults and individuals with mobility limitations. • Senior Support Program – Assisting older adults in maintaining independence through home meal delivery, wellness checks, resource navigation, and social engagement opportunities. • Safety Kits for Seniors Program – Providing home safety kits and related education to help older adults reduce fall risks and remain safely housed. 								
3	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 1633 829 1692">Project Name</td> <td data-bbox="829 1633 1446 1692">HOUSING</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 1692 829 1751">Target Area</td> <td data-bbox="829 1692 1446 1751">City-Wide</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 1751 829 1810">Goals Supported</td> <td data-bbox="829 1751 1446 1810">Affordable Housing</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="505 1810 829 1856">Needs Addressed</td> <td data-bbox="829 1810 1446 1856">Affordable Housing</td> </tr> </table>	Project Name	HOUSING	Target Area	City-Wide	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
Project Name	HOUSING								
Target Area	City-Wide								
Goals Supported	Affordable Housing								
Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing								

Funding	CDBG: \$198,937.00
Description	<p>The City of Cuyahoga Falls will use CDBG funds to support housing initiatives that enhance safety, mobility, and long-term sustainability for eligible homeowners. These efforts focus on preserving housing stock, improving livability, and maintaining compliance with funding guidelines while addressing local housing needs. digital device initiatives expand availability to technology and internet services, helping eligible households support education, employment, and daily activities. ADA home modifications ensure mobility and independent living by installing ramps, widened doorways, and grab bars. Lead remediation efforts identify and mitigate lead-based hazards to protect residents, particularly children, from health risks. The City will leverage CDBG funds in partnership with Summit County’s Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP) to increase access to essential home safety and energy-related upgrades for low- to moderate-income Cuyahoga Falls residents. CDBG assistance will be limited to the replacement of electric service panels, furnaces, and hot water tanks, ensuring that income-eligible households can address critical health- and safety-related deficiencies that are not otherwise covered by HWAP. Housing rehabilitation administration ensures program oversight, compliance monitoring, and effective resource allocation to support implementation. These CDBG-funded housing projects aim to improve safety and mobility by supporting home modifications that create functional living environments, reduce utility expenses through energy efficiency upgrades, preserve neighborhood stability by maintaining existing housing stock, and support long-term homeownership by assisting residents with necessary property improvements. By allocating resources to housing rehabilitation and structural enhancements, the City reinforces its commitment to long-term city-wide development and housing stability.</p>
Target Date	12/31/2026

<p>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</p>	<p>Estimated Number and Type of Beneficiaries</p> <p>The City of Cuyahoga Falls anticipates that minor home rehabilitation assistance will be provided for 3 households, directly supporting eligible low-to-moderate income families. These households may include a mix of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older adult homeowners who require mobility modifications to maintain independent living. • Families with children needing structural repairs to ensure a safe and stable home environment. • Individuals with medical conditions who benefit from home adaptations that improve mobility. <p>Through this initiative, the City aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance housing stability by addressing critical repairs that allow residents to remain in their homes safely. • Enhance safety and mobility by implementing necessary modifications for those living with medical conditions requiring mobility assistance. • Support long-term livability by improving housing conditions to prevent deterioration and maintain neighborhood integrity. <p>While the direct beneficiaries include 3 households, the entire city also benefits from these housing improvements, contributing to overall neighborhood revitalization and long-term viability.</p>
<p>Location Description</p>	<p>Location Description</p> <p>The minor home rehabilitation program is implemented citywide, ensuring mobility for eligible homeowners across various neighborhoods. The initiative focuses on owner-occupied, single-family residences, providing essential housing improvements that support eligible households.</p> <p>Projects are strategically conducted in areas where investment in housing rehabilitation enhances neighborhood stability, safety, and livability. While work is distributed throughout the City of Cuyahoga Falls, priority is given to communities where residents may face challenges maintaining safe and functional homes due to financial or mobility issues.</p> <p>By addressing housing rehabilitation needs across multiple locations, the program contributes to broader city-wide revitalization efforts, strengthening the long-term viability of residential areas and improving overall housing conditions.</p>

	<p>Planned Activities</p>	<p>Planned Activities</p> <p>The City of Cuyahoga Falls will implement a structured process to ensure effective administration of the minor home rehabilitation program. Planned activities include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income Eligibility Determination – Evaluating applicants based on program guidelines to confirm financial qualification for assistance. • Initial Home Inspection – Conducting thorough assessments to identify necessary repairs, safety concerns, and potential home health hazards. • Lead Hazard Reduction – Addressing lead-based risks through mitigation efforts that improve household health and safety. • Development of Project Specifications and Work Scope – Defining detailed repair plans, outlining improvements, and ensuring compliance with funding requirements. • Bid Preparation and Solicitation – Coordinating contractor selection through competitive bidding to ensure cost-effective service delivery. • Contract Execution – Finalizing agreements with service providers, ensuring clear expectations for project implementation. • Project Oversight and Monitoring – Conducting inspections throughout the rehabilitation process to maintain quality, compliance, and adherence to program standards. • Case Management and Homeowner Support – Assisting participants with program navigation, resource availability, and coordination of rehabilitation efforts. <p>These planned activities are designed to enhance housing safety, mobility and long-term sustainability while ensuring efficient implementation of CDBG-funded rehabilitation initiatives.</p>
4	<p>Project Name</p>	<p>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</p>
	<p>Target Area</p>	<p>City-Wide</p>
	<p>Goals Supported</p>	<p>Economic Development</p>
	<p>Needs Addressed</p>	<p>Economic Development</p>
	<p>Funding</p>	<p>CDBG: \$484,875.00</p>

