



CITY OF
Cuyahoga Falls



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANT

2024-2028

CONSOLIDATED PLAN

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

This Five-Year Consolidated Strategic Plan covers fiscal years 2024 through 2028 and includes a one-year Action Plan for fiscal year 2024. It is prepared in compliance with requirements of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as a plan and an application for funding under the formula grant program: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

The City of Cuyahoga Falls is an entitlement community, which HUD defines as a qualified urban city with a population of at least 50,000. Entitlement cities are entitled to receive annual grants from HUD. The amount of each entitlement grant is determined by HUD through the use of a statutory dual formula which uses several objective measures of community needs, including the extent of poverty, population, housing overcrowding, age of housing and population growth lag in relationship to other metropolitan areas.

This document presents a strategic plan to address the three goals established by Federal statute for these programs:

- Provision of expanded economic opportunities,
- Provision of a suitable living environment, and
- Provision of decent housing.

These programs are primarily intended to benefit persons and families of low-to-moderate income, which HUD defines as 80% or lower than the area median income, as determined annually by HUD. The current income limits are located in Appendix 1 - Income Limits. The income limits used by the City of Cuyahoga Falls are the Akron Metropolitan Area Income Limits.

In addition to these efforts, during the 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan period, the City of Cuyahoga Falls will work to further the goals and objectives identified by the Akron/Barberton/Summit County Continuum of Care. The City of Cuyahoga Falls will also seek out increased opportunities for collaboration with the other entitlement communities – the Cities of Akron, Barberton and County of Summit. This document will utilize various data sets, including 2018-2022 ACS 5-year estimate data, and 2023 CoC HMIS PIT count data.

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

The 9 greatest needs, as determined through a combination of a needs analysis, meetings with local non-profit agencies, community stakeholders, and a community survey are:

1. Infrastructure Improvements, including but not limited to, waterline and sanitary sewer replacements in low-to-moderate income census tracts;
2. Minor home rehabilitation to homes of low-to-moderate income homeowners who otherwise could not afford critical home maintenance, including but not limited to, home weatherization, lead abatement, and ADA accessibility modifications single family, owner-occupied housing units;
3. The provision of economic opportunities that create or retain jobs for low-to-moderate income individuals;
4. Acquisition and demolition of blighted structures and removal of environmental contaminants to eliminate slum and blight throughout the City as necessary;
5. Assisting individuals, such as the developmentally or physically disabled, who need help with self-care through public facility and housing improvements or job training programs/employment opportunities;
6. The provision of support for educational programs that will improve the lives of low-to-moderate income persons;
7. Programs to address the recreational and social needs of our growing senior population, such as aging in place, barrier removal services, senior playground equipment, walking trails and;
8. Support of programs that address the needs of the homeless.

3. Evaluation of past performance

During the 2019-2023 Five Year Consolidated Strategic Plan, the following was accomplished:

The Provision of Expanded Economic Opportunities:

A total of \$1,131,125 in CDBG funds was allocated to Economic Development and resulted in:

- the creation of 61 jobs for low-to-moderate income individuals;
- the retention of 14 jobs for low-to-moderate income individuals;
- the provision of 19 equipment matching grants;
- the provision of 9 facade matching grants;
- the provision of 16 sign matching grants;
- the creation of 6 working capital and/or equipment loans to provide low-interest loans to for-profit entities.

A total of \$540,000 in CDBG-CV funds were allocated to Economic Development to prevent, prepare, and respond to COVID-19, resulting in:

- 108 working capital grants in the amount of \$5,000 each, were provided to Cuyahoga Falls small businesses, resulting in 108 full-time jobs being retained for low-to-moderate income individuals during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Provision of a Suitable Living Environment:

- \$30,990 in CDBG funds were allocated to provide services to 314 senior and/or disabled citizens;
- \$617,403 in CDBG funds were allocated to provide public facilities and infrastructure improvements, including public art that benefitted 17,531 low-to-moderate income individuals;
- \$39,036 in CDBG funds were allocated to provide housing and/or supportive services for 132 homeless individuals;
- \$23,494 in CDBG funds were allocated to provide food and personal care items for 4,864 low-to-moderate income individuals;
- \$15,000 in CDBG funds were allocated to STEM learning programs that served 323 low-to-moderate income children in the Cuyahoga Falls School district; and
- \$75,000 in CDBG funds were allocated for fair housing services to 1,471 low-to-moderate income individuals.

The Provision of Decent Housing:

- \$312,927 in CDBG funds were allocated to provide minor home repairs to 31 low-to-moderate income homeowners.
- \$37,224 in CDBG-CV funds were allocated to housing to prevent, prepare, and respond to COVID-19 for the digital equity and inclusion program which provided 185 low-to-moderate income residents of Ray C. Sutliff Tower (senior housing) with WIFI, digital devices, and technical support.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

As part of the preparation for the Five-Year Consolidated Plan, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires all entitlement jurisdictions to develop a citizen participation plan. The citizen participation plan is developed as a means of encouraging citizens, community officials, and representatives from public and private agencies that provide housing, social and health services, or are interested in fostering economic growth and development, to provide input into the development of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

The regulations also require that entitlement jurisdictions obtain input from the public during the development of all Annual Action Plans and/or Amendments to the Consolidated Plan. Annual Action Plans identify the specific projects an entitlement community is going to implement in the upcoming program year to address the goals and objectives identified in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan. Amendments include any changes to the Consolidated Plan or to projects identified in the Annual Action Plan. The public comment period for the Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, and Amendments to the Consolidated Plan must be no less than 30 days. Comments from citizens may be submitted orally, in writing, or at public meetings.

The regulations also require that citizens be given a minimum of 15 days to comment on the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). The CAPER is submitted annually to HUD and is due 90 days after the completion of an entitlement community's program year. The City of Cuyahoga Falls' Program Year ends on December 31st, which means that the CAPER is due by March 31st. The CAPER evaluates the progress made by an entitlement community toward the achievement of the goals and objectives identified in their Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan.

5. Summary of public comments

See Appendix 2 - Citizen Participation and Public Notices for public comments.

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

Comments received from the public that did not apply to the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction, the Community Development Department, or could not be addressed with CDBG funds were forwarded to the appropriate jurisdiction(s), department, or responded to by mail.

7. Summary

Comments received from citizens and invested parties regarding the plan, were reviewed and responded to. Comments are included in Appendix 2.

The Process

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

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

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

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	CUYAHOGA FALLS	Development Department

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The City of Cuyahoga Falls is the lead agency responsible for the development of the Consolidated Plan and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) programs covered by this Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan submission covers the period for Program Years 2024–2028 and includes a one-year Action Plan for Program Year 2024.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

All citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties will have reasonable and timely access to all information and records related to the City of Cuyahoga Falls' Five-Year (FY2024-2028) Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans (AAP), amendments to the Plan(s), performance reports (CAPER), and other information related to specific projects included in the Consolidated Plan.

Paper copies of the plan will be available at no cost, via download from the City of Cuyahoga Falls website at:

<https://www.cityofcf.com/departments/community-development/block-grant-program>

Requested information and records will be made available by appointment only, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. in the City of Cuyahoga Falls, Community Development Department, located at 2310 Second Street, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221.

All records and information related to the 2024-2028 Five-Year Consolidated Plan will be maintained and will remain available for a minimum of 5 years.

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

1. Introduction

City of Cuyahoga Falls staff met with the local public housing authority, Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA), representatives of area non-profits and governments, the Akron/ Summit County Continuum of Care (CoC), and the Akron/ Summit County Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The City also hosted two different discussion sessions with various groups to get their input on needs present in the community, collected citizen, community and agency comments electronically, via an online survey, and solicited citizen input at two public meetings. Copies of the surveys and the data collected are available in Appendix 2 Citizen Participation & Public Notices.

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)).

The City of Cuyahoga Falls, Department of Community Development conducted a comprehensive outreach to local agencies and governments in order to solicit their input for the development of the 2024 – 2028 Five-Year Consolidated Strategic Plan. Local governmental and agency representatives were invited to attend planning meetings for the Five-Year Consolidated Strategic Plan. A comprehensive list of the attendees is available in Table 2, on pages 9–11. Sign-in sheets, agendas, hand-outs, and comments from the two meetings, which were held on June 17 , 2024, at 6:30 pm and June 20, 2024 at 2:00pm, are available in Appendix 2 Citizen Participation & Public Notices. In addition to these two meetings, which sought public input for the creation of the 2024-2028 Five-Year Consolidated Strategic Plan, an online survey was used to solicit citizen input. The survey and results are also available in Appendix 2.

The City of Cuyahoga Falls participates in the Continuum of Care (CoC) through serving on the board, attending steering committee meetings, and performing the Point in Time (PIT) count of the homeless in the City of Cuyahoga Falls. The CoC is comprised of not-for-profit social service agencies, faith-based organizations and government agencies within Summit County. The CoC is committed to eliminating homelessness and improving housing options through the implementation of a comprehensive Continuum of Care.

The CoC brings in approximately \$4,500,000.00 annually to address the needs of the homeless population. The City of Cuyahoga Falls assists in the allocation of the funds through their participation in the steering committee.

In program year 2023, the City of Cuyahoga Falls supported the CoC in the launch of its new landlord mitigation program. The CoC, through the landlord mitigation program, reaches out to landlords and

works with them to provide housing to area homeless individuals and families or those in danger of becoming homeless.

The City of Cuyahoga Falls provides funding to the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) of Summit County, which supports the CoC. The HMIS enables participating agencies to have accurate information about the clients they serve, saves staff and management time needed to gather client data and complete funding reports, enables agencies to track client outcomes and measure the success of the services provided during a given time period, and assists agencies in improving the quality of the services provided. It also informs government and community leaders about the extent and nature of homelessness in the state and the community and enables better communication about housing and support needs to potential funders and policy-makers.

The United Way of Summit and Medina, is the host agency of Summit County's HMIS system. The United Way of Summit and Medina manages centralized intake for local shelters. Individuals calling 211 for any assistance are screened and referred to the appropriate services and agencies.

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

The City of Cuyahoga Falls participates in the CoC, through serving on the board, attending steering committee meetings, and participating in Point in Time (PIT) Counts.

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

The CoC steering committee and the review and ranking committee evaluate Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funded projects based on performance measures, the City of Cuyahoga Falls follows the decision-making process for the award and allocation of ESG funds to CoC agencies, through participation on the CoC board.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	United Way of Summit & Medina
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	(Update after meeting) Attended the public forum held by City of Cuyahoga Falls, Department of Community Development to discuss priorities for the upcoming Five-Year Consolidated Plan.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	Summit DD
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with Disabilities
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	(Update after meeting) Attended the public forum held by City of Cuyahoga Falls, Department of Community Development to discuss priorities for the upcoming Five-Year Consolidated Plan.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Fair Housing Advocates Association
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Fair Housing Education
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	(Update after meeting) Attended the public forum held by City of Cuyahoga Falls, Department of Community Development to discuss priorities for the upcoming Five-Year Consolidated Plan.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Neighborhood Development Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	(Update after meeting) Attended the public forum held by City of Cuyahoga Falls, Department of Community Development to discuss priorities for the upcoming Five-Year Consolidated Plan.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services - Victims
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	(Update after meeting) Attended the public forum held by City of Cuyahoga Falls, Department of Community Development to discuss priorities for the upcoming Five-Year Consolidated Plan.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	Akron Community Service Center and Urban League
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Services-Employment Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	(Update after meeting) Attended the public forum held by City of Cuyahoga Falls, Department of Community Development to discuss priorities for the upcoming Five-Year Consolidated Plan.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Habitat for Humanity of Summit County
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	(Update after meeting) Attended the public forum held by City of Cuyahoga Falls, Department of Community Development to discuss priorities for the upcoming Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

8	Agency/Group/Organization	Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Needs - Veterans Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	(Update after meeting) Attended the public forum held by City of Cuyahoga Falls, Department of Community Development to discuss priorities for the upcoming Five-Year Consolidated Plan.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Summit County Continuum of Care
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Cuyahoga Falls meets with the Cities of Akron, Barberton, and Summit County regularly through the CoC, for the purpose of planning and to discuss the homeless issues facing communities in Summit County.

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

There were no agency types not consulted.

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	Summit County Continuum of Care	Both plans address supportive services for the homeless.
Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority	Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority	Both plans address the provision of a suitable living environment for low-income individuals.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

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

The City of Cuyahoga Falls coordinates efforts to address homelessness issues within the Summit County jurisdiction with the Cities of Akron, Barberton, and County of Summit through their participation in and support of the CoC.

The City of Cuyahoga Falls coordinates with the County of Summit, Department of Community and Economic Development, matching grant funds for the Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP) which serves individuals with total household income at or below 200% of the poverty level. HWAP is designed to help lower heating bills by correcting energy deficiencies. HWAP is federally funded by the U.S. Department of Energy and administered through the County of Summit, Department of Community and Economic Development.

Assistance is provided to residents of the County of Summit at no cost for customers whose annual household income is at or below 200 % of the federal poverty guidelines. Funding for the County of Summit's HWAP program comes from the Ohio Development Services Agency's Community Services Division (CSD) and its Office of Community Assistance (OCA).

The City of Cuyahoga Falls partners with the Summit County Public Health District to administer the Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction grant and Healthy Homes Program. The program is designed to reduce lead-based paint hazards in homes built prior to 1978 with children under the age of 6 residing in the home or visiting the home more than 60 hours a year. Owner occupied housing and rental units are eligible for assistance throughout Summit County.

Narrative (optional):

N/A

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

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

The City of Cuyahoga Falls hosted two public forums: Local agencies, governments, and residents were invited to discuss priorities for the City of Cuyahoga Falls for the next 5 years at the Cuyahoga Falls City Council meeting held on the evening of June 17, 2024 at the City of Cuyahoga Falls Natatorium beginning at 6:30 PM. A second public meeting was held at the Quirk Cultural Center on June 20, 2024 at 2:00 PM. An electronic survey was made available to residents of Cuyahoga Falls via the City of Cuyahoga Falls website, social media, and through the public meetings. The handouts, sign-in sheets, and survey can be found in Appendix 2 Citizen Participation & Public Notices.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
1	Public Hearing	Local Governments, Local Agencies,	A public meeting was held on June 17, 2024, at 6:30 PM in the City of Cuyahoga Falls Council Chambers.	See Appendix 2 Citizen Participation & Public Notices for a summary of comments and survey responses received.	All comments were accepted.	

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)
2	Public Meeting	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Local Governments, Local Agencies	A public meeting for local agencies and citizens was held on June 20, at 2:00 PM, at the Quirk Cultural Center.	See Appendix 2 Citizen Participation & Public Notices for a summary of comments and survey responses received.	All comments were accepted.	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
3	Internet Outreach	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	See Appendix 2 Citizen Participation & Public notices for survey responses.	See Appendix 2 Citizen Participation & Public Notices for survey responses.	All comments were accepted.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Needs Assessment

NA-05 Overview

Needs Assessment Overview

The City of Cuyahoga Falls will use CDBG funds to address the following:

- the need for expanded economic opportunities, which will be accomplished through CDBG funding of activities that create and/or retain jobs for low-to-moderate income individuals;
- the need for the creation of suitable living environments, which will be accomplished through the use of CDBG funding of public services for homeless individuals, victims of domestic violence, and affirmatively furthering fair housing; and
- the need for the provision of decent affordable housing through CDBG funding of owner-occupied low-to-moderate income housing rehabilitation.

The following sections illustrate the need for more affordable housing for low-to-moderate income residents of the City of Cuyahoga Falls, as evidenced by the number of households that are:

- *cost burdened* - families paying more than 30% of their gross income for housing; or
- *extremely cost burdened* - families paying more than 50% of their gross income for housing.

The tables also document the need for home repair programs to address the growing number of households with housing problems, as well as the need for supportive services and housing for disabled residents of the City of Cuyahoga Falls.