Description	CDBG funds help strengthen local businesses, expand workforce opportunities, and improve overall city resilience. These resources assist microenterprises and small businesses by providing financial support, technical guidance, and capacity-building opportunities to encourage growth and viability. Investment in commercial and industrial development enhances business infrastructure and revitalizes economic corridors, fostering greater private-sector engagement. Employment-focused programs drive job creation, workforce training, and job retention strategies that support long-term career stability. By prioritizing these initiatives, communities can enhance economic mobility, empower local entrepreneurs, and establish viable pathways for growth that benefit both residents and businesses.
Target Date	12/31/2026

<p>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</p>	<p>Estimated Beneficiaries and City-wide Impact</p> <p>The City of Cuyahoga Falls anticipates that at least 9 full-time permanent positions will be created or retained through the proposed economic development activities. These opportunities will be made available to income eligible individuals, in alignment with program eligibility requirements.</p> <p>Types of Beneficiaries</p> <p>The employment opportunities generated through this initiative may support individuals from different backgrounds, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entry-level workers seeking stable full-time positions that provide career development and advancement opportunities. • Skilled trades professionals who require job retention support in industries such as construction, manufacturing, and technical services. • Small business employees benefiting from workforce expansion within local enterprises supported by CDBG funding. • Job seekers facing economic issues who may require additional assistance in securing long-term employment. <p>Projected City-wide Impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding Workforce Stability – Creating viable job opportunities that contribute to economic resilience • Enhancing Financial Security – Providing employment for individuals in need of income stability and career growth • Strengthening Local Businesses – Supporting business retention and expansion efforts to foster long-term city-wide prosperity • Encouraging Economic Mobility – Offering workforce development pathways that align with regional growth and employment trends <p>By investing in job creation and retention efforts, the City ensures that economic development initiatives supported by CDBG funds contribute to city-wide stability, employment security, and overall economic well-being.</p>
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<p>Location Description</p>	<p>Location Description</p> <p>The City-wide economic development program is designed to support business growth, job creation, and workforce development across all eligible areas. Project activities will be implemented throughout commercial districts, industrial zones, and designated city-wide development areas, ensuring broad availability to program resources.</p> <p>Economic development initiatives will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for microenterprises and small businesses – Expanding financial assistance, technical support, and capacity-building programs to encourage local business sustainability • Commercial and industrial development – Strengthening business infrastructure through investments in property improvements, equipment acquisition, and workforce expansion • Job creation and workforce development – Implementing employment readiness programs, vocational training initiatives, and skills development opportunities tailored for low-to-moderate income individuals <p>By fostering a viable economic environment, the program aims to strengthen local businesses, enhance job availability, and enhance long-term city-wide prosperity. These efforts contribute to broader neighborhood revitalization, helping to create a fair and resilient economic landscape that supports residents and business owners alike.</p>
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	<p>Planned Activities</p>	<p>Economic Development Activities</p> <p>Economic development initiatives are designed to foster business growth, strengthen commercial viability, and support long-term job creation and retention. These activities provide essential financial assistance to help businesses expand, modernize, and enhance their operational sustainability.</p> <p>Eligible activities include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment Matching Grants – Assisting businesses in acquiring essential equipment that improves efficiency, productivity, and competitiveness in their respective industries. • Façade Matching Grants – Supporting exterior enhancements to commercial properties, improving storefront aesthetics, increasing foot traffic, and contributing to broader revitalization efforts. • Sign Matching Grants – Providing financial assistance for updated signage that enhances business visibility, and branding, helping establishments attract customers more effectively. • Working Capital Loans – Offering financial support for operational expenses such as payroll, inventory, utilities, and other essential business costs, ensuring continued stability and economic growth. <p>By investing in these initiatives, the City enhances a thriving business environment, strengthens commercial districts, and enhances economic opportunities for entrepreneurs and workers alike. The long-term goal of these programs is to sustain local businesses, encourage economic mobility, and foster a resilient city that supports both enterprise expansion and workforce development.</p>
5	<p>Project Name</p>	PUBLIC FACILITIES & IMPROVEMENTS (INFRASTRUCTURE)
	<p>Target Area</p>	City-Wide
	<p>Goals Supported</p>	Public Facilities and Improvements
	<p>Needs Addressed</p>	Public Facilities and Improvements
	<p>Funding</p>	CDBG: \$100,265.00