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

Summary of Housing Needs

Families paying more than 30% of their gross income for housing are considered **cost burdened** and may have difficulty affording necessities such as food, clothing, transportation and medical care. Families paying more than 50% of their income for housing are considered **severely cost burdened**. Nationwide, an estimated 12 million renter and homeowner households pay more than 50% of their gross annual incomes for housing. A family with one full-time worker earning the minimum wage cannot afford the local fair-market rent for a two-bedroom apartment anywhere in the United States.

According to Harvard's joint center for housing studies, in 2022 housing cost increases have outpaced income gains for renters in the last two decades, leaving lower-income households with less money left over than ever before. In 2022, residual incomes for renter households making less than \$30,000 dropped to an all-time low of \$310 per month. Among these lower-income renters, those with cost burdens had a median residual income of just \$170.

Cost Burdened - In the Akron Metropolitan Statistical Area (Akron MSA), encompassing all of Summit County, Ohio, homeowners were nearly twice as likely as renters to pay more than 50% of their gross income for housing, and more than twice as likely to pay more than 30% of their gross annual income for housing.

Housing Problems - There are four housing problems identified in the Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) data for the years 2013-2017: 1) housing unit lacks complete kitchen facilities; 2) housing unit lacks complete plumbing facilities; 3) household is overcrowded; and 4) household is cost burdened. A household is said to have a housing problem if they have any 1 or more of these 4 problems. As illustrated in the following tables, Summit County, Ohio renters are two and a half times more likely than homeowners to have substandard housing, twice as likely to experience severe overcrowding, and twice as likely to experience overcrowding.

Demographics	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2017	% Change
Population	50,867	49,330	-3%
Households	22,546	21,630	-4%
Median Income	\$47,625.00	\$52,936.00	11%

Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2013-2017 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households	2,335	2,290	4,000	2,465	10,540
Small Family Households	745	545	1,065	910	5,310
Large Family Households	55	105	185	85	685
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	455	515	915	540	1,950
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	300	685	880	360	505
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger	400	219	445	310	770

Table 6 - Total Households Table

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

Housing Needs Summary Tables

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

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30- 50% AMI	>50- 80% AMI	>80- 100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	0	15	35	50	100	0	4	0	0	4
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	0	15	35	0	50	0	0	0	25	25
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	995	180	75	25	1,275	320	270	95	4	689

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	160	590	550	90	1,390	160	360	635	195	1,350
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	170	0	0	0	170	60	0	0	0	60

Table 7 – Housing Problems Table

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

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

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	995	210	145	70	1,420	320	275	95	30	720
Having none of four housing problems	530	865	1,740	810	3,945	260	940	2,025	1,555	4,780
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	170	0	0	0	170	60	0	0	0	60

Table 8 – Housing Problems 2

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

3. Cost Burden > 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	535	245	200	980	79	215	190	484
Large Related	15	70	30	115	0	15	10	25
Elderly	184	195	185	564	275	300	340	915
Other	420	285	230	935	124	95	195	414
Total need by income	1,154	795	645	2,594	478	625	735	1,838

Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

4. Cost Burden > 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	420	55	15	490	75	130	10	215
Large Related	15	0	0	15	0	15	0	15
Elderly	170	80	80	330	130	65	35	230
Other	395	50	0	445	120	60	50	230
Total need by income	1,000	185	95	1,280	325	270	95	690

Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	0	15	35	0	50	0	0	0	25	25

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Multiple, unrelated family households	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other, non-family households	0	0	0	50	50	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	0	15	35	50	100	0	0	0	25	25

Table 11 – Crowding Information – 1/2

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

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

Table 12 – Crowding Information – 2/2

Data Source
Comments:

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

According to the 2021 American Community Survey, there are 8,362 single person households located within the City of Cuyahoga Falls. This accounts for approximately 81% of all the nonfamily households in the City. Single person households are more likely to have lower household incomes than multi-person households. Therefore, they are more likely to need affordable housing, rental assistance, or assistance with home maintenance and/or repairs.

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

Disabled Individuals:

According to the 2021 American Community Survey, there are an estimated 12,506 individuals with disabilities living within the City of Cuyahoga Falls. This amounts to just over 25% of the City's total population of 50,810.

Nearly half 6,680 of the City's disabled are over 65 years old. This sub-group reports having difficulty with self-care (710) or independent living (1,586).

Victims of Domestic Violence:

During 2022, Battered Women's Shelter of Medina and Summit Counties reported providing:

- 41,029 shelter nights to survivors of domestic and intimate partner violence;
- 3,228 hotline calls, providing hours of crisis support;
- 594 Survivors participated in the Hospital Advocacy Program;
- 754 Survivors participated in the Court Advocacy Program;
- 620 Individuals were housed; and
- 3,804 volunteer hours were provided.

What are the most common housing problems?

The most common housing problems are *cost burden* and *severe cost burden*. In the City of Cuyahoga Falls, 5% of renters and 4% of homeowners are paying more than 30% of their gross household income on housing (rent or mortgage payment plus utilities). 3% of renters and 2% of homeowners are paying more than 50% of their gross household income on housing (rent or mortgage payment plus utilities).

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

The elderly, age 62 and older, account for the largest group in both the renter and homeowner categories, for both *cost-burdened* and *severely cost-burdened*.

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

The low- and extremely low-income who are currently housed but are at imminent risk of either residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered are great. They need affordable housing, utility assistance, food assistance, and medical assistance. The needs of formerly homeless families and individuals who are receiving rapid re-housing assistance and are nearing the termination of that assistance are basically the same.

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

The City of Cuyahoga Falls, Department of Community Development did not provide estimates of the at-risk populations. The 2017 American Community Survey data was used.

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

Specific housing characteristics that have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness are: cost burdened and severely cost burdened. The burden these two characteristics place on the household finances of the low-to-moderate income leave little money for household maintenance or other necessities.

Discussion

According to the 2022 National Low-Income Housing Coalition:

In the State of Ohio, the Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom apartment is \$993 per month. In order to afford this level of rent and utilities – without paying more than 30% of gross income on housing – a household must earn \$3,308 gross income monthly or \$39,702 gross income annually. Assuming a 40-hour work week, 52 weeks per year, this level of income translates into an hourly wage of \$19.09.

In the Summit County, Ohio, a minimum wage worker earns an hourly wage of \$10.10. In order to afford the FMR for a two-bedroom apartment, a minimum wage earner must work 76 hours per week, 52 weeks per year. Or a household must include 1.8 minimum wage earners working 40 hours per week year-round in order to make the 2-bedroom FMR affordable.

---In Summit County, Ohio, the estimated mean (average) wage for a renter is \$17.30. In order to afford the FMR for a 2-bedroom apartment at this wage, a renter must work 48 hours per week, 52 weeks per year. Or, working 40 hours per week 52 weeks per year, a household must include 1.2 workers earning the mean wage renter in order to make the 2-bedroom FMR affordable.

The above illustrates a great need for more affordable housing in the jurisdiction.

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

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

Introduction

Per HUD guidelines, a disproportionately greater need of housing problems exists when an ethnic or racial group experiences housing problems at ten percentage points or greater than the population/income level as a whole.

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,635	475	230
White	1,305	430	210
Black / African American	210	35	0
Asian	25	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	40	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	4	15	15

Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

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

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,430	860	0
White	1,245	815	0
Black / African American	70	15	0
Asian	50	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	55	25	0

Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

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

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,425	2,575	0
White	1,315	2,425	0
Black / African American	55	100	0
Asian	10	10	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	45	45	0

Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

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

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	385	2,075	0
White	315	2,005	0

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Black / African American	35	35	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	20	35	0

Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

*The four housing problems are:

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

Discussion

The preceding tables illustrate the number of households having 1 or more of 4 housing problems by Area Median Income, Race, and Ethnicity. The 4 housing problems are:

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

A category of persons having a disproportionately greater need exists when the percentage of persons in a category of need who are members of a particular racial or ethnic group is at least 10 percentage points higher than the percentage of persons in a category as a whole. The Cuyahoga Falls Jurisdiction is home to approximately 13.68% people of color which is reflected in the following percentages.

Based on 2013-2017 CHAS data:

In the 0 - 30% of Area Median Income group, of the homes having 1 or more of the 4 housing problems:

- White 82.4%
- Black/African American 13.3%
- Asian 1.6%
- American Indian/Alaska Native 2.5%
- Pacific Islander 0.0%
- Hispanic 0.3%

In the 30 - 50% of Area Median Income group, of the homes having 1 or more of the 4 housing problems:

- White 87.7%
- Black/African American 4.9%
- Asian 3.5%
- American Indian/Alaska Native 0.0%
- Pacific Islander 0.0%
- Hispanic 3.9%

In the 50 -80% of Area Median Income group, of the homes having 1 or more of the 4 housing problems:

- White 92.2%
- Black/African American 3.9%
- Asian 0.7%
- American Indian/Alaska Native 0.0%
- Pacific Islander 0.0%
- Hispanic 3.2%

In the 80 - 100% of Area Median Income group, of the homes having 1 or more of the 4 housing problems:

- White 85.1%
- Black/African American 9.5%
- Asian 0.0%
- American Indian/Alaska Native 0.0%
- Pacific Islander 0.0%
- Hispanic 5.4%

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

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

Introduction

A disproportionately greater number of severe housing problems occurs when a particular racial/ethnic group has at least a 10% or greater of needs than the needs of the population as a whole. According to the 2020 Census, the total population of the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction was 51,114. Of this total:

- White 84.0%
- Black/African American 4.7%
- Asian 5.0%
- American Indian/Alaskan Native 0.2%
- Pacific Islander 0.0%
- Other 6.1%

Of the total City population, 1,151 or 2.3% residents are of Hispanic Ethnicity.

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,315	790	230
White	1,050	685	210
Black / African American	195	50	0
Asian	25	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	40	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	4	15	15

Table 17 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	485	1,805	0
White	475	1,585	0
Black / African American	0	80	0
Asian	4	45	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	80	0

Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	240	3,765	0
White	225	3,510	0
Black / African American	0	155	0
Asian	10	10	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	90	0

Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	100	2,365	0
White	90	2,235	0
Black / African American	0	70	0
Asian	0	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	10	45	0

Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

Discussion

The preceding tables illustrate the number of households having 1 or more of 4 severe housing problems by Area Median Income (AMI), Race, and Ethnicity. The 4 housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost burden greater than 50%.

A category of persons having a disproportionately greater need exists when the percentage of persons in a category of need who are members of a particular racial or ethnic group is at least 10% higher than the percentage of persons in a category as a whole. The Cuyahoga Falls Jurisdiction is home to approximately 16.1% people of color which is reflected in the following percentages.

According to 2013-2017 CHAS data:

0 - 30% of AMI, of the homes having 1 or more of the 4 housing problems:

- White 82.4%
- Black/African American 15.3%

- Asian 2.0%
- American Indian/Alaska Native 0.0%
- Pacific Islander 0.0%
- Hispanic 0.3%

30 -50% of AMI, of the homes having 1 or more of the 4 severe housing problems:

- White 99.2%
- Black/African American 0.0%
- Asian 0.8%
- American Indian/Alaska Native 0.0%
- Pacific Islander 0.0%
- Hispanic 0.0%

50 -80% of AMI, of the homes having 1 or more of the 4 severe housing problems:

- White 95.7%
- Black/African American 0.0%
- Asian 4.3%
- American Indian/Alaska Native 0.0%
- Pacific Islander 0.0%
- Hispanic 0.0%

80% - 100%% of AMI, of the homes having 1 or more of the 4 severe housing problems:

- White 90.0%
- Black/African American 0.0%
- Asian 0.0%
- American Indian/Alaska Native 0.0%
- Pacific Islander 0.0%
- Hispanic 10.0%

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

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

Introduction:

According to the 2020 Census, the total population of the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction was 51,114. Of this total:

- White 84.0%
- Black/African American 4.7%
- Asian 5.0%
- American Indian/Alaskan Native 0.2%
- Pacific Islander 0.0%
- Other 6.1%

Of the total City population, 1,151 or 2.3% residents are of Hispanic Ethnicity.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines Cost Burden in 2 ways:

1. A household that is cost burdened is one that pays more than 30% of their gross monthly income on their housing expense, including utilities, and
2. A household that is severely cost burdened is one that pays more than 50% of their gross monthly income on housing expenses, including utilities.

The following table depicts the number of households, broken down by race and ethnicity that pay:

- less than 30%,
- between 30-50%, and
- more than 50%

of their gross income on monthly housing expenses.

Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	16,380	2,970	2,045	230
White	15,420	2,565	1,765	210
Black / African American	480	175	195	0

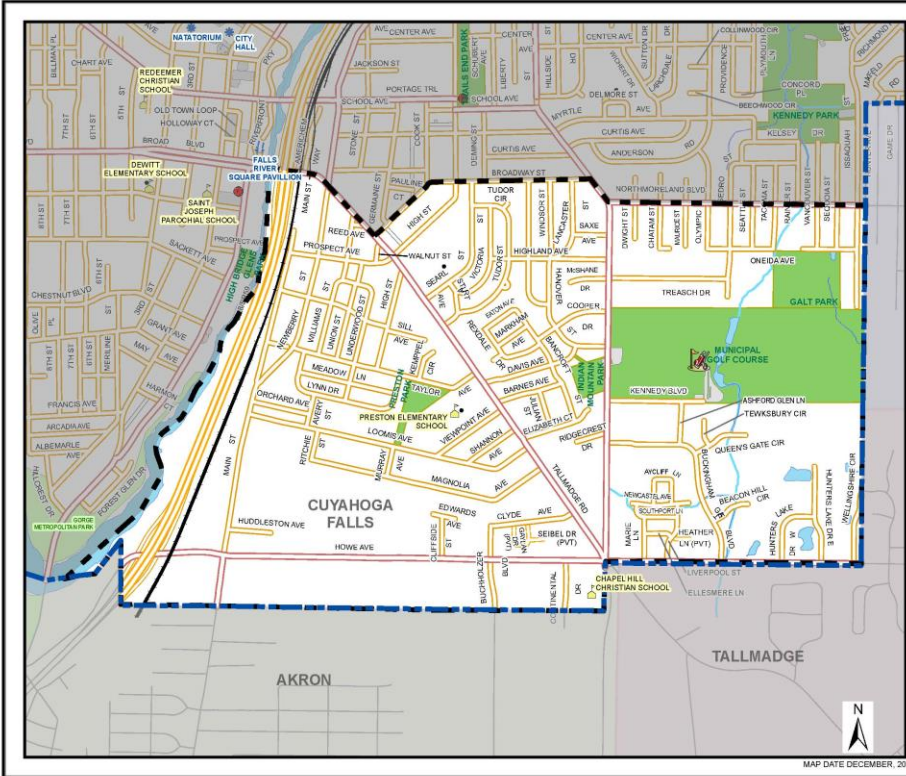
Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Asian	200	60	30	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	40	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Hispanic	235	115	4	15

Table 21 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI

Data 2013-2017 CHAS
Source:

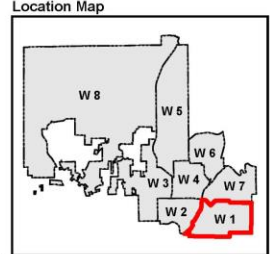
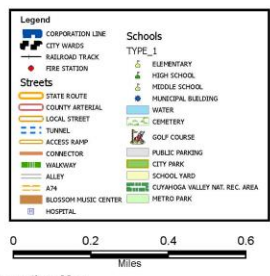
Housing Cost Burden	Percentage <30%	Percentage 30-50%	Percentage >50%	Percentage No/Negative Income (not computed)	Total Severely cost Burdened
Jurisdiction as a whole	76%	14%	9%	1%	23%
White	77%	13%	9%	1%	22%
Black/African American	56%	21%	2%	0%	44%
Asian	69%	21%	10%	0%	31%
American Indian, Alaska Native	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Pacific Islander	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Hispanic	64%	31%	1%	4%	32%

Table 22 - Table 1 - Housing Cost Burden by Percentage

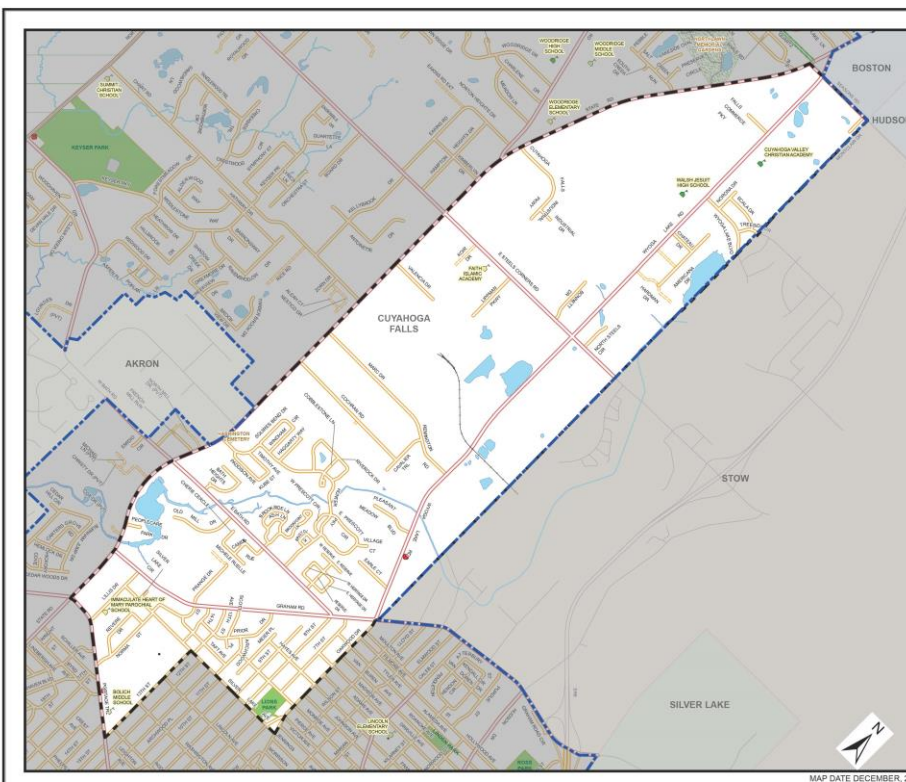


**City of Cuyahoga Falls
Ward 1 Map**

Council Representative:
Rachel Loza
rloza@cityofcf.com
(330) 812-2011

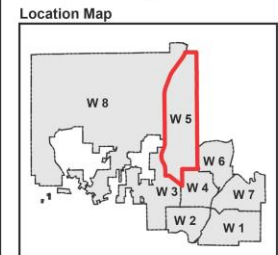
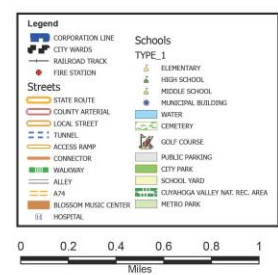


Ward 1



**City of Cuyahoga Falls
Ward 5 Map**

Council Representative:
Michael Brillhart
brillhart@cityofcf.com
(330) 472-3437



Ward 5

Discussion:

According to the table above, there are 21,395 households in the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction are experiencing a housing cost burden. Of these households:

- 76.6% are paying less than 30% of their gross income on monthly housing costs;
- 13.9% are paying between 30-50%, and
- 9.6% are paying more than 50% of their gross income on monthly housing costs.

Of the 76.6% of the total jurisdiction that are paying less than 30% of their gross income on monthly housing expenses, the percentage within each racial category paying less than 30% are as follows:

- White 94.4%
- Black/African American 2.9%
- Asian 1.2%
- American Indian/Native Alaskan 0.0%
- Pacific Islander 0.0%
- Hispanic 1.4%

Of the 13.9% of the total jurisdiction that are paying between 30-50% of their gross income on monthly housing expenses:

- White 86.8%
- Black/African American 5.9%
- Asian 2.0%
- American Indian/Alaskan Native 1.4%
- Pacific Islander 0.0%
- Hispanic 3.9%

Of the 9.6% of the total jurisdiction that are paying more than 50% of their gross income on monthly housing expenses:

- White 88.5%
- Black/African American 9.8%
- Asian 1.5%
- American Indian/Alaskan Native 0.0%
- Pacific Islander 0.0%
- Hispanic 0.2%

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

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

Based on the 2013-2017 CHAS data, the only racial or ethnic groups to experience disproportionately greater housing needs are Black/African American, and Hispanic householders. Both groups are disproportionately cost burdened. Black/African American householders experience housing cost burden at a rate that is 21% higher than the overall rate and Hispanic or Latino householders experience this at a rate that is 10% than the overall rate. Asian Householders experience housing cost burden at a rate that is 9% higher than the overall rate and this is the fastest growing race or ethnic group in the Cuyahoga Falls Jurisdiction.

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

Many of these households have difficulty maintaining their homes. These households may need repairs or replacement (if applicable). Households that are severely cost burdened may need assistance with utility bills and food.

Non-native speaking households, may have a need for language services.

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

Black/African American and Asian residents make up approximately 9% of the total population. Black/African American and Asian residents live throughout Cuyahoga Falls but there are some slightly higher concentrations of these racial or ethnic groups residing in wards 1 and 5 of the City of Cuyahoga Falls. Ward 1 is located on the south-east side of the City of Cuyahoga Falls and is bordered by the Cuyahoga River to the west, Tallmadge Road to the east, and Howe Avenue to the south. Ward 5 is located on the north-east side of the City of Cuyahoga Falls and is bordered by State Road to the west, Portage Trail to the south, Seasons Road to the north, and the City of Stow to the east.

NA-35 Public Housing – 91.205(b)

Introduction

AMHA is responsible for the ownership and management of public housing property in Summit County.

The Sutliff Building, is a 185-unit Senior Housing complex located in the City of Cuyahoga Falls. There are three (3) AMHA family complexes located in the jurisdiction. These units include the 125-unit Honey Locust complex, the 105-unit Maplewood Villa & Garden and the 12-unit Lobello Lane. AMHA also has five (5) independent home sites in Cuyahoga Falls. The remainder of their facilities are located municipalities are within Summit County.

Totals in Use

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *

Table 23 - Public Housing by Program Type

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

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Characteristics of Residents

	Program Type							
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher	
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
Average Annual Income	0	5,871	9,871	9,233	12,018	9,136	5,863	6,790
Average length of stay	0	5	6	5	3	5	0	15
Average Household size	0	3	2	2	1	2	1	1
# Homeless at admission	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	0	1	1,006	651	89	559	2	1
# of Disabled Families	0	1	1,028	1,227	44	1,151	25	3
# of Families requesting accessibility features	0	8	3,996	4,818	176	4,574	48	5
# of HIV/AIDS program participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of DV victims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 24 – Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Race of Residents

Race	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
White	0	0	1,675	1,717	93	1,587	28	4	0
Black/African American	0	8	2,260	3,079	83	2,965	20	1	0
Asian	0	0	55	15	0	15	0	0	0
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	5	6	0	6	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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

Table 25 – Race of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Ethnicity of Residents

Ethnicity	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	0	1	27	39	2	37	0	0	0
Not Hispanic	0	7	3,969	4,779	174	4,537	48	5	0

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

Table 26 – Ethnicity of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

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

Public housing tenants and applicants on the wait list for accessible units require walk-in or roll-in showers, grab bars in the tub/shower area, and lower countertops in the kitchen and bathrooms.

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

Demographic shifts, such as the rising numbers of elderly people and special needs populations, will have a broad impact on community housing needs for years to come.

AMHA's 2021-2025 Strategic Plan states that the housing choice voucher waiting list has over 20,000 families. AMHA plans to apply for additional vouchers through Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) to provide supportive housing for homeless veterans, the Family Unification Program (FUP) for youth aging out of foster care and family reunification, the Mainstream Program for families with disabilities and Tenant Protection Vouchers (TPV) to protect tenants from displacement. Additional vouchers for homeless assistance will expand affordable housing options for low-and-moderate income families in the community.

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

Households assisted through AMHA programs are much lower income than the population at large. Their need for assistance is much greater. Families with children need assistance with basic necessities such as food, clothing, medical care, and utilities.

Discussion

Over half of the renters within Summit County pay more than 30% of their income toward rent. Currently, there are over 40,000 families waiting for either public housing or a housing choice voucher. AMHA has also identified many housing units in the community that are suffering from deferred maintenance and a lack of comprehensive capital investment. AMHA intends to pursue different ways of repositioning real estate assets in order to repair and preserve its existing portfolio.

NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)

Introduction:

Within Summit County, a comparison of the total number of homeless from 2019 to 2023 shows that the total number of homeless increased by 84.2%:

- the total number of homeless in 2019 was 546; the total number of homeless in 2023 was 648;
- family homelessness increased 84%, from 121, to 144;
- Veteran homelessness increased 73%, from 52, to 71, and
- Chronically homelessness increased 54%, from 54 in 2019, to 100, in 2023.

Homeless Needs Assessment

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Persons in Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	0	144	0	0	0	0
Persons in Households with Only Children	0	11	0	0	0	0
Persons in Households with Only Adults	154	339	0	0	0	0
Chronically Homeless Individuals	71	29	0	0	0	0
Chronically Homeless Families	0	0	0	0	0	0

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Veterans	19	52	0	0	0	0
Unaccompanied Child	9	41	0	0	0	0
Persons with HIV	11	2	0	0	0	0

Table 27 - Homeless Needs Assessment

Alternate Data Source Name:

2023 Point in Time Count

Point in Time Summary for OH-506-Akron/Barberton/Summit County Continuum of Care. Date: 1/25/2023. Sheltered Homeless Persons in Akron/Barberton/Summit County 10/1/2022-9/30/2023 (Data from the Homeless Management Information System, Submitted for the Department of Housing and Urban Development's 2023 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress.

Data Source Comments:

Urban Development's 2023 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress.

Indicate if the homeless population is: Has No Rural Homeless

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

Nature and Extent of Homelessness: (Optional)

Race:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
White	198	43
Black or African American	160	9
Asian	2	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	3	0
Pacific Islander	2	0
Ethnicity:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
Hispanic	6	1
Not Hispanic	382	52

Alternate Data Source Name:
 2023 Point in Time Count
 Data Source
 Comments:

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

According to the 2023 CoC's Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR), of the persons in Families in Emergency Shelters located inside of Summit County, but outside of the City of Cuyahoga Falls:

- 61% were families with children under 18;
- 1.5% were families of adults between the ages of 18 and 24;
- 16.0% were families of adults between the ages of 25 and 34;
- 12.5% were families of adults between 35 and 44; and
- 9.0% were families of adults between 45 and 54 years of age.

The composition of Persons in Families in Transitional Housing was located inside of Summit County, but outside of the City of Cuyahoga Falls:

- 67% under the age of 17;
- 16% in the 18 to 30 age group, and
- 17% in the 31 to 50 age group.

Housing assistance for families of veterans is provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) through Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF). The support provided is primarily case management and financial assistance for prevention of foreclosure, and of eviction. SSVF also provides up to 2 months of back utilities payments, and with their Rapid Rehousing Program, the VA works with their clients to help them find landlords who are willing to accept a HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive

Housing (HUD-VASH) Voucher or a Section 8 Voucher, if the client has one. Through the Rapid Rehousing Program, SSVF can provide up to 5 months of rent, if the client will be receiving a voucher.

They also provide security deposits if needed. The case management includes legal assistance, financial counseling, and their payee program, in which the client's money is deposited into a separate account from which their housing and utilities are paid.

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

According to the 2023 CoC's Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR), the race of the homeless population in the County of Summit varies by shelter category.

For persons in Families in Emergency Shelters:

- 24% were White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino;
- 74% were Black/African American;
- 0% were Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander,
- 1% were several races, and
- 1% were unknown.

For persons in Families living in Transitional Housing:

- 34% were White non-Hispanic/non-Latino;
- 2% were White, Hispanic/Latino;
- 58% were Black/African American;
- 0% were Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander,
- 6% were several races, and
- 0% were unknown.

Persons in Families in Permanent Supportive Housing:

- 40% were White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino;
- 1% were White, Hispanic/Latino;
- 51% were Black/African American;
- 0% were Asian or American Indian or Alaska Native;
- 1% were Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander;
- 7% were several races, and
- 0% were Unknown.

For the Individuals in Emergency Shelters:

- 52% were White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino;

- 0% were White, Hispanic/Latino;
- 46% were Black/African American;
- 0% were Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander or Several Races, and
- 2% were Unknown.

Of the Individuals in Transitional Housing:

- 62% were White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino;
- 0% were White, Hispanic/Latino;
- 35% were Black/African American;
- 0% were Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander;
- 2% were Several races, and
- 1% were Unknown.

Of the Individuals in Permanent Supportive Housing:

- 57% were White, non-Hispanic/non-Latino;
- 0% were White, Hispanic/Latino;
- 41% were Black/African American;
- 1% were Asian;
- 0% were American Indian or Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander;
- 1% were Several races, and
- 0% were unknown.

Describe the Nature and Extent of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness.

According to the data collected during the CoC's 2023 Point in Time Count, there were a total of 862 homeless persons on January 23, 2023:

- 178 unsheltered, and
- 674 sheltered homeless persons.

Of the sheltered persons:

- 345 were in Emergency Shelters;
- 330 were in Transitional Housing, and
- 10 were in Safe Havens.

Discussion:

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

Introduction:

The needs of non-homeless populations, such as the elderly, persons with disabilities (mental, physical and developmental), persons with alcohol or drug addictions, dually diagnosed persons, battered women and their children, and/or persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, are addressed by the various agencies identified throughout this report.

Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:

Elderly - HUD defines individuals who are age 62 and over as elderly. According to the 2021 ACS 5-year estimates, there were 11,460 elderly residing in the City of Cuyahoga Falls, of which 616 (7.4%) had household incomes at or below the poverty level estimate. Approximately one third of the elderly population has hearing, vision, cognitive, ambulatory, self-care, or independent living difficulties.

Disabled - HUD defines a disabled individual as, "any person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities; has a record of such impairment; or is regarded as having such an impairment." These impairments include the following: hearing, mobility and visual impairments, chronic alcoholism, chronic mental illness, AIDS, AIDS Related Complex, and mental retardation that substantially limits one or more major life activities. Major life activities include walking, talking, hearing, seeing, breathing, learning, performing manual tasks, and caring for oneself. According to the 2021 American Community Survey, there are an estimated 3,023 (5.98% of the City's total population of 50,509).

Veterans - The HUD definition of a veteran is someone who "has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. This does not include inactive military reserves or the National Guard unless the person was called up to active duty." According to 2021 American Community 5-Year Survey data there were approximately 2,809 veterans living in Cuyahoga Falls, up from the 2000 Census figure of 2,789. Of the 24,733, veterans living in the County of Summit, 95% are male; 5% are female.

Chronic Substance Abusers - Chronic substance abuse can be defined as alcohol abuse and/or drug abuse that is habitual abuse to the extent that the abuse substantially injures a person's health or substantially interferes with his or her social or economic functioning. According to the 2021 Akron/Barberton/Summit County Point in Time Count, there are 279 homeless persons with chronic substance abuse issues.

Victims of Domestic Violence - 1 in every 4 women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime, with females who are 20-24 years of age at the greatest risk for intimate partner violence. In addition to physical abuse, many of these victims of physical violence have also experienced psychological abuse.

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

Elderly - Members of the elderly population may need assistance with housing repairs and maintenance, housing costs, healthcare, transportation, and supportive services.

Disabled - Needs for this population may include: permanent supportive housing, healthcare, medical equipment, and rehabilitative services for both physical and mental impairments.

Veterans - These individuals may have many needs. Some need housing and supportive services to deal with mental health issues, such as post traumatic-stress disorder. They may need treatment for chronic substance abuse, job training, or assistance finding employment.

Chronic Substance Abusers - Individuals in this group frequently need in-patient rehab, housing, legal services, and intensive counseling.

Victims of Domestic Violence - These victims often flee their abusers with no more than the clothes on their backs. They need shelter, food, clothing, and supportive services, such as counseling and legal assistance.