<p>Description</p>	<p>The CDBG Public Facilities and Improvement Program provides essential funding to support infrastructure upgrades that strengthen city-wide development and enhance public welfare. These investments help create safe, functional, and viable public spaces that effectively serve residents. This program supports the modernization of public buildings to enhance functionality, improve energy efficiency, and ensure long-term sustainability. Mobility is expanded through ADA-compliant upgrades such as ramps, pathways, and entrances, making public spaces available for individuals of all mobility levels. Streetscape improvements contribute to pedestrian-friendly environments with sidewalk repairs, enhanced lighting, and landscaping enhancements that revitalize neighborhoods. Upgrades to water and sewer systems improve utility service reliability, ecological health, and infrastructure capacity, while the development and rehabilitation of parks and recreational spaces provide safe and well-maintained areas for outdoor activities, social interaction, and city-wide engagement. Investments in infrastructure strengthen city resilience by maintaining and improving essential public assets, enhance safety through hazard reduction and mobility improvements, and increase the availability to vital public services by ensuring facilities remain well-maintained and functional. These efforts also support neighborhood revitalization by fostering welcoming public facilities that enhance civic engagement and economic growth. Through thoughtful urban planning and strategic facility enhancements, the Public Facilities and Improvement Program contributes to long-term sustainability, ensuring communities are equipped to meet evolving resident needs.</p>
<p>Target Date</p>	<p>12/31/2026</p>
<p>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</p>	<p>Estimated Beneficiaries</p> <p>The public art activity is still conceptual, and a final location has not been selected; therefore, there is no beneficiary estimate at this time. Once a site within an eligible low- and moderate-income area is identified, the beneficiary count will reflect the population of that service area.</p>
<p>Location Description</p>	<p>Location Description</p> <p>The specific location for the proposed public art installation has not yet been determined. Once a site is selected, the project will be placed within an eligible low- and moderate-income area, and the location details will be updated in HUD’s platform — Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS).</p>

Planned Activities	Public Art Installation (LMA Area) – The City has reserved funding for a potential public art project to be located within a qualifying low- and moderate-income area. Because the final site and design have not yet been selected, the estimated beneficiaries reflect the general population of the eligible service area. The activity is expected to benefit all households residing within the chosen LMA neighborhood by enhancing public space, supporting community identity, and improving the visual environment.
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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 City of Cuyahoga Falls, with a population of approximately 50,535 residents, includes several areas where a significant percentage of households qualify as low- to moderate-income based on HUD guidelines. These areas are defined as census tracts or block groups where 45.8% or more of the population meets income eligibility criteria. There are 11 census tracts within the City that currently meet this definition, representing neighborhoods with diverse demographic and socioeconomic characteristics.

The City does not have a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA), and CDBG funds are not restricted to a single target area. During the 2026 Action Plan period, assistance will be provided city-wide to support low- and moderate-income individuals and households. Economic development assistance will also be available city-wide to businesses that commit to creating or retaining jobs for low- and moderate-income individuals.

By directing resources across the community, the City supports equitable access to services, encourages job creation for income-eligible residents, and strengthens opportunities for households throughout Cuyahoga Falls.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
City-Wide	100

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Low- and moderate-income households are distributed throughout Cuyahoga Falls rather than concentrated in a single neighborhood or corridor. Because eligible residents live across multiple census tracts and block groups, a city-wide allocation approach ensures that assistance is accessible to income-qualified individuals regardless of where they reside. This approach also allows the City to respond to needs as they arise, support mobility and infrastructure improvements that benefit LMI residents across the community, and provide economic development assistance to businesses that create or retain jobs for low- and moderate-income individuals. Allocating resources city-wide promotes equitable access to services and opportunities and supports the overall stability and resilience of neighborhoods throughout Cuyahoga Falls.

Discussion

Citywide Investment Strategy & Annual Evaluation Process

As part of the annual planning and assessment process, the Development and Planning Department conducts a comprehensive review to evaluate whether directing CDBG funds to specific geographic areas would provide the greatest benefit. This evaluation considers city-wide characteristics, infrastructure conditions, societal factors, and emerging needs to determine the most effective funding approach.

Through this analysis, the City has determined that maintaining a citywide investment strategy is the most effective method for ensuring availability of resources, addressing varied city/resident needs, and enhancing city-wide long-term growth and development. By making CDBG funds available for use across the entire city, this approach supports public facility improvements, infrastructure enhancements, and mobility upgrades, benefiting residents throughout different neighborhoods rather than concentrating resources in a single target zone.

The citywide allocation model has been successfully implemented during previous Action Plan periods under the current Consolidated Plan, demonstrating its effectiveness in advancing long-term urban planning goals, strengthening city-wide development efforts, and improving public service delivery. This strategy ensures flexibility in addressing infrastructure priorities, mobility enhancements, and essential facility rehabilitation, allowing for targeted yet adaptable investments that align with HUD priorities and local development objectives.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

Housing Investment Commitment & Strategy

The City of Cuyahoga Falls remains committed to expanding the availability of reasonably priced housing options for program eligible households, ensuring that residents have safe, stable, and quality living environments that support long-term city-wide growth and development. Through the CDBG program and other federal housing initiatives, the City strategically invests in programs that address housing cost challenges, rehabilitation needs, and structural improvements, prioritizing individuals and families experiencing financial hardship.