A variety of information sources were used to determine priority special population needs and categorical priorities, including, but not limited to:

- CHAS Data;
- 2021 US Census Data;
- CoC 2021 Homeless Report;
- Representatives from non-profit and housing agencies, and
- 2019-2023 City of Cuyahoga Falls Consolidated Plan.

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

According to the 2022 Ohio Department of Health, Summit County HIV Surveillance Data (the most recent available), there were 39 new confirmed cases of HIV/AIDS in Summit County. Of the 39 persons living with HIV/AIDS within Summit County: 69% were male; 31% were female. Of the diagnosed males, 71% are living with AIDS. Of the diagnosed females, 29% are living with AIDS.

For every person living with HIV, there is a family that is affected. With early detection and appropriate medical care, an individual with HIV can expect to live a normal lifespan. If left untreated, the condition can progress until the person develops AIDS. Immune systems that are compromised are unable to affectively fight infection. People are then susceptible to a range of infections, some of which can be fatal (aamft.org).

Individuals with HIV often feel stigmatized. Families of these individuals are often the only emotional support available. For this reason, support groups and individual counseling can be very helpful. Within the County of Summit, the Community AIDS Network / Akron Pride Initiative (CANAPI) provides support groups, individual counseling, and other supportive services to individuals with HIV and AIDS.

If the PJ will establish a preference for a HOME TBRA activity for persons with a specific category of disabilities (e.g., persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness), describe their unmet need for housing and services needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2) (ii))

The City of Cuyahoga Falls does not qualify for Home funding, per the regulations set forth by the Department of Housing, therefore would not be qualified to participate in tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA).

Discussion:

The Info Line Community Resource Directory, which can be accessed at: www.211summit.org, provides a gateway to hundreds of service providers for residents of Cuyahoga Falls and all of Summit County. The following is a sampling of the variety of agencies and services available:

Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board (ADM Board) - Provides a variety of services for persons struggling to overcome a chemical dependency and provides housing for the mentally disabled.

Arc of Summit County - Assists persons with mental and/or developmental disabilities who are seeking housing options that are appropriate based on their level of disability.

Ardmore, Inc - Operates small homes, foster care homes, and provides case work support to individuals in supported living programs who live alone, with roommates or spouses.

Area Agency on Aging - Provides a variety of services for elderly residents of Summit County, including home repair programs, nutritional education, ADA modifications and outreach services.

Battered Women's Shelter of Medina and Summit Counties - Provides emergency shelter, support groups, and supportive services to victims of domestic violence.

Blick Clinic - Provides outpatient clinical, day program, and residential treatment services for people with developmental disabilities, behavioral health needs, and other related conditions.

Community AIDS Network and Akron Pride Initiative (CANAPI) - Provides a LGBT community center, the delivery of social support services to clients of the agency and AIDS education and testing in the community.

Community Health Center - Provides a variety of services for persons struggling to overcome a chemical dependency, and/or who are dually diagnosed with chemical dependency and mental health issues.

Community Support Services - Provides respite care, rental assistance and housing placement assistance for persons with mental developmental disabilities.

Cuyahoga Falls Good Neighbors - Provides food, clothing for children and adults, school supplies, and self-care items.

Evant, Inc. - Provides residential services for mentally/physically disabled persons in a group home setting.

Hattie Larlham Foundation - Provides a variety of services for the severely physically/mentally disabled in on-site and off-site facilities.

Hope Homes, Inc. - Provides housing, residential services, supported living services, and day services for persons with developmental disabilities and other special needs.

Keys to Serenity - Provides assistance to children and families impacted by addiction.

Mayflower Manor - Provides subsidized housing for senior citizens (62 years of age and older) and for persons that are physically handicapped or disabled.

Retirement Residence of Green - Provides market rate and subsidized housing options for senior citizens (62 years of age and older).

Riverfront YMCA - Provides adult fitness, wellness programs, swimming, youth and family programming.

Summit DD Board - provides and coordinates essential services for people with developmental disabilities throughout Summit County.

United Disability Services - Provides services for the developmentally and/or physically disabled, including, but not limited to: employment services, vocational training, and social opportunities.

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

Describe the jurisdiction’s need for Public Facilities:

The City of Cuyahoga Falls is rich in public facilities. The Natatorium, Quirk Cultural Center and the Downtown Amphitheater, Pavilion, and Plaza are just a few of the amenities provided to residents of Cuyahoga Falls. At this time, there is not a great need for additional public facilities within the jurisdiction. As in the previous Consolidated Plan, the City of Cuyahoga Falls continues to have a need for storm water and infrastructure improvement including but not limited to, sewer and waterline replacement installation of public art, and ADA modifications to existing facilities and citywide parks.

How were these needs determined?

Needs were determined by using a variety of informational sources, including, but not limited to:

- CHAS Data
- 2021 Census Data
- Surveys posted on the City's website
- Public meetings
- Input from local elected officials and staff from various city departments, including community development, parks and recreation, service, and engineering.

Describe the jurisdiction’s need for Public Improvements:

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, the City found that it was more difficult to use CDBG funding in housing rehabilitation and economic development due to the country-wide shut down and supply chain issues. This meant that the City needed to shift its CDBG programming and pivot its efforts on improving public facilities and or infrastructure. This shift in planning, called attention to areas of need, such as adaptive equipment for playgrounds, ADA electronic doors for better access inside of public buildings, and ADA sidewalk ramps. The City also started working on identifying low-to-moderate income tracts where infrastructure improvements are needed and necessary. The City's CDBG Entitlement Administrator will work in conjunction with the service and engineering departments during the 2024-2028 Consolidated Planning period to assist in public infrastructure improvements were needed and eligible.

How were these needs determined?

Public Improvement needs were determined through in-depth discussions with the service department, engineering, and the parks and recreation department, as well as City Council, the CDBG Loan and Grant Committee, and the monitoring of public comments through social media.

Describe the jurisdiction’s need for Public Services:

Public Services are needed in most jurisdictions throughout the United States. There is always a need to provide food, clothing, personal care items, shelter for the homeless, victims assistance, mature services, fair housing services, literacy programs, senior citizen services, and digital equity and inclusion programs for the underserved.

How were these needs determined?

The needs for public service projects are determined by the applications that the City receives from non-profits within the jurisdictional area. Funded non-profits are able to help those within the jurisdictional area of Cuyahoga Falls.

Housing Market Analysis

MA-05 Overview

Housing Market Analysis Overview:

According to the 2013-2017 ACS data, there are approximately 23,565 residential properties are located within the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction. Of the 23,565 residential properties in the City, nearly 74% (17,531) were built before 1979, and 64% (15,090) of these units are single unit, detached structures.

Most housing units located within the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction are owner-occupied (81%). These units are predominantly (80%) 3 or more-bedroom units. There is a total of 4,717 rental units located within the City of Cuyahoga falls jurisdiction. The majority of these units (47%) have 2 bedrooms.

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

Introduction

According to the 2013-2017 ACS data, there are approximately 23,565 residential properties located within the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction. 64% of these units are single unit, detached structures.

Most housing units located within the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction are owner-occupied (81%). These units are predominantly (80%) 3 or more-bedroom units. There is a total of 8,155 rental units located within the jurisdiction. Many of these units (47%) have 2 bedrooms.

All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	15,090	64%
1-unit, attached structure	1,460	6%
2-4 units	1,865	8%
5-19 units	2,265	10%
20 or more units	2,730	12%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc.	155	1%
Total	23,565	100%

Table 28 – Residential Properties by Unit Number

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

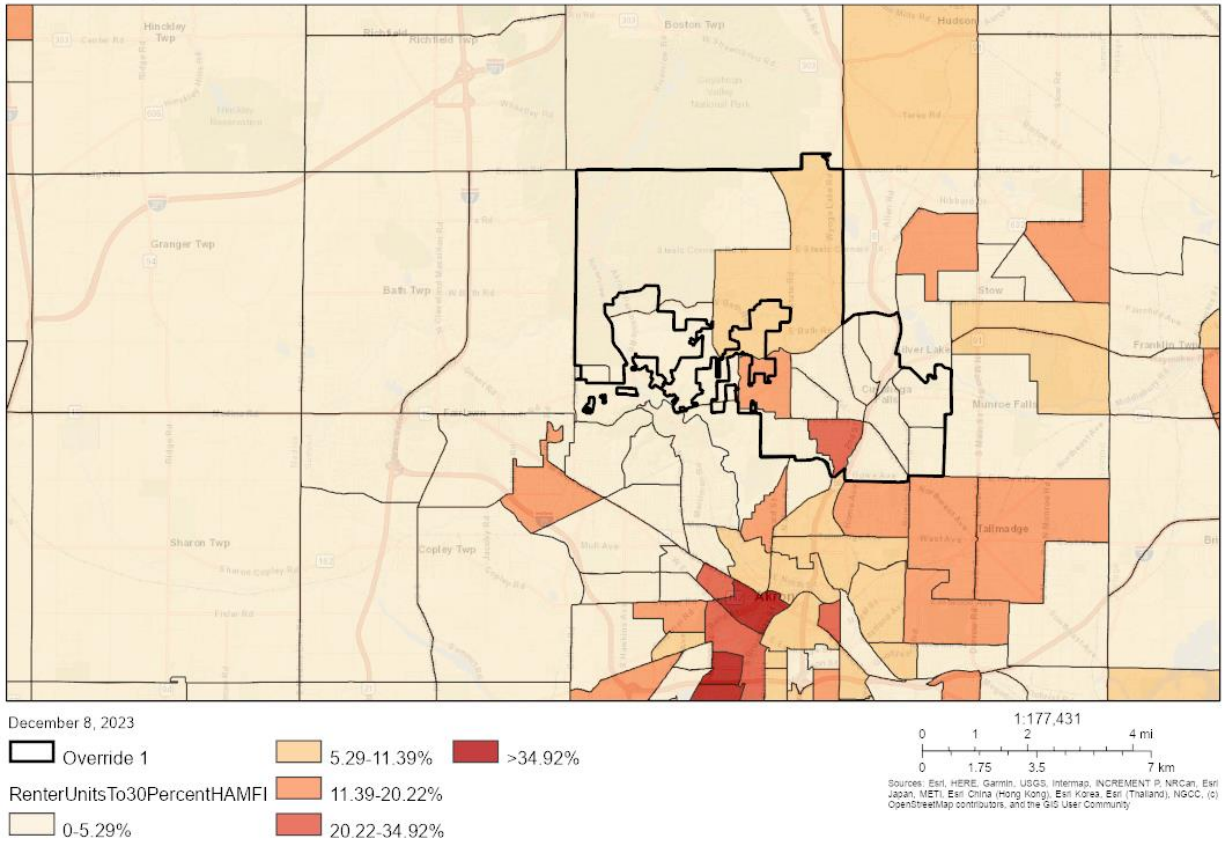
Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	20	0%	345	4%
1 bedroom	135	1%	2,460	30%
2 bedrooms	2,475	18%	3,825	47%
3 or more bedrooms	10,840	80%	1,525	19%
Total	13,470	99%	8,155	100%

Table 29 – Unit Size by Tenure

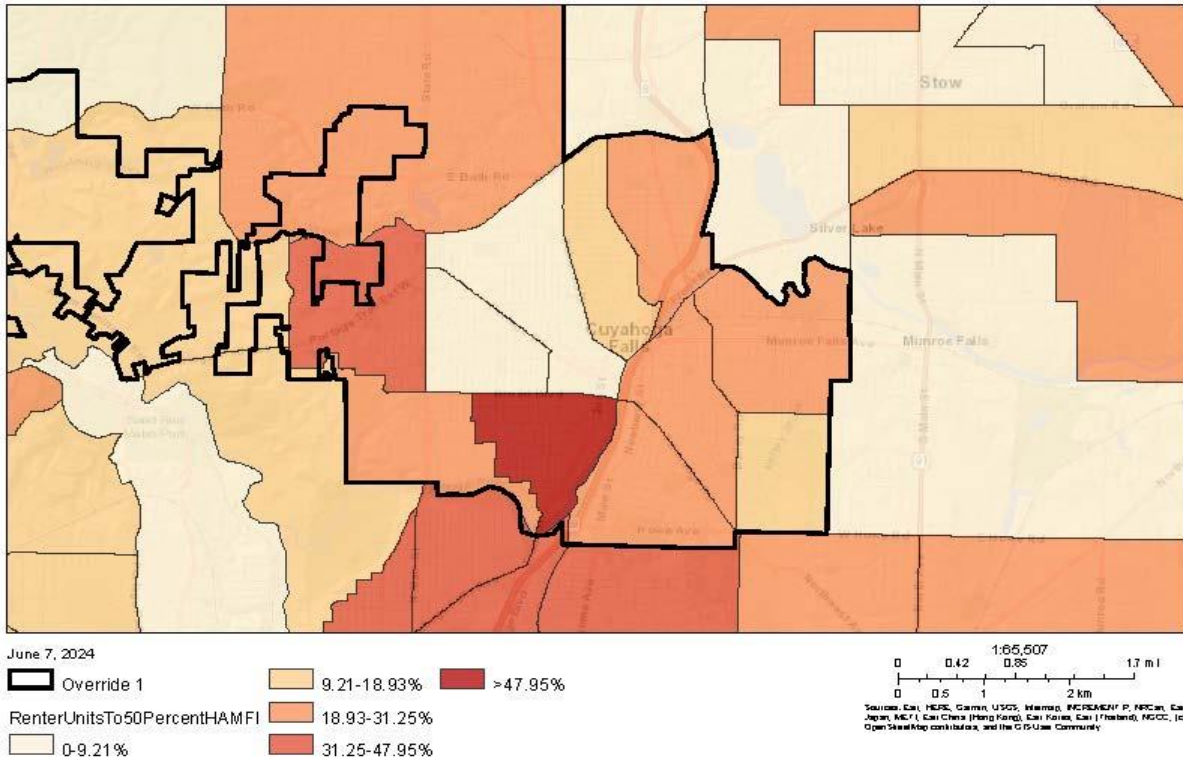
Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

City of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio CPD Maps - Rental Units Affordable to 30% HAMFI



City of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio CPD Maps - Rental Units Affordable to 30% HAMFI

CPD Maps - Renter units affordable to 50% HAMFI - Consolidated Plan



City of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio CPD Maps - Rental Units Affordable to 50% HAMFI

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

Within the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction, there are 382 privately owned, subsidized family units:

- Suncrest Place (Multifamily, 14 units) - 1010 Monroe Ave., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
- Sutliff II Apartments (Multifamily, 184 units) - 1860 2nd St., Cuyahoga falls, Ohio
- State Road Apartments (Multifamily, 72 units) - 2490 State Rd., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
- Portage Trail Village (Multifamily, 112 units) - 45 Cathedral Ln., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

There are 137 privately owned, subsidized units for seniors and/or disabled individuals within the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction:

- Cardinals Peak (Disability, 14 units) - Charles St., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
- Peachtree III (Disability, 6 units) - 4229 Wyoga Lake Rd., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
- Hudson Drive Group Home I (Disability, 4 units) - 3447 Hudson Dr., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
- Hudson Drive Group Home II (Disability, 4 units) - 3457 Hudson Dr., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
- Friendship Terrace (Elderly, 39 units) - 3350 Prange Dr., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
- Leo Dugan Apartments (Elderly, 70 units) - 1300 Kennedy Blvd., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

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

The Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA), is the local public housing authority serving the residents of the Summit County.

The following units located in the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction are scheduled for disposition: 1571 10th Street, 1824 16th Street, 1848 21st Street, 2596 26th Street, 2728 6th Street, 2563 8th Street, 3041 8th Street, 2804 Fairview Place, 501 Francis Avenue, 828 Francis Avenue, 330 Graham Road, 118 Hayes Avenue, 3080 Kilarney Street, 2343 Larchdale Street, 2381 Liberty St, 420 Magnolia Avenue, 230 Marguerite Avenue, 1185 Myrtle Avenue, 1643 Newberry Street, 1740 Oneida Street, 831 Sackett Avenue, 1880 Seattle Street, 2011 Sequoia Street, 2311 Sutton Drive, 1916 Tudor Street, 1918 Victoria Street, 1942 Victoria Street, 2235 Wichert Drive, and 3210 Wilson Street.