Efforts under the 2026 Action Plan will focus on:

- Improving cost-friendly housing opportunities to provide stable living options for residents
- Preserving existing housing stock to maintain safe and well-maintained homes
- Enhancing structural upgrades through infrastructure improvements and compliance measures

Priority will be given to program eligible families, seniors, individuals with medical conditions requiring assistance, and households facing financial difficulty. By aligning with HUD regulations and federal guidelines, the City’s housing strategy aims to reduce housing instability, prevent displacement, and ensure availability of safe and reasonably priced living opportunities.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	3
Special-Needs	0
Total	3

Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	3
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	3

Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

Housing Investment & City Stability

Ensuring availability of cost-effective housing options is vital for city-wide stability, economic growth, and public welfare, allowing residents to maintain safe and financially viable living environments. Cities like Cuyahoga Falls face ongoing challenges related to market fluctuations, population shifts, and infrastructure needs, making strategic housing investment a priority.

Challenges Affecting Housing Availability

Several factors influence housing cost and availability:

- Limited Housing Supply – Demand frequently exceeds availability, limiting choices for households facing financial hardship.
- Rising Construction Costs – Market trends impact the feasibility of new residential developments.
- Aging Housing Stock – Many properties require rehabilitation and modernization to remain safe and functional.
- Infrastructure Connectivity – Housing must integrate with transportation, employment hubs, and essential services to support residents effectively.

Strategic Approaches to Housing Stability

The City can address these challenges through:

- Preservation of existing housing via renovation and rehabilitation programs.
- Mixed-income housing models to encourage long-term viable neighborhood development
- Public-private partnerships that expand funding opportunities for residential projects.
- Flexible financing options, including low-interest loans, tax incentives, and grant programs to support housing expansion.
- Infrastructure enhancements that improve connections to essential services and public facilities.

Federal & Local Initiatives Supporting Housing

Programs such as CDBG, provide critical funding for housing rehabilitation, infrastructure improvements, and facility enhancements. Local initiatives complement federal efforts by adapting strategies to meet City-specific needs, ensuring long-term housing stability and availability for residents.

Investing in residential development and rehabilitation helps cities create stronger

neighborhoods, improved economic opportunities, and viable living environments, fostering long-term stability for households across income levels.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The City of Cuyahoga Falls does not own or operate public housing facilities. In Ohio, public housing is administered by local Public Housing Authorities (PHAs), which oversee the management, maintenance, and resident services for federally funded housing programs.

Under HUD regulations, PHAs are not eligible to apply for CDBG funds directly. However, the City maintains a collaborative relationship with the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA) to address public housing concerns, support housing stability, and coordinate efforts to enhance city-wide resources.

Additionally, the City provides fair housing services to all residents, including individuals residing in public housing, ensuring that housing opportunities are available to everyone, tenant protections, and compliance with federal fair housing laws.

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

According to AMHA 2026 Action Plan, efforts will continue to support public housing maintenance and improvement initiatives in the City of Cuyahoga Falls. AMHA remains committed to repairing and modernizing existing public housing units, ensuring safe and well-maintained living conditions for residents.

AMHA operates a Project-Based Voucher (PBV) program, which provides rental assistance to eligible households through designated housing developments. Over the next year, AMHA will continue collaborating with city partners to identify and support specific populations through this program, focusing on housing stability and availability.

The Sutliff II Building, a 185-unit senior housing complex, will remain a priority for ongoing maintenance and service enhancements. In addition, the City of Cuyahoga Falls has three designated housing complexes for families, including:

- Honey Locust Complex – 125 units
- Maplewood Gardens – 60 units
- Lobello Lane – 12 units

Through these targeted efforts, AMHA aims to preserve and enhance budget-friendly housing options, ensuring that public housing residents benefit from safe, functional, and well-maintained housing environments.

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

participate in homeownership

The City of Cuyahoga Falls does not administer Public Housing Authority (PHA) funds or maintain oversight over PHA tenants. Consequently, the City does not have specific initiatives targeted directly at public housing residents regarding management participation or homeownership.

However, during 2026, AMHA will continue implementing its strategic plan for service delivery, focusing on enhancing resident stability, quality of life, economic independence, health, and educational opportunities. These efforts aim to support self-sufficiency and long-term housing stability, helping residents navigate pathways toward financial empowerment and potential homeownership opportunities through county and city resources and partnerships.

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

AMHA is not currently designated as a troubled Public Housing Authority (PHA) under HUD regulations. However, if a PHA were to receive a troubled designation, HUD and local agencies would implement targeted financial assistance, operational oversight, and strategic interventions to restore compliance and improve housing management.

In the event of a troubled designation, pivotal support measures may include:

- HUD Oversight & Corrective Action Plans – The PHA would receive technical assistance from HUD, including performance reviews and the implementation of a Recovery Action Plan to address deficiencies.
- Financial Assistance & Funding Adjustments – Additional federal grant allocations, operational funding, or program restructuring may be provided to stabilize housing operations and address urgent infrastructure needs.
- Collaborative Partnerships & Local Agency Support – The City of Cuyahoga Falls and other stakeholders may coordinate service delivery improvements, ensuring that residents continue to receive housing stability resources and availability of essential services.
- Operational & Governance Enhancements – Management restructuring, policy revisions, or direct HUD-appointed oversight may be introduced to strengthen PHA compliance, tenant services, and facility conditions.

Since AMHA is in good standing, these measures are not currently applicable. However, maintaining effective collaboration between local government, HUD, and PHAs ensures that public housing programs remain efficient, viable, and responsive to city needs.

Discussion

Public Housing: Ensuring Stability and Availability

Public housing plays a vital role in providing safe, cost friendly housing options for individuals and families with limited financial resources. Managed by local PHAs, these federally funded programs ensure that eligible residents can obtain stable living environments while promoting opportunities for economic mobility and city/resident engagement.

Challenges Facing Public Housing

Despite its benefits, public housing faces ongoing challenges, including:

- Aging Infrastructure – Many public housing properties require modernization, maintenance, and repairs to ensure long-term viability.
- Funding Limitations – PHAs rely on federal and state funding, which may fluctuate, impacting program expansion and building improvements.
- Resident Engagement – Encouraging public housing tenants to participate in housing management, policy discussions, and tenant programs remains an ongoing priority.
- Availability of Support Services – Housing should be paired with employment assistance, education, and social services to enhance long-term stability.

Strategies to Strengthen Public Housing Programs

Communities and policymakers can improve public housing through:

- Investment in Infrastructure – Federal and local funding supports renovations, energy efficiency projects, and mobility upgrades.
- Resident Participation Initiatives – Programs that encourage tenant engagement in decision-making, district leadership, and maintenance efforts foster stronger housing environments.
- Homeownership Pathways – Offering financial literacy programs, rental transition assistance, and first-time homebuyer support helps residents explore independent housing options.
- Public-Private Partnerships – Collaboration between government agencies, nonprofits, and developers enhances resources, expands housing availability, and supports tenant services.

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

Introduction

The CoC Program supports a coordinated, county-wide-wide approach to addressing housing instability, ensuring individuals and families can gain stable living arrangements and essential support services. This federally funded initiative facilitates collaboration among nonprofit organizations, state and local governments, and housing providers to develop comprehensive strategies that enhance housing stability and economic security.

How CoC Funding Supports Communities

CoC resources enable communities to:

- Provide rapid housing assistance to individuals and families experiencing housing instability while minimizing disruption to their lives.
- Strengthen service coordination among housing providers, social service agencies, and healthcare organizations to improve resource delivery.
- Expand availability of essential support programs, helping individuals connect with services such as healthcare, employment assistance, and financial stability initiatives.
- Encourage long-term self-sufficiency, supporting individuals and families as they work toward stable living conditions and economic independence.

County/City Impact

Through these efforts, the CoC Program helps build resilient neighborhoods, ensuring that housing assistance programs remain effective, viable, and responsive to local needs. By integrating strategic housing solutions with supportive services, the program fosters lasting stability for individuals and families facing financial hardships.

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 of Cuyahoga Falls is committed to actively engaging with homeless individuals, especially those experiencing unsheltered homelessness, to assess their specific needs and provide immediate assistance.

During January 2026, the City participated in the Point-in-Time (PIT) count, which documents both sheltered and unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness in a single-night survey. The results

from this count reinforce the need for proactive outreach efforts, leading the City to adopt a hands-on approach to providing direct support.

Pivotal outreach and assistance efforts include:

- Provision of essential supplies, including bus passes, high-protein shelf-stable food, warm clothing, and toiletries to meet immediate needs.
- Distribution of shelter and housing resource information to ensure individuals can obtain available services.
- Collaboration with service providers to enhance outreach strategies and expand available assistance programs.

The City remains an active participant on the CoC Steering Committee and Board of Directors, allowing for coordinated efforts in homelessness prevention, resource distribution, and policy planning. Additionally, Cuyahoga Falls engages in chronic homelessness meetings, contributing to strategic discussions that shape local and regional efforts to address homelessness in Summit County.

Through consistent engagement, strategic partnerships, and direct resource allocation, the City is working toward reducing homelessness, improving service coordination, and ensuring that individuals facing housing instability receive the necessary support.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Shelter and Temporary Housing Resources in Summit County

Summit County faces limited shelter capacity to accommodate individuals and families in need of emergency housing. The County's homeless agencies are housed in Akron and serve as the largest providers of shelter beds, offering critical housing support for those experiencing homelessness. Haven of Rest primarily serves individual males, while these facilities provide shelter resources tailored to individuals and families.

The length of shelter stays varies based on bed availability, facility policies, and individual compliance with shelter guidelines. In addition to these primary shelters, specialized housing resources for those living with children are available through multiple county-wide agencies. Space at these facilities, however is limited. Additionally, Shelter Care operates a 24-bed program for unaccompanied youth aged 10 to 17, ensuring that younger populations experiencing housing instability can obtain safe accommodations.

Beyond emergency shelters, temporary housing options help residents move toward housing stability and self-sufficiency. Organizations such as HM Life Opportunity Services (HMLoS), Ohio Multi County Development Corporation (OMCDC), CSS, Haven of Rest, BWS, Shelter Care, Legacy III, and Summit County Children Services provide temporary housing beds. These programs prioritize serving

individuals and families in need, offering referrals from emergency shelters and outreach teams whenever possible.

Many temporary housing providers specialize in assisting residents facing substance use disorders, emotional distress, family instability, and youth transitioning out of foster care. Programs also extend housing support to young individuals preparing for independent living, ensuring availability of safe, structured living environments.

Through coordinated efforts among shelters, temporary housing providers, and county-based organizations, Summit County works toward strengthening housing availability and stability, ensuring residents have pathways to recovery, independence, and long-term housing security.