AMHA does not anticipate the loss of any Section 8 contracts.

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

The map above indicates that there is a concentrated area of low-income, households that are paying 30%-50% or more of their gross household income for their housing. There are many areas of the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction where householders are paying more than 30% of their gross household income for their housing. This would indicate a need for more affordable housing.

Describe the need for specific types of housing:

The demand for Section 8 Vouchers and Housing Choice Vouchers greatly exceeds the number available. Households spend an average of 68 months on the waiting list to receive a Section 8 Voucher for homes in the City of Cuyahoga Falls.

There are 4,813 total Low-Income Public Housing (LIHP) units in all of Summit County. There are 1221 total Low-Income Public Housing (LIHP) units available in the City of Cuyahoga Falls Jurisdiction. As of January 2024, there are 21,330 applicants on the wait list for individuals and families on AMHA's Public Housing Waiting List.

There are 1,818 senior/disabled total Low-Income Public Housing (LIHP) units in all of Summit County. There are 675 senior/disabled LIHP units available in the City of Cuyahoga Falls. Applicants on the wait list for senior/disabled housing generally wait 12-18 months for housing.

There are 5,400 Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVP) available for clients of the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority. Of these, 11 of the total 76 project-based vouchers are available outside the Cities of Akron, Barberton, and Cuyahoga Falls. An additional 5,030 are tenant-based (portable), of which 192 are available outside the Cities of Akron, Barberton, and Cuyahoga Falls. Of these, 60 are for Veterans, although only 1 of them is utilized in the County of Summit Jurisdiction. There are 4 Housing Choice Vouchers available for the Family Unification program; none of these are in use in the County of Summit jurisdiction. All units are available for the entire County of Summit, which includes the Cities of Akron, Barberton, and Cuyahoga Falls. As of January 2014, there were 19,521 applicants on the wait list: 6,823 for project-based vouchers, and 12,698 for tenant-based vouchers.

Discussion

More than 21,300 individuals and families are on the wait lists for Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA) housing, revealing a great need for more subsidized and affordable housing.

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

Introduction

As documented in the following tables, the 2017 median household income was \$65,700, an increase of \$13,000, or 2.02% than in 2013. As illustrated in the *Fair Market Rents by Unit Bedrooms from 2013 to 2017*, the increase in AMI (2.02%) did not keep pace with the increase in fair market rents (18.6%), depending on number of bedrooms).

Families paying more than 30% of their gross income for housing are considered **cost burdened** and may have difficulty affording necessities such as food, clothing, transportation and medical care. Families paying more than 50% of their gross income for housing are considered **severely cost burdened**. Nationwide, an estimated 12 million renter and homeowner households pay more than 50% of their annual incomes for housing. A family with one full-time worker earning the minimum wage cannot afford the local fair-market rent for a 2-bedroom apartment anywhere in the United States.

Cost Burdened: According to the 2013-2017 ACS, homeowners in Cuyahoga Falls were nearly twice as likely as renters to pay more than 50% of their gross income for housing, and more than twice as likely to pay more than 30% of their gross income for housing.

Housing Problems - In addition, the CHAS data identified 4 housing problems in Cuyahoga Falls. These issues are as follows:

1. Housing unit lacks complete kitchen facilities;
2. Housing unit lacks complete plumbing facilities;
3. Household is overcrowded; and
4. Household is cost burdened.

A household is said to have a housing problem if they have 1 or more of any of these 4 identified problems. As illustrated in the following tables, City of Cuyahoga Falls renters are two and a half times more likely than homeowners to have substandard housing, twice as likely to experience severe overcrowding, and twice as likely to experience overcrowding.

Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2017	% Change
Median Home Value	128,200	121,700	(5%)
Median Contract Rent	598	704	18%

Table 30 – Cost of Housing

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2013-2017 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than \$500	1,365	16.7%
\$500-999	5,965	73.1%
\$1,000-1,499	610	7.5%
\$1,500-1,999	30	0.4%
\$2,000 or more	199	2.4%
Total	8,169	100.1%

Table 31 - Rent Paid

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

Housing Affordability

Number of Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	585	No Data
50% HAMFI	1,820	1,300
80% HAMFI	4,775	3,745
100% HAMFI	No Data	5,435
Total	7,180	10,480

Table 32 – Housing Affordability

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

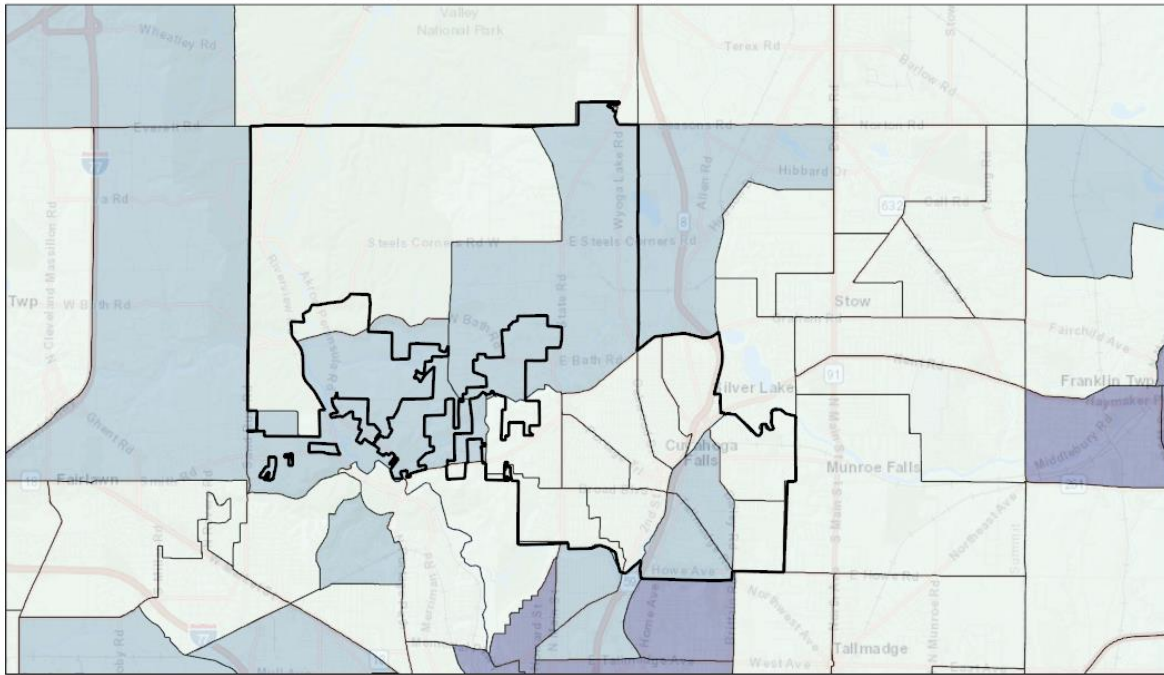
Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent (\$)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	516	594	790	1,016	1,089
High HOME Rent	516	594	790	1,016	1,089
Low HOME Rent	516	594	753	870	971

Table 33 – Monthly Rent

Data Source Comments: Data pulled from hud.gov

City of Cuyahoga Falls Ohio CPD Maps - Housing Cost Burden



December 20, 2023

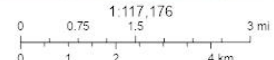
Override 1

HousingCostBurden

0-29.28% Paying>30%

29.28-38.78% Paying>30%

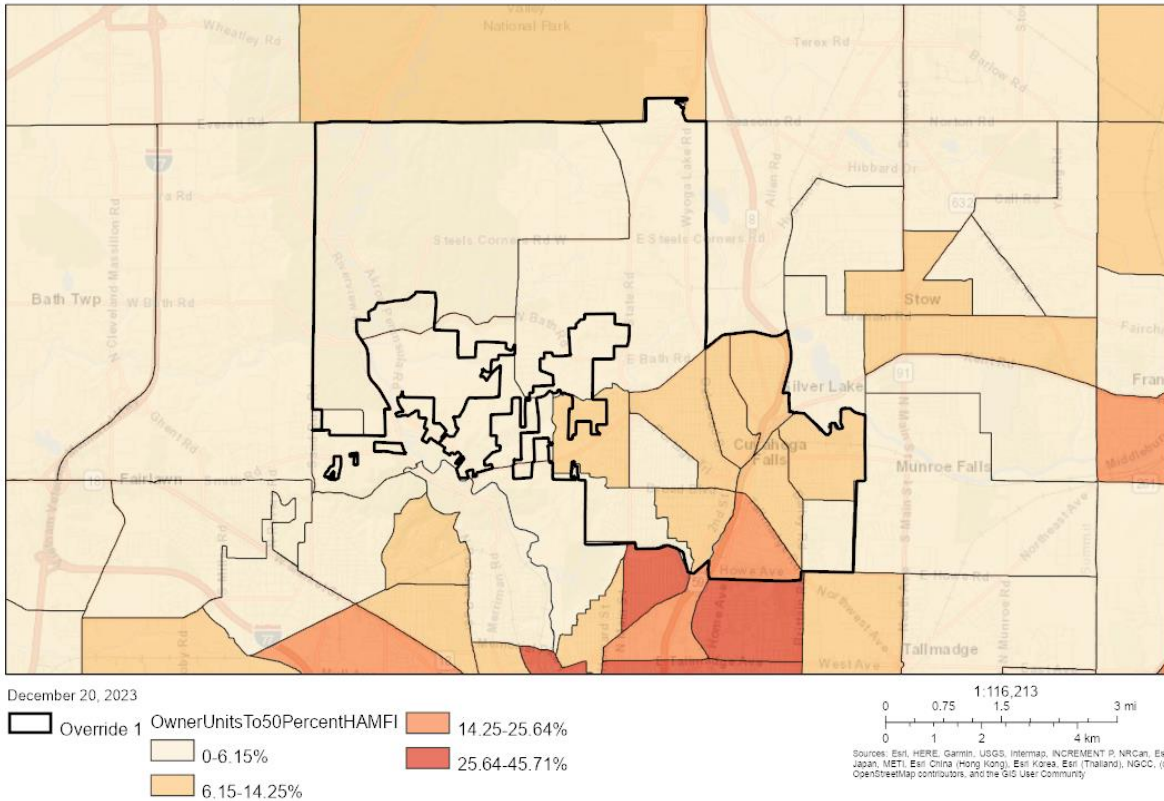
38.78-47.69% Paying>30%



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NOAA, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Housing Cost Burden Map

City of Cuyahoga Falls Ohio CPD Maps - Owner units affordable to 50% HAMFI



Owner Units Affordable to 50% HAMFI

Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

As illustrated by the *Housing Cost Burden* map, 78% of residents of the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction are paying more than 30% of their household income for housing. The greatest need is for affordable housing for the extremely low- and low-income homeowners and renters. As is evident in the *Owner units affordable to 50% HAMFI* map, fewer than 15% of owner units are affordable to low-income homeowners in more than half of the jurisdiction.

The lengthy wait lists and wait times (see section NA-35 Public Housing) document a great need for affordable housing for the extremely low- and low-income residents of the jurisdiction.

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

According to Summit County Fiscal Office, property values in Summit County rose by historic amounts after the Ohio Department of Taxation ordered a 34% increase countywide. Homeowners pay property taxes on the assessed value, which is 35% of the appraised value. Per Ohio law, the county auditor or fiscal officer is tasked with setting the market value of properties every six years, which was done in 2020 for Summit County, with an update every three years. The sexennial reappraisal is more

comprehensive, while the triennial update relies entirely on home sales data. After the COVID-19 pandemic, market demand and low housing supply caused the perfect storm which led to property values escalating at an unprecedented rate. Rents also saw a dramatic climb as limited housing supply, inflation, increased property values and taxes caused landlords to pass on the higher costs to tenants through increased rents.

Realtor.com states that the median number of days for a home to be on the market in Cuyahoga Falls is 26 days. In addition, these homes are selling above the initial asking price. According to this data, the median asking price for a home in Cuyahoga Falls is \$209,900 and the actual median sold price is identified as \$214,000.

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

According to the 2023 National Low-Income Housing Coalition:

In the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction, the Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a 2-bedroom apartment is \$1,130. In order to afford this level of rent and utilities without paying more than 30% of gross income on housing a household must earn \$3,308 gross income monthly or \$39,702 gross income annually. Assuming a 40-hour work week, 52 weeks per year, this level of income translates into an hourly wage of \$19.09.

In 2023, a minimum wage worker earned an hourly wage of \$10.10. In order to afford the FMR for a two-bedroom apartment, a minimum wage earner must work 76 hours per week, 52 weeks per year. Or a household must include 2 minimum wage earners working 40 hours per week year-round in order to make the 2-bedroom FMR affordable.

State-wide, the estimated mean (average) wage for a renter is \$18.47. In order to afford the FMR for a 2-bedroom apartment at this wage, a renter must work 76 hours per week, 52 weeks per year. Or, working 40 hours per week 52 weeks per year, a household must include 1.9 workers earning the mean wage renter in order to make the 2-bedroom FMR affordable.

Per the 2023 National Low-Income Housing Coalition, State of Ohio report, the City of Cuyahoga Falls, as part of the Akron MSA is the 4th most expensive areas in the State of Ohio to live requiring a \$21.73 per hour 2-bedroom housing wage.

The City of Cuyahoga Falls, Department of Community Development does not produce affordable rental units at this time.

Discussion

In the Akron, Ohio Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), 2023 Fair Market Rent (FMR) prices are high compared to the national average. This FMR area is more expensive than 76% of other FMR areas.

Specifically, the Fair Market Rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Akron is \$1,027 per month. The hourly wage needed to afford a safe, modest 2-bedroom apartment in Cuyahoga Falls is approximately \$19.68/hour, which is higher than both the Ohio minimum wage and the Federal minimum wage.

Zillow reports that the 2024 median rent for a 2-bedroom unit in Cuyahoga Falls as \$1,200, which is \$173 more than similar units in the City of Akron. Therefore, utilizing the 30% rule utilized to project rent affordability, a minimum wage earner would need to make \$25 an hour at 40 hours per week in order to afford a 2-bedroom unit in Cuyahoga Falls.

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

Introduction

The charts below outline the existing housing units within the City of Cuyahoga Falls. The first chart outlines the condition of units based on the number of units and percentage of units that are owner occupied versus the number of units and percentage of units that are renter-occupied. The second chart shows the number of units and percentage of owner-occupied units versus the number of renter-occupied units and percentage of renter-occupied units and year in which the units were built. The third chart shows the number of owner-occupied and renter-occupied units built prior to 1980 as well as the owner-occupied units and renter-occupied units built prior to 1980 with children.

Definitions

A unit in substandard condition would be one that has too many safety and health concerns to address with the smaller amount of CDBG funds allocated per housing unit. A unit in substandard condition, but suitable for rehabilitation would be a unit that we would be able to address safety and health concerns with the CDBG allocated funds.

Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	2,265	17%	2,850	35%
With two selected Conditions	0	0%	35	0%
With three selected Conditions	0	0%	60	1%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	11,205	83%	5,215	64%
Total	13,470	100%	8,160	100%

Table 34 - Condition of Units

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	890	7%	680	8%
1980-1999	1,795	13%	2,365	29%
1950-1979	6,030	45%	3,945	48%
Before 1950	4,750	35%	1,170	14%
Total	13,465	100%	8,160	99%

Table 35 – Year Unit Built

Data Source: 2013-2017 CHAS

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	10,780	80%	5,115	63%
Housing Units build before 1980 with children present	769	6%	315	4%

Table 36 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS (Total Units) 2013-2017 CHAS (Units with Children present)

Vacant Units

	Suitable for Rehabilitation	Not Suitable for Rehabilitation	Total
Vacant Units	0	0	0
Abandoned Vacant Units	0	0	0
REO Properties	0	0	0
Abandoned REO Properties	0	0	0

Table 37 - Vacant Units

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation

In the City of Cuyahoga Falls, there is a need for minor housing rehabilitation to address safety and sanitary living conditions and blight. This assists the City in maintaining a desirable housing stock. The median age of homes in the City of Cuyahoga Falls is approximately 37.8 years. The City uses CDBG funding to support owner-occupied minor housing rehabilitation of up to \$30,000 per home. Funds are utilized for items such as roof and window replacement, HVAC, plumbing, and electrical upgrades, and to address necessary ADA modifications such as grab rails, wheelchair ramp installation, replacement of uneven flooring, and ADA compatible shower units. The City does not conduct rental rehabilitation through its CDBG programming.