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

Supporting the Move to Permanent Housing & Independent Living

Summit County works to facilitate stable housing transitions for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, particularly those facing unique obstacles such as long-term housing instability, re-entry from medical facilities, and limited availability of support services.

The County relies on the CoC housing network to serve individuals transitioning from public and healthcare facilities, or foster care programs. Many of these individuals experience extended waiting periods between discharge and housing availability, increasing their risk of housing instability and vulnerability.

Several faith-based organizations provide limited temporary housing services for individuals re-entering from correctional facilities; however, availability is often constrained by long waitlists. In addition to housing programs, Summit County operates various hotlines and support groups designed to help individuals connect with essential resources and identify available housing options. Despite these efforts, capacity remains a challenge, requiring continued collaboration to expand support systems and reduce homelessness recurrence.

Through coordinated outreach, housing assistance programs, and strengthened partnerships, Summit County seeks to reduce the duration of homelessness, ensure the availability of budget-friendly housing, and support residents in achieving long-term housing stability.

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.

Supportive Housing & Homelessness Prevention in Summit County

The CoC provides at least 165 beds dedicated to serving individuals experiencing chronic homelessness. Several programs operate under the Housing First model, which prioritizes immediate housing placement as the first step toward stabilization. This approach ensures that individuals can gain secure housing before receiving additional support services tailored to their needs.

The CoC and its central intake system follow HUD policies for prioritizing assistance, particularly for individuals facing significant obstacles to securing stable housing. Once housed, residents can receive services addressing substance use disorders, emotional concerns, and physical health conditions—factors that often contribute to homelessness.

The CoC has implemented HUD Release CPD-14-012, which outlines guidelines for placing applicants into CoC housing based on need. Priority is given to individuals who are chronically homeless or facing multiple challenges to securing stable housing. Additionally, PSH beds are being reallocated to those meeting chronic homelessness criteria, ensuring that available resources are directed where they are most needed.

Assessment & Placement Process

Through central intake, applicants are evaluated using an index that is utilized to determine their priority in regards to gaining a to PSH or temporary housing. Individuals with the highest needs receive placement in PSH beds and long-term support programs, while those with fewer complex issues are referred to rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention services. These short-term programs help individuals move from temporary housing instability to long-term stability.

Summit County currently operates Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing (HPRP) programs to assist individuals in shelters or face eminent eviction. Additionally, RRHP programs for veterans and their families are available, ensuring that military-affiliated households receive targeted housing support.

HPRP programs provide:

- Up to nine months of short-term assistance to aid recovery from housing instability.

- Case management services that support long-term planning and financial stability.
- Life skills programming to help residents achieve housing security and economic independence.

Summit County currently dedicates 27 CoC beds to homeless young adults, including those transitioning out of Summit County Children Services care. These efforts aim to provide structured support for individuals facing housing instability, ensuring availability of resources that enhance stability and long-term housing solutions.

Discussion

The City of Cuyahoga Falls is actively exploring new initiatives and strategic partnerships to expand services for individuals experiencing homelessness and those facing housing instability. By researching targeted programs and county-wide-driven solutions, the City aims to strengthen preventative measures, emergency assistance, and long-term housing stability efforts.

Pivotal Areas of Focus

- **Enhanced Outreach & Engagement:** Exploring ways to improve direct outreach efforts, connecting individuals with housing resources, emotional distress services, and employment support.
- **Expanded Shelter & Temporary Housing Options:** Evaluating additional housing solutions, including temporary shelter expansion and partnerships with service providers.
- **Homelessness Prevention Initiatives:** Researching policies to reduce eviction risks, provide rental assistance, and increase the availability to budget-friendly housing opportunities.
- **Comprehensive Support Services:** Investigating options to enhance the available resources to gain entry to healthcare, addiction recovery programs, and workforce training, helping individuals achieve long-term stability.
- **Collaboration with Local & Regional Partners:** Strengthening cooperative efforts with organizations that provide homelessness prevention, crisis intervention, and housing placement services.

Through this ongoing research and county-wide collaboration, the City seeks to develop effective solutions that address current challenges, improve resource availability, and create viable pathways to stable housing.

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

Introduction:

Challenges Impacting Housing Availability & Economically Friendly Units

Housing-related challenges affect every municipality, influencing housing availability, cost stability, and its readable availability for residents. Some obstacles can be addressed through policy changes and local initiatives, while others stem from economic and market-driven conditions, making them more complex to resolve.

Analysis has identified several housing challenges in the City of Cuyahoga Falls:

- Limited Supply of Reasonably Priced Single-Family Homes – A shortage of lower-cost single-family housing limits options for many first-time homebuyers seeking to make the leap from renting to ownership.
- Aging Housing Stock – Older homes may not fully accommodate the needs of families, seniors, or individuals requiring structural modifications.
- High Rehabilitation Costs – Renovation and repair costs remain financially burdensome for low-to-moderate income households. Limited availability of financing further complicates efforts to complete essential repairs.
- Minimum Lot Size Requirements – Larger lot size mandates increase land costs, making it harder to develop smaller, more cost-effective housing options.
- Local Ordinances & Zoning Regulations – Development expenses rise due to stormwater system requirements, sidewalk mandates, and landscaping codes, affecting housing project feasibility.
- Ecological limitations – Brownfields limit potential development, and reductions in remediation funding have further restricted redevelopment opportunities.
- City/Resident Opposition to New Housing Development – Local concerns, sometimes referred to as NIMBYism, can influence project placement and city/resident approval.
- Transportation Limitations – Limited public transit options reduce connectivity to available housing, affecting residents' ability to gain available and cost-effective living arrangements.

Addressing Housing Challenges

Overcoming these obstacles requires coordinated efforts among local officials, federal, state, county and city stakeholders, and policymakers. Thoughtful housing strategies can support long-term cost stability, structural improvements, and viable development, ensuring residents have expanded availability to suitable living options.

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

Actions to Address Challenges to Housing Cost Stability

The City of Cuyahoga Falls is committed to reducing obstacles to budget-friendly housing whenever possible. During the 2026 program year, the City will:

1. Continue to support the AMHA as a valued partner in the county and city.
2. If funding is available, collaborate with a CBDO or CHDO to develop budget-friendly housing.
3. Support eligible housing tax credit projects as they arise.
4. Utilize the Ohio and U.S. EPA brownfield programs to restore and redevelop underutilized sites for housing.
5. Continue to offer tax abatements for homes located within an approved CRA district.
6. Provide housing rehabilitation assistance to preserve and improve existing budget-friendly housing options.

Additionally, housing availability initiatives will remain essential in creating opportunities for residents facing housing challenges. The City will continue to implement programs that support housing stability and address the impact of regulations affecting budget-friendly housing development.

Challenges to budget-friendly housing exist in every municipality. While some issues can be resolved through policy adjustments and local initiatives, others are more complex due to economic conditions, development costs, and land use constraints. The City remains committed to exploring innovative solutions and collaborative approaches to enhance housing that fits the needs and stability for all residents.

Discussion:

Expanding efforts to market available housing options is essential to ensuring broad city-wide awareness, particularly among program eligible individuals and families. To strengthen outreach, the City could implement targeted measures such as:

- Advertising in audience specific media sources.
- Partnering with local churches, city centers, and nonprofit organizations to distribute housing information.
- Hosting informational sessions at neighborhood events and public forums to engage directly with residents.
- Developing multilingual resources to ensure housing opportunities are available to a broader segment of the city.
- Utilizing digital platforms and social media to reach individuals who may not engage with

traditional outreach methods.

During the 2026 program year, the City will continue working to mitigate obstacles to housing options by refining outreach strategies, expanding communication efforts, and supporting initiatives that improve housing stability for all residents.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

The City of Cuyahoga Falls is committed to strengthening the city through targeted initiatives, strategic planning, and collaborative partnerships that support the effective implementation of this Action Plan. By addressing challenges and identifying opportunities for improvement, the City works to enhance housing stability, economic development, and public services, ensuring long-term sustainability and fair resource distribution as detailed below.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City of Cuyahoga Falls proposes the following growth strategies to address obstacles for residents in need:

- **Expand Housing Availability & Stability:** Implement programs that support housing rehabilitation, cost-effectiveness, and mobility improvements for residents in need.
- **Strengthen Economic Development Initiatives:** Foster business growth, workforce training, and financial stability programs to garner city and resident resilience and economic opportunity.
- **Enhance Public Services & Infrastructure:** Invest in transportation, environmental sustainability, and public safety measures to improve the quality of life for all residents.
- **Support Social Services & County/City Engagement:** Encourage collaboration between nonprofit organizations, service providers, and local government to expand the availability to essential resources.
- **Address Challenges to Housing & City Development:** Identify and reduce obstacles affecting housing availability, zoning regulations, and public policy constraints.

By prioritizing growth and long-term development for all residents, the City seeks to cultivate a thriving, viable, and well-supported city that meets the evolving needs of its residents.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

Ensuring availability of housing within financial reach is essential to supporting a strong and thriving city. The following actions aim to expand and maintain housing options, addressing residents' varied needs while supporting long-term housing stability:

- **Collaborate with housing organizations – Partnering with groups like Habitat for Humanity to develop viable and cost-effective housing units that serve households with limited financial resources.**
- **Rehabilitate existing housing stock – Implementing repair and renovation programs to preserve budget-friendly units while improving safety, mobility, and living conditions for current residents.**

- Offer development incentives – Providing tax credits, grants, or financial incentives to encourage private developers to integrate housing cost effectiveness strategies into new residential projects.

These efforts align with the City's broader housing initiatives, ensuring residents have available housing opportunities while strengthening the local economy and city resilience.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City of Cuyahoga Falls, in partnership with the Summit County Public Health Department, continues to implement targeted programs to reduce lead-based paint hazards in residential properties, prioritizing the safety of families and young children.

These initiatives include:

- Lead Hazard Control Grant – Income-qualified homeowners can apply for assistance if their home was built before 1978 and a child under the age of 6 resides in or visits the home for at least 62 hours per year. This program ensures that lead exposure risks are identified and mitigated through professional assessment and remediation efforts.
- Minor Home Rehabilitation Program – For residents who do not qualify for the Lead Hazard Control Grant, this program provides lead testing and abatement services as part of broader home rehabilitation efforts. These services focus on reducing environmental health risks while improving overall housing conditions.