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

Based on the data above, around 10,780 low-to-moderate income households are living in units with Lead Based Paint (LBP) hazards. The City refers homes with children under the age of 6 to the County to leverage their CDBG funding with their lead hazard reduction, home weatherization, and healthy home funds.

Discussion

CDBG funds, used for minor home rehabilitation of single-family units for qualifying households. As previously mentioned, the City leverages its CDBG funds with the County's lead hazard reduction grant, home weatherization, and healthy homes grant.

Individuals living in homes with LBP hazards may be eligible to receive a forgivable loan with a maximum amount of \$12,902.71 from the Summit County Public Health District. Individuals who receive assistance from the Summit County Public Health District may also be eligible to receive up to \$6,955.24 in Healthy Homes assistance. To be eligible, the homeowner must have a child living in the home under the age of 6 or have a child visiting the home more than 6 hours a week or 62 hours a year.

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

Introduction

The AMHA is the only public housing authority located within Summit County. The majority of AMHA units are located in the Cities of Akron, Barberton, and Cuyahoga Falls. There are 427 units located in the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction.

Totals Number of Units

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers					
				Total	Project -based	Tenant -based	Special Purpose Voucher		
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers available	0	8	4,285	4,975	204	4,771	229	45	0
# of accessible units									
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition									

Table 38 – Total Number of Units by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Describe the supply of public housing developments:

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

The AMHA administers both a public housing and section 8 HVP. The housing authority has ownership interest in 32 developments and manages 31 projects which contain 4,321 affordable rental units. It also administers 5,370 section 8 housing vouchers.

According to HUD, AMHA is determined to be a large public housing authority, meaning it manages between 1,250 - 9,999 public housing units. Also, according to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the housing authority is designated as large, meaning it administers 1,250 - 9,999 Section 8 vouchers.

Comparing the housing assistance distribution of AMHA between Public Housing Units (46%) and Section 8 Housing Vouchers (54%) to that of all housing authorities in Ohio, AMHA has a larger proportion of public housing units than the average housing authority. The housing authority's proportion of Section 8 vouchers under management is larger than the average housing authority in Ohio.

Each year HUD reviews and scores the housing authority's Section 8 program management based on 14 different criteria. This score is a reflection of how well the housing authority manages the Section 8 wait list, the physical quality of housing assisted with Section 8 and the financial management of the program.

According to their 2024 PHA Five Year and Annual Action Plan, AMHA scored an average of 100% on the Section 8 Management Assessment Program (SEMAP), qualifying them as a high performer. The average SEMAP Score for Housing Authorities in Ohio was 82.91%. Their PHAS (Public Housing Assessment System) score of 95% also qualifies them as a high performer.

AMHA has an average score that is more than the average Ohio housing authority. Higher SEMAP scores indicate more effective financial management, a smoother waiting list process and higher quality physical conditions at assisted properties (affordablehousingonline.com).

AMHA provides Section 8, public housing, and Housing Choice Vouchers for residents of the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction, with 427 of their public housing units located within the boundaries of the jurisdiction; Ray C. Sutliff Towers, the 185 senior high-rise property, Lobello Lane Apartments, an 12-unit family housing property, Honey Locust Apartments, a 125-unit family housing property, and Maplewood Gardens, a 105-unit family housing property.

Public Housing Condition

Public Housing Development	Average Inspection Score
Ray C. Sutliff Tower Apartments	99
Honey Locust Apartments	94
Maplewood Gardens Apartments	95

Table 39 - Public Housing Condition

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

AMHA has identified the following restoration and revitalization needs for units located within the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction:

- Interior renovations, plumbing/fixtures, electrical/fixtures, kitchen/bath cabinets, counter tops, vanities, tubs/sower surrounds, interior doors, entrance doors, flooring, drywall, paint, along with the exterior roof and entrance doors at Ray C. Sutliff Towers.
- Interior renovations, plumbing/fixtures, electrical/fixtures, kitchen/bath cabinets, counter tops, vanities, tubs/shower surrounds, interior doors, entrance doors, flooring, drywall, and paint at Honey Locust Garden Apartments.
- Site improvements, retaining walls, site concrete repair/replacement, asphalt repairs/replacement stripe, seal, site drainage, site lighting, sewer/water lines, landscaping, tree removal, trash enclosures, sanitary pump house at Maplewood Gardens Apartments.
- Interior and exterior unit/building renovations, plumbing, electrical, flooring, drywall, paint, bath/kitchen cabinets, counter tops, tubs/showers, HVAC upgrades, hot water tanks, windows, doors, siding, roofs, gutters/downspouts, soffit, and lighting at Maplewood Garden Apartments.

AMHA has not identified restoration and/or revitalization needs for Lobello Lane Apartments, located within the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction in their 2024-2028 5-year plan.

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

AMHA identified the following steps to improving the living environment of low-to-moderate income families residing in public housing in their 2021-2025 Strategic Plan.

AMHA envisions a moving to work program (MTW) that meaningfully increases local affordable housing choices, reduces administrative burdens and ultimately enhances the quality of housing and services, empowering all to reach their full potential.

- Cost effectiveness: Rent reform as a way to achieve greater efficiency and remove administrative barriers, thereby producing cost savings to implement innovative quality of life and mobility programs.
- Self-sufficiency: Programs and partnerships that increase access to health, education and employment opportunities so participants can position themselves out of poverty.
- Housing choice: Investments in Summit County to preserve and improve affordable housing units, increase housing opportunities and choices for participants, and stabilize families and neighborhoods.

Discussion:

AMHA's goal is to preserve affordable housing as well as increasing the number of affordable housing units available county-wide. According to AMHA's 2022 annual report, over \$4.5 million was expended on capital improvements to various units and properties throughout AMHA's portfolio. In 2022, AMHA had 14 properties inspected using the Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) protocol and 2 properties inspected using the National Standards for the Physical Inspection of Real Estate (NSPIRE) demonstration protocol. The average score for the inspected housing was 91 percent.

AMHA's partnership with landlords allowed them to assist 796 families to obtain housing in the private market. AMHA issued housing choice vouchers to low-income, homeless and disabled families as well as youth aging out of foster care and veterans. The number of landlords in AMHA's HCVP grew with units under lease in Akron, Barberton, Cuyahoga Falls, Fairlawn, Hudson, Lakemore, Macedonia, Mogadore, Munroe Falls, New Franklin, Northfield, Norton, Peninsula, Richfield, Stow, Tallmadge, Twinsburg, and Uniontown.

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

Introduction

For the most part, the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction relies on the services provided by facilities for the homeless that are located outside of the jurisdiction. Most services provided by facilities for the homeless are concentrated in the City of Akron.

The following table is a summary of all available beds reported by the Akron, Barberton/Summit County Continuum of Care in program year 2023:

Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

	Emergency Shelter Beds		Transitional Housing Beds	Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	
	Year-Round Beds (Current & New)	Voucher / Seasonal / Overflow Beds	Current & New	Current & New	Under Development
Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	117	0	31	499	0
Households with Only Adults	154	22	195	601	0
Chronically Homeless Households	0	0	0	358	0
Veterans	0	12	20	147	0
Unaccompanied Youth	13	0	23	34	0

Table 40 - Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

Data Source Comments:

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

In addition to shelter, an array of services is available at no or very low cost:

- Open M provides a free medical clinic;
- AccessPointe Community Health Center provides low cost medical and dental care with proof of indigence;
- The Akron Community Based Outpatient Clinic, provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, provides free or low cost medical or dental care for military veterans and their immediate families;
- The Community Health Center offers free services and/or a sliding fee scale to clients with a primary diagnosis of mental health or substance abuse;
- The University of Akron Nursing School offers free medical care through their Mary Gladwin Clinic;
- The Barberton Community Health Clinic offers free medical care, and
- The Alphonso Turner Homeless Outreach Center has a lobby with comfortable seating, showers, laundry facilities and a telephone for homeless individuals to use, and they offer support to those who are homeless and likely in need of mental health services.

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

- Harvest Home is a shelter specifically for single women and women with children. It aims to provide Christian-centered services and programs that address immediate physical and spiritual needs. The shelter opened in 1979 to respond to the growing need for emergency housing for women and children in crisis situations. It can accommodate up to 59 women and children.
- ACCESS focuses on addressing the plight of homeless women and children in the community. It opens its doors to any woman who finds herself homeless, provided she is not physically battered, alcohol or drug-dependent, and is reality-oriented and 18 years or older.
- Community Support Services Homeless Outreach center provides supportive services for individuals experiencing homelessness. It offers shower and laundry facilities, along with comfortable seating. The center is located at 111 E. Voris St. in Akron, alongside the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program.
- United Way of Summit and Medina connects homeless individuals to programs within the community. The United way 211 service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Shelters, food pantries, substance abuse assistance, mental health care, clothing, legal, and tax issues are just some of the services categories that 211 support offers homeless individuals.
- Commons at Madaline Park offers 120 accessible one-bedroom units with full bathrooms and kitchens. Services include case management, peer support, psychiatry, and counseling.

- Stoney Pointe Commons provides 103 one-bedroom units, with 51% dedicated to individuals experiencing chronic homelessness and individuals suffering from debilitating mental health disorders. Each 600 sq. ft. apartment features contemporary design, radiant floor heating, and polished concrete floors. Amenities include 24-hour front desk staff, social services, a computer lab, training kitchen, community pantry, on-site laundry, and enclosed bike storage.

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

Introduction

Persons with special needs, including those who are elderly, homeless and/or who have a mental illness, substance abuse problem or physical disability, typically need specially designed housing and services. This section profiles the needs that exist in the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction for non-homeless persons with special needs, and the projects that the City of Cuyahoga Falls, Community Development Department plans to undertake to address them.

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

Elderly - the elderly and frail elderly may need assistance to "age in place" or remain in their homes, rather than in an assisted living facility. These residents may need ADA accessibility features, such as ramps, grab bars, and nonskid flooring to remain in their homes. They may also need housekeeping, lawn maintenance, and shopping assistance, as well as nutrition and meal preparation. Because many are on a fixed income, they may need financial assistance to pay for food, medicine, medical costs, utilities, or rent.

Disabled - the services required by a disabled individual will vary by disability:

- Wheelchair users may need: Gates which are easy to open and close, with catches that are easy to reach and operate, additional space on parking spaces to transfer from their car to their chair, Accessible toilets, handrails at appropriate heights with views unrestricted by handrails or walls, surfaces which are firm, level and nonslip, and space to turn corners.
- People with Walking Difficulties or Dexterity/Balance Problems may need: level even surfaces on paths, steps with handrails and even treads and risers, minimum gaps in the path surface, and minimum gradients along and across paths.
- Visually Impaired People may need: clear edges to paths, even and clearly marked steps, warning of hazards at head height, even path surfaces, and easy to use catches on gates.
- People with hearing impairment will need smoke detectors and alarms with flashing lights.

Chronic Substance Abusers - in addition to rehabilitation, they may need housing in a group home setting with supportive services, such as counseling, job training, and life skills training.

HIV / AIDS - these individuals may need counseling, or they may need financial assistance for housing, food, utilities, and medical care.

Veterans - in particular homeless veterans and their families, may need housing assistance, including utility assistance, job training, mental health counseling, drug or alcohol counseling, and assistance finding employment.

Victims of Domestic Violence - these individuals may need housing assistance, counseling, job training, childcare, and medical assistance.

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

The City of Cuyahoga Falls does not oversee any post release programs. Through staff participation in the CoC, they participate in the creation of policies and procedures to address the needs of these individuals.

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

The City of Cuyahoga Falls will continue to support minor housing rehabilitation including accessibility upgrades, mature services programs, literacy programs, digital equity and inclusion programs, food pantry programs, STEM learning programs, and the Senior Snow removal program for residents who are not homeless but have other special needs.

For entitlement/consortia grantees: Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. (91.220(2))

The City of Cuyahoga Falls addresses the housing and supportive services needs for persons who are not homeless but have other special needs through funding provided to:

- Minor home rehabilitation of single-family, owner-occupied units.
- Assist senior citizens with the challenges associated with wanting to remain in their own home as they age.
- Literacy programs designed for both adults and children.
- Digital equity and improvement projects that may arise.
- Food pantry, school supply, and self-care items.
- STEM learning programs supporting children in low-to-moderate income areas.
- Senior and disabled residents for snow removal, allowing them to safely get to appointments or receive care through visiting organizations.

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

Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment

Barriers to affordable housing exist in every community. While some of these barriers can be addressed through legislative or procedural changes, others are very difficult to alter because they are the result of societal, financial, and/or market conditions.

Analysis shows the following barriers to affordable housing exist in the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction:

- Limited supply of affordable single-family housing units that make it difficult for low-to-moderate income first-time home buyers to make the transition from renting to homeownership.
- The average price for houses in the City of Cuyahoga Falls, frequently exceeds the affordability level of many low-to-moderate income households.
- Housing rehabilitation is often costly, making it difficult for low-to-moderate income households to afford necessary repairs.
- Provisions within existing local zoning codes that tend to favor conventional site design rather than cluster or planned residential developments, and that require separation of housing types which can hinder the development of mixed-use housing. Additionally, provisions that stipulate minimum lot sizes make the development of smaller, more affordable housing difficult.
- Well and Septic Regulations that require minimum lot sizes, as determined by the local health department or EPA, when public utilities are not available.
- Resistance to the development of affordable housing, particularly affordable housing developments. This is frequently labeled as NIMBYism (Not in My Back Yard), and has been the subject of fair housing law for years.
- Cost prohibitive local ordinances for storm water systems, sidewalks, and landscaping that often add unnecessary costs to affordable housing development projects.

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

Introduction

According to 24 CFR 91.215 (f), if the jurisdiction seeks assistance under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, the Consolidated Plan must provide a concise summary of the Jurisdiction's priority non-housing community development needs eligible for assistance under HUD's community development programs by CDBG eligibility category, in accordance with a table prescribed by HUD. This community development component of the plan must state the Jurisdiction's specific long-term and short-term community development objectives (including economic development activities that create jobs), which must be developed in accordance with the primary objective of the CDBG program to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for low-income and moderate-income persons.

The City of Cuyahoga Falls has placed a high importance on economic development projects in its CDBG program. The City has a revolving loan fund, using CDBG dollars in conjunction with private investment, in order to support those businesses looking to create or retain jobs for low-to moderate-income persons in the City of Cuyahoga Falls.

Economic Development Market Analysis

Business Activity

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	45	0	0	0	0
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	2,665	3,132	13	17	4
Construction	802	309	4	2	-2
Education and Health Care Services	4,389	4,258	21	23	2
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	1,305	641	6	4	-2
Information	352	124	2	1	-1
Manufacturing	3,004	3,333	14	18	4
Other Services	808	714	4	4	0
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	2,545	1,598	12	9	-3

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Public Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	2,777	3,526	13	19	6
Transportation and Warehousing	720	102	3	1	-2
Wholesale Trade	1,377	439	7	2	-5
Total	20,789	18,176	--	--	--

Table 41 - Business Activity

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS (Workers), 2017 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (Jobs)

Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	27,160
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	25,960
Unemployment Rate	4.34
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	14.73
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	3.00

Table 42 - Labor Force

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	6,405
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	1,125
Service	2,500
Sales and office	7,290
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	1,868
Production, transportation and material moving	1,505

Table 43 – Occupations by Sector

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	18,495	75%
30-59 Minutes	5,160	21%
60 or More Minutes	965	4%
Total	24,620	100%

Table 44 - Travel Time

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

Education:

Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	600	90	445

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	5,515	275	1,780
Some college or Associate's degree	6,985	310	1,550
Bachelor's degree or higher	8,685	155	1,035

Table 45 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	0	19	90	105	330
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	365	200	290	435	625
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	1,410	1,415	1,435	4,725	3,260
Some college, no degree	885	1,615	1,370	2,790	1,680
Associate's degree	275	850	875	1,360	435
Bachelor's degree	565	2,540	1,720	2,595	970
Graduate or professional degree	115	1,195	715	1,120	645

Table 46 - Educational Attainment by Age

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	16,025
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	31,050
Some college or Associate's degree	34,385
Bachelor's degree	45,710
Graduate or professional degree	52,270

Table 47 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Data Source: 2013-2017 ACS

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

Education and health care services, and manufacturing are the major employment sectors within the Cuyahoga Falls Jurisdiction. The City of Cuyahoga Falls is located near four (4) healthcare systems, Akron

Children's Hospital, Summa Health Systems, Akron General/Cleveland Clinic which are primarily located in the City of Akron, and Western Reserve Hospital which is located in the City of Cuyahoga Falls.