Through continued funding, program expansion, and collaborative partnerships, the City remains committed to minimizing lead exposure risks, promoting safe and healthy living environments, and protecting the health of its residents for future generations.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Actions to Support Families Facing Economic Hardship

The City of Cuyahoga Falls will implement several initiatives aimed at reducing financial hardship and promoting economic stability:

- Financial Support for Housing Assistance – The City will contribute \$5,000 in local matching funds to support Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) operations, reinforcing efforts to reduce housing instability.
- Participation in the CoC – The City will collaborate with CoC partners to pursue functional zero homelessness, ensuring individuals and families can obtain shelter, temporary housing, and long-term support services.
- Connecting Residents with Essential Services – The City assists residents by identifying and promoting housing opportunities, social service programs, and educational resources to

enhance financial security.

- Economic Development & Workforce Expansion – The Development Department continues to work with local businesses and chambers of commerce to create job opportunities, support entrepreneurship, and strengthen the local economy.

By aligning housing support, employment initiatives, and the available of essential services, the City aims to reduce financial hardship, improve economic mobility, and build long-term city resilience.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

Actions to Strengthen Collaboration across Agencies

The City of Cuyahoga Falls has established a well-coordinated system for managing CDBG funds and integrating planning efforts with other municipal departments. To further enhance efficiency and ensure effective program implementation, the City is committed to several actions, including:

- Strengthening Coordination Across Departments – Utilizing the citizen participation plan, direct email outreach, and other communication methods to align activities and maximize resources.
- Avoiding Service Duplication – Ensuring that efforts complement existing programs rather than replicate successful initiatives already in place.
- Refining Policies & Procedures – Conducting regular reviews to improve operational efficiency and compliance with federal guidelines.
- Expanding Staff Training – Providing internal training opportunities and encouraging participation in external professional development programs to enhance expertise in development and grant management.

Through these initiatives, the City aims to strengthen its framework, ensuring that resources are managed effectively while maintaining a responsive and collaborative approach to city-wide development planning.

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

Enhancing Coordination Between Housing Providers & Social Service Agencies

The City of Cuyahoga Falls remains committed to strengthening partnerships between public and private housing providers and social service organizations to support economically disadvantaged residents and improve housing availability. These efforts align with Consolidated Plan goals, ensuring that critical resources reach those in need.

Pivotal actions planned for 2025 include:

- Financial Support for Social Services – The City continues to allocate funding to programs addressing housing stability, economic assistance, and essential services for residents facing financial hardship.
- Sustained Collaboration with Housing Providers – The City will maintain active partnerships with local housing organizations and agencies to ensure continued support for housing rehabilitation programs that preserve and improve existing housing stock.
- Ongoing Coordination with AMHA –AMHA administers Section 8 and public housing programs, and collaboration efforts will continue to enhance housing quality and availability for eligible residents.
- Strengthening Public-Private Partnerships – The City will engage with private developers, nonprofit agencies, and service organizations to identify innovative solutions that address housing costs and supportive services.

Through strategic coordination and expanded outreach, the City aims to increase service efficiency, improve housing opportunities, and enhance overall quality of life for residents in need.

Discussion:

Strengthening Housing Stock & Expanding Housing Resources

The City of Cuyahoga Falls remains committed to enhancing housing availability, ensuring that individuals and families in need can obtain safe, stable, and well-maintained housing options. Efforts to improve housing stock focus on:

- Preserving existing homes through rehabilitation programs that address maintenance, safety, and structural concerns.
- Encouraging new residential development that aligns with local housing needs and cost-effectiveness goals.
- Partnering with county and city organizations to provide housing assistance, financial support, and resource connections for residents facing housing instability.

In addition, the City continues to evaluate new initiatives and funding opportunities to expand housing resources, ensuring that residents have the tools and support needed to secure and maintain long-term housing stability.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

All CDBG funds expected to be received by the City of Cuyahoga Falls in the 2026 program year, including program income, have been fully allocated to support the projects identified in this Action Plan. These resources will be used to implement housing rehabilitation activities, infrastructure improvements, social service initiatives, and other eligible efforts that advance the goals of the City's Consolidated Plan.

By directing funds to these targeted programs and strategic investments, the City aims to improve housing conditions, strengthen economic opportunities, and enhance the overall quality of life for low- and moderate-income residents.

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
Total Program Income:	0

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
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.	80.00%

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Evaluating CDBG Fund Impact for Program Eligible Residents

The City of Cuyahoga Falls employs a one-year assessment period to evaluate the overall benefits of CDBG funds for residents classified as LMI. This approach ensures that federal funding is effectively allocated toward programs and services that directly support individuals and families in need.

During FY-2026, approximately 80% of CDBG funding will be directed toward LMI populations, reinforcing the City's commitment to:

- Expanding availability of safe and stable housing through rehabilitation programs and housing assistance initiatives.
- Enhancing city-wide infrastructure to improve quality of life, including public facilities, transportation availability and neighborhood revitalization projects.
- Providing social service support aimed at economic mobility, education, and essential resource availability for LMI households.

By maintaining this targeted funding approach, the City ensures that CDBG funds serve as a critical tool in promoting housing stability, economic growth, and the City's residents that are facing financial hardship.