The Cuyahoga Falls manufacturing industry ranges from building products for residential and commercial remodeling and new construction to pneumatic and precision tools. According to the 2013-2017 ACS, the manufacturing industry in Cuyahoga Falls employed 3,004 employees.

Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:

The workforce infrastructure needs of the business community in Cuyahoga Falls are crucial for the city's growth and prosperity. Here are some key considerations:

1. **Job Training and Skill Development:** Businesses require a skilled workforce to thrive. Investing in job training programs that equip individuals with relevant skills is essential.
2. **Access to Supportive Services:** Workers need access to services like childcare and transportation assistance to ensure they can participate in training and employment opportunities.
3. **The workforce should reflect the community's diversity.** Initiatives that promote equity and inclusion are essential. Programs targeting underserved populations, including women, people of color, immigrants, and returning citizens, can bridge gaps and create a more inclusive workforce. In 2023, the City of Cuyahoga Falls launched a welcoming workforce coalition. The goal of this coalition was to engage c-suite level employers within the City to better understand the needs and cultural differences of our international newcomer population. This coalition was the first of its kind in Summit County, Ohio and ended up catching the attention of Harvard University. Beginning in 2024, the City will begin working with the University of Harvard Next Level Lab to assist both our large and small employers with the necessary training to onboard and retain international newcomer talent-whether it be those who have sought refugee status, immigrated, or are here on international student visas.
4. **Digital Literacy:** As technology evolves, workers need digital literacy skills. Investing in training providers to enhance residents' digital capabilities is crucial.
5. **Collaboration with Businesses:** Local governments should engage with businesses to understand their specific needs. The City currently conducts business retention visitations, targeting an average of 4 businesses per month.
6. **Federal Funding Advocacy:** While local efforts are essential, advocating for Federal workforce development funding remains critical. The City continues to collaborate with surrounding municipalities, County of Summit, non-profit entities, and State and Federal elected officials to formulate plans its workforce needs and demands.

In summary, the City of Cuyahoga Falls can enhance its workforce infrastructure by focusing on training, supportive services, diversity, digital literacy, and collaboration with businesses. By doing so, the city can retain and continue to build economic growth and community well-being.

Describe any major changes that may have an economic impact, such as planned local or regional public or private sector investments or initiatives that have affected or may affect job and business growth opportunities during the planning period. Describe any needs for workforce development, business support or infrastructure these changes may create.

in 2018, Mayor Walters announced the reopening of Front Street, in downtown Cuyahoga Falls. The Mayor said in hindsight, the pedestrian mall planners overlooked the traffic benefits for businesses in the middle of a transportation hub. Retail establishments demand visibility and accessibility to succeed. The City of Cuyahoga Falls, Community Development Department has worked with small business owners on Front Street to maintain and update buildings, create excitement with a variety of activities, restaurants and stores, and to create and retain jobs.

The City of Cuyahoga Falls is focusing on additional areas of the City. South State Road, and the Bailey Road/Northmoreland areas will soon have new master plans to assist the City in navigating the necessary streetscape improvements of this area. The City is also working on creating a new industrial section of the City by making necessary infrastructure improvements to Cochran Road that local businesses need in order to utilize this area for relocation and/or expansion. Lastly, the City is currently in the process of adopting a new section of its General Development Code to regulate environmentally friendly development in the Merriman Valley-Schumacher area that borders the Cuyahoga Valley National Park.

Employers who receive CDBG funding are encouraged to seek employees through OhioMeansJobs when creating full-time jobs for low-to-moderate income individuals. OhioMeansJobs provides a one-stop resource center that offers a path to economic independence for job seekers. OhioMeansJobs addresses diverse needs by providing services such as job search assistance, resume writing, interview preparation, and digital skills training. Lastly, the center aims to help individuals find and retain employment, leading to self-sufficiency and family stability.

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

Nationwide, skilled trade education is on the rise. The demand for skilled trade jobs is high and the supply to fill them is low. Students are slowly changing from 4-year schools to trade schools to avoid the high cost of 4-year college. The average skilled trade job paces ahead of the U.S. median wage. An analysis by Georgetown University reported that electrical and power transmission installers could earn entry-level salaries greater than \$80,000, which can pace ahead of some graduates from Ivy League schools.

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

The City is currently working with Harvard University's Next Level Lab to provide free workforce training to its employers regarding attracting and retaining international newcomer talent. In addition, Ohio Means Jobs Summit County currently serves as the workforce training hub for Summit County, and supports the following programs:

Income, Education & Workforce Development (IEWD) - a Summit 2020 Committee (reports up through the Social Services Advisory Board) charged with providing employers a competitive and productive workforce. The committee works to improve the readiness of current and future employees of Summit County, as well as, increasing employers' understanding of recruitment and retention initiatives. It has created and annually updates a Job Seekers Resource Guide and a Career Mapping Guide, as well as, an Employers Services Guide. Summit 2020 is working on a soft-skills certification pilot project for County Executive Russ Pry.

Able-bodied adults receiving OWF assistance are required to participate in a work activity. Ohio Means Jobs/Summit County staff evaluates clients and assigns them to various approved institutions for training and education or classes at the Summit County Center. These assignments aid the client in becoming self-sufficient before their 3-year limit for OWF assistance expires.

Summit County Occupational Preparation Experience (SCOPE) is a supervised assignment for work-required clients that carry out light work projects such as piece work or assembly. This environment is intended to teach clients soft skills, including proper dress, timeliness and effective communication.

Workforce Experience Program (WEP) enables clients to develop work skills that enhance their ability for gainful employment. These training assignments include internships such as volunteer work, hands-on training in a specific skill and placement in an organization.

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

Yes

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

In 1978, NEFCO was designated as an Economic Development District (EDD) by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) for Portage, Stark, Summit, and Wayne Counties. Preparation and maintenance of the CEDS maintains NEFCO's status as an EDA-designated EDD and the regions eligibility for EDA grant funding. This designation gives member communities ongoing eligibility for economic assistance programs through the EDA. When projects arise, the City submits projects to NEFCO to be placed on the CEDS for potential EDA funding.

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is a locally based, regionally driven economic development planning process and document, which identifies regional strengths and weaknesses and promotes collaboration among a diverse set of partners to generate regional prosperity and resiliency. A robust and inclusive CEDS planning process can help a region maximize its economic development potential by promoting cooperative and innovative solutions to achieving regional goals and objectives. The CEDS Plan inspires local community leaders to partner with economic development organizations, funding agencies, and the private sector on infrastructure and other projects to create jobs and stimulate investment.

Discussion

The City of Cuyahoga Falls encourages employers funded with CDBG dollars, to post available jobs through Ohio Means Jobs of Summit County which supports job training for low to moderate income individuals in the area. Cuyahoga Falls also recommends Akron Score workshops to individuals who have a small business or are seeking to start their own businesses using CDBG funds. Akron Score workshops provide training in writing business plans, marketing techniques and the fundamentals of financial management.

MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

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

Concentrated poverty is defined as the clustering of the residential locations of people with incomes below the relevant poverty threshold. A census tract with 20% poor residents involves a relatively high concentration of poverty; 40% poor is a very high concentration. According to HUD 2023 CPD Maps on the following pages, show areas where households with multiple housing problems, appear to be concentrated in the lower income census tracts. The CPD Map for Cuyahoga Falls - indicates that there are currently no wards higher than 9.21-17.64% poverty rate in Cuyahoga Falls.

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

The attached CPD Map indicates that of the 3 AMHA low income housing complexes located in Cuyahoga Falls, Honey Locust & Maplewood Gardens have a higher concentration of minority populations.

According to HUD, an area of racial or ethnic concentration (also called a "minority impacted area") is defined as where the percentage of persons in a particular race or ethnic group is a least 20 percentage points higher than the percentage of persons in the category for the city as a whole. According to the 2010 Census, it is apparent that the higher concentration of Black/African American residents tends to be located in the northern sections of the City where the public housing complexes are located.

In addition, the City has a growing international newcomer population developing on the east side of the Cuyahoga River. A large number of Bhutanese and Nepalese families have purchased homes along the Bailey and Munroe Falls Avenue corridor.

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

The market characteristics in these two areas generally include higher minority populations and lower income households. Development of the northern part of the City has increased new housing choice. However, the housing stock on the eastern side of the City are among the oldest homes. These older homes face challenges due to their age, such as deteriorating infrastructure, outdated designs, and maintenance issues. As a result, they are often in need of rehabilitation to improve their livability and address safety concerns.

Cuyahoga Falls school district is currently building a new high school for grades 6 through 12. According to Education Week, a study done by Yale University showed that School facility investments lead to modest, gradual improvements in student test scores, large immediate improvements in student attendance, and significant improvements in student effort.

Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?

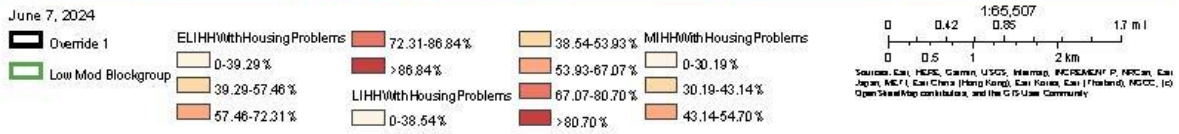
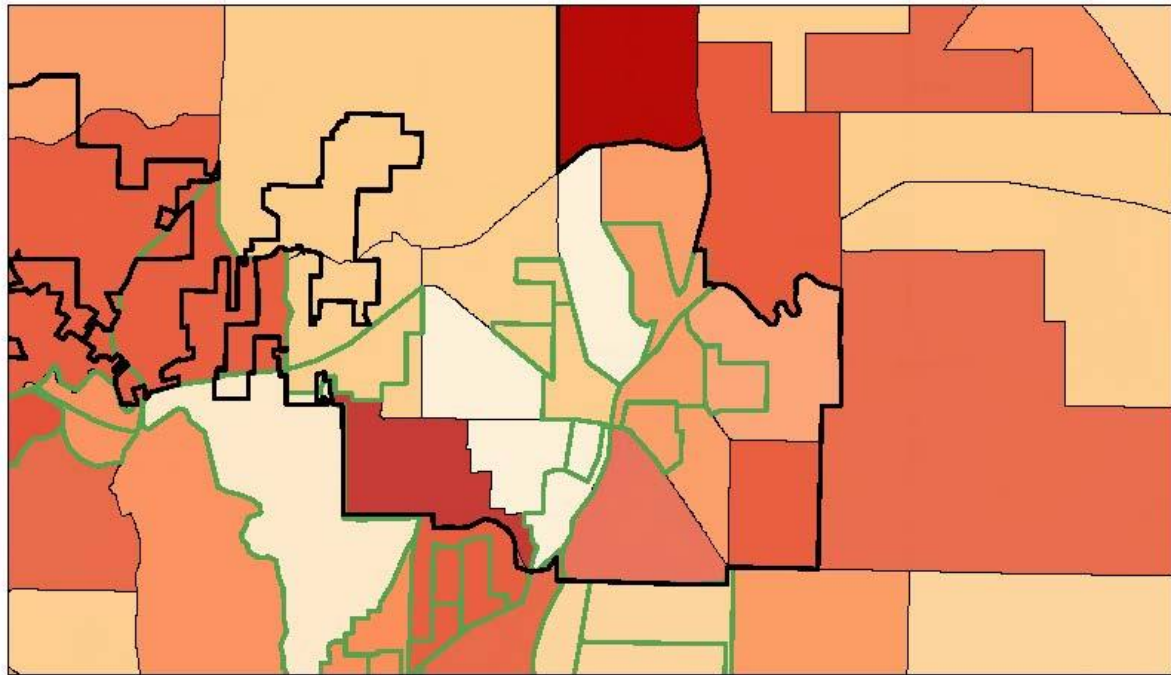
The City of Cuyahoga Falls has numerous assets in the lower income neighborhoods. Such assets include the downtown historic district which includes beautiful views of the Cuyahoga River and historic churches, major manufacturing industries, hotels, a top of the line library, many fine restaurants, several park and recreation opportunities such as kayaking, gold panning, tubing, hike and bike trails, splash pads, ice skating rink, and holiday family events. The City hosts free entertainment all year around for our residents and visitors such as numerous Parks and Recreation hosted events, festivals, concerts, public art, and movies, ice skating, and splash pads.

Other community assets in the areas mentioned above range from affordable owner occupied housing and rental housing, shopping, restaurants, beautiful parks with basketball courts and picnic areas for families. Another asset in the lower income areas are streets lined with sidewalks and beautiful street lighting. The walkable community is on a bus line which is also an amenity, residents can enjoy.

Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?

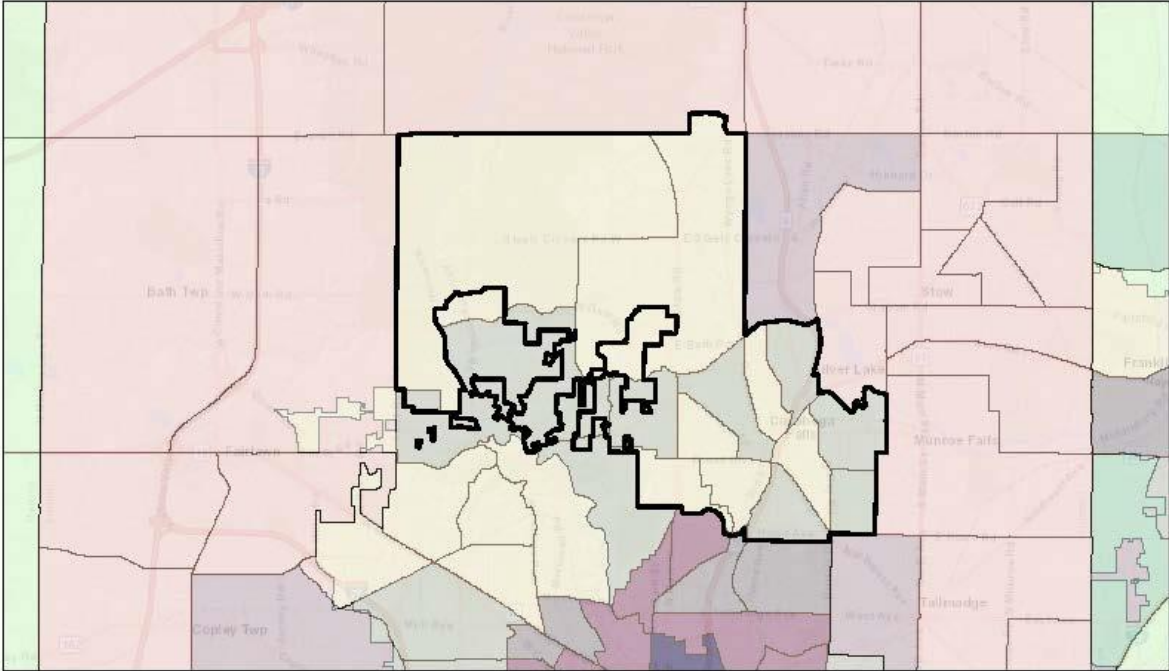
The City will continue to utilize CDBG funding to eliminate structural barriers in both publicly owned facilities and through its minor home rehabilitation program. The City will also utilize its funding to improve city infrastructure, including but not limited to sewer and water line replacements, installation of public art, and assisting low-to-moderate income individuals thrive in the community through its public service and economic development programming.

CPD Maps - Any of 4 Severe Housing Problems - Consolidated Plan



CPD Maps - Any of Four Severe Housing Problems

CPD Maps - Cuyahoga Falls Poverty Rate



March 26, 2024

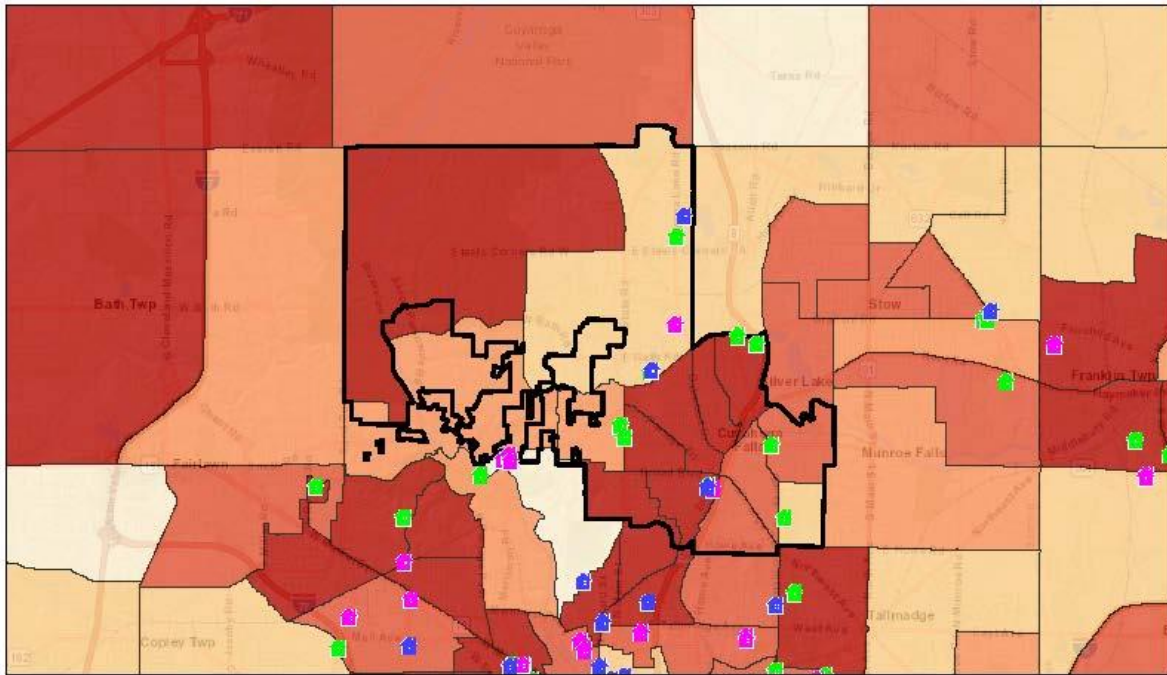
Override 1	City	PovertyRate	17.64-28.17% Poverty
CDBGGrantee	Urban County	0-9.21% Poverty	28.17-43.06% Poverty
State		9.21-17.64% Poverty	>43.06% Poverty

Scale: 1:131,015
 0 0.75 1.5 3 mi
 0 1.25 2.5 5 km

Sources: Cui, HES, Garm, USGS, Harwig, INCIS/ENR, P, NSCA, Cui, Japan, MSU, East China (Hong Kong), Cui, Hous, Cui (Freder), NCDC, Jo OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

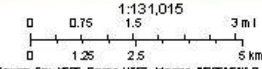
CPD Maps - Poverty Rate

CPD Maps - Need for Rehabilitation - Consolidated Plan



June 7, 2024

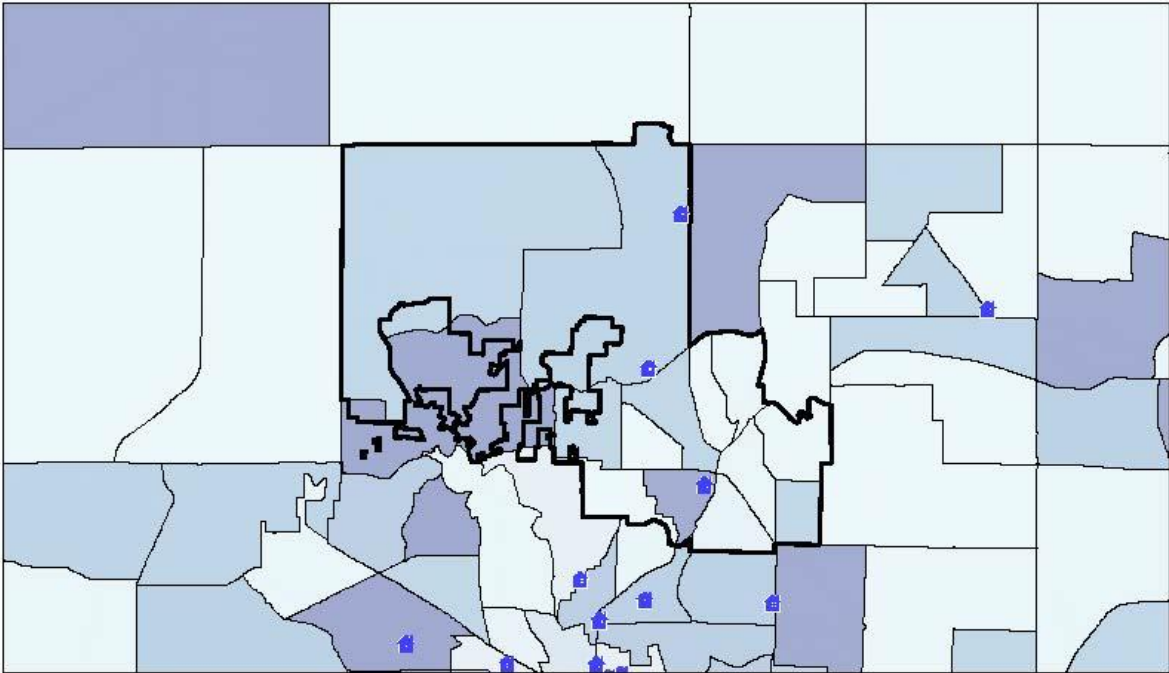
- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Public Housing Development | Override 1 | 45.04-64.34% |
| LIHTC Property | Rental Housing Built Before 1980 | 64.34-81.98% |
| Multifamily Properties - Assisted | 0-23.55% | >81.98% |
| | 23.55-46.04% | |



Sources: Cal, HUD, Census, USGS, Mapping, INCISLAND, P, NCCAN, Cal, Japan, MCI, East Coast (Hong Kong), Cal, Hous, Cal (Freder), HCC, Jo OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

CPD Maps - Need for Rehabilitation

CPD Maps - AMHA Housing Locations - Consolidated Plan



June 7, 2024

Public Housing Development

Outside 1

Two or More Races

0-2.64%

2.64-5.80%

5.80-12.93%

12.93-13.22%

13.22-28.18%

13.22-28.18%

13.33-27.82%

27.82-63.08%

63.08%+

0-4.89%

4.89-13.33%

Scale: 1:131,015
0 0.75 1.5 3 mi
0 1.25 2.5 5 km

Sources: Cal, HUD, Census, USGS, Mapping, INCISLAND, P, NSCA, Cal, Japan, MSX, East Asia (Hong Kong), East Asia, East (Taiwan), HCC, 10 OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

CPD Maps - AMHA Housing

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

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

Broadband internet access is crucial for households in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, regardless of income level. Here are some key points regarding the need for broadband connectivity:

- **Equitable Access:** Low-income households face barriers to accessing the internet due to financial constraints. Affordable broadband options are essential to bridge this digital divide and ensure that everyone has equal access to information, education, and opportunities.
- **Education and Lifelong Learning:** Reliable internet connections are vital for students of all ages. From online classes to research, educational resources, and virtual learning platforms, broadband enables continuous learning and skill development.
- **Employment and Job Opportunities:** Job searches, remote work, and telecommuting rely on high-speed internet. Access to job listings, applications, and professional networking platforms is critical for employment prospects.
- **Healthcare and Telemedicine:** Telehealth services have become increasingly important, especially during the pandemic. Broadband enables virtual doctor visits, prescription refills, and health information access.
- **Government Services and Benefits:** Many government services, including unemployment claims, tax filings, and benefit applications, are now conducted online. Reliable internet connections are necessary for accessing these services.
- **Social Connection and Mental Health:** The internet allows families to stay connected with loved ones, especially during challenging times. Social isolation can be mitigated through video calls, social media, and online support groups.
- **Economic Development:** High-speed internet attracts businesses, encourages entrepreneurship, and supports economic growth. It enables e-commerce, digital marketing, and online transactions.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** During emergencies, broadband connections are essential for accessing weather alerts, emergency services, and disaster relief information.

The City of Cuyahoga Falls Collaborated with AMHA in program year 2023 through their ConnectHome program to provide connectivity and hardware for low-to-moderate families in Cuyahoga Falls. The City will continue to partner with AMHA should future opportunities arise. In addition, the City provides free WIFI access in its downtown corridor and will be expanding this blueprint in 2024 and 2025.

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

Increased competition among ISPs benefits consumers by driving down costs, improving service quality, and expanding access to high-speed internet. It ensures that users receive enhanced services at competitive rates

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

Describe the jurisdiction's increased natural hazard risks associated with climate change.

The 2023 edition of the State of Ohio Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) report identifies various hazards, including natural disasters such as floods, tornadoes, and winter storms, technological incidents, and human-caused events such as power outages or civil unrest.

Low-income households are disproportionately affected by these hazards due to their limited resources and reduced ability to adapt.

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

HIRA aims to guide mitigation efforts. For low-income households, strategies may include:

- **Affordable Housing Programs:** Ensuring safe and affordable housing options.
- **Financial Assistance:** Providing grants or subsidies for hazard-resistant home improvements.
- **Community Outreach:** Educating residents about hazards, emergency plans, and available resources.
- **Social Support Networks:** Strengthening community networks to assist vulnerable households during emergencies.

In summary, the HIRA report underscores the importance of addressing the unique vulnerabilities faced by low-income households. By implementing targeted strategies, we can enhance their resilience and reduce the impact of hazards on their well-being

Strategic Plan

SP-05 Overview

Strategic Plan Overview

It is the mission of the City of Cuyahoga Falls to enhance the quality of life of its residents through the implementation of programs that provide services to enhance the quality of life for low-to- moderate income residents.

In 1995, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) required all communities that receive funding from several different HUD programs to complete a Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan was introduced as a planning tool by HUD to streamline the application process for 6 different grant programs and to provide communities with a comprehensive approach to addressing housing, community, and economic development needs. The Consolidated Plan establishes specific objectives and annual goals for a community that enables local citizens, as well as government officials, to monitor progress and implement amendments to the plan over a 5-year period.

The City of Cuyahoga Falls receives funds from 1 HUD entitlement program, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Congress enacted the CDBG program in 1974 under Title 24, Part 570. The primary objective of the CDBG program is to meet the housing, community, and economic development needs of low-to-moderate income people, who are defined as persons with annual family incomes at 80% or below the area median income thresholds. The CDBG program provides funding in the City of Cuyahoga Falls for single-family, owner-occupied, minor home rehabilitation, infrastructure improvements, public services, economic development, and through ADA modifications to its public facilities.

The City of Cuyahoga Falls is the lead agency responsible for the development of the Consolidated Plan administering the CDBG program covered by this Consolidated Plan. This Consolidated Plan submission covers the period FY 2024 to 2028 and includes a 1-year Action Plan for FY 2024.

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

Geographic Area

Table 48 - Geographic Priority Areas

1	Area Name:	City-Wide
	Area Type:	Local Target area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	Comprehensive
	Other Revital Description:	
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	
	How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	
	Identify the needs in this target area.	
	What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	
	Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	

General Allocation Priorities

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

Eligible uses for CDBG funds are set forth under 24 CFR, Part 570, which mandates that each CDBG funded-activity must either principally benefit low-to-moderate income persons, aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight, or meet a community development need having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community and other financial resources are not available to meet that need. The funds must be used to meet the housing, community, and economic development needs of low-to-moderate income persons, which HUD defines as those with gross annual household incomes at or below 80% of the median area family income, as established annually by HUD. At least 70% of the aggregate CDBG allocation must be used for activities that benefit low-to-moderate income families and individuals.

The City of Cuyahoga Falls intends to invest its annual allocation throughout the entire jurisdiction area. Funds are used in low income census tracts as well as for individuals who meet the income guidelines.

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

Priority Needs

Table 49 – Priority Needs Summary

1	Priority Need Name	Affordable Housing
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children
	Geographic Areas Affected	City-Wide
	Associated Goals	Affordable Housing
	Description	<p>CDBG funds will be used to provide minor home repairs for owner-occupied homes of income-qualified residents throughout the City of Cuyahoga Falls' jurisdiction area. Repairs include new roofs, windows, electrical panels, furnace, hot water tanks, etc.</p> <p>Although housing construction is an ineligible activity, the City of Cuyahoga Falls may use CDBG funds to purchase land that is donated to a community-based development organization (CBDO). The CBDO then builds affordable housing for low-to-moderate income families.</p>

	Basis for Relative Priority	<p>The City of Cuyahoga Falls has a large amount of aging housing stock that is in need of minor home repairs. The repairs made allow for seniors to remain in their home and cover the cost of the repairs for low to moderate income individuals that are unable to afford the needed repairs.</p> <p>The basis for relative priority is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordable Housing Not Keeping Pace: Comparing trends in population growth to housing supply for households under 80% of the HUD Area Median Family Income (HAMFI) thresholds. • Insufficient Affordable Housing: Comparing the number of “Affordable and Available Units” to the number of households under 80% of HAMFI. • Widespread Housing Cost Burden or Substandard Housing: Calculating the prevalence of housing problems among households under 100% of HAMFI
2	Priority Need Name	Acquisition/Demolition/Remediation
	Priority Level	Low
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate
	Geographic Areas Affected	City-Wide
	Associated Goals	Affordable Housing
	Description	CDBG funds may be used for the acquisition, remediation, and/or demolition of blighted structures throughout the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction either through condemnation or waiver.
	Basis for Relative Priority	The City of Cuyahoga Falls may acquire blighted structures, remediate or demolish the blighted structures.
3	Priority Need Name	Historic Preservation
	Priority Level	Low
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate

	Geographic Areas Affected	City-Wide
	Associated Goals	Economic Development
	Description	CDBG funds may be used for the rehabilitation, preservation or restoration of historic properties, whether publicly or privately owned. Historic properties are those sites or structures that are either listed in or eligible to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, listed in a State or local inventory of historic places, or designated as a State or local landmark or historic district by appropriate law or ordinance. Historic preservation, however, is not authorized for buildings for the general conduct of government.
	Basis for Relative Priority	The City of Cuyahoga Falls has a historic district located on and near Front Street in the downtown area. Several buildings are listed in the local inventory of historic places. CDBG funds may be used to preserve historic buildings and structures within the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction.
4	Priority Need Name	Public Facilities and Improvements
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities
	Geographic Areas Affected	City-Wide
	Associated Goals	Public Facilities and Improvements
	Description	Public facilities and improvements projects encompass a wide range of infrastructure and amenities. These include publicly-owned facilities such as streets, playgrounds, underground utilities, and buildings owned by non-profits that are accessible to the general public.

	Basis for Relative Priority	<p>Investing in public facilities and improvements aligns with Cuyahoga Falls’ commitment to equity, accessibility, and community well-being. CDBG funds will be allocated to:</p> <p>Enhancing Accessibility: By investing in public facilities, we can create more inclusive and accessible spaces for all residents.</p> <p>Infrastructure Improvements: Investing in infrastructure, such as accessible pedestrian crosswalk signals, ADA curb ramps, and waterline replacements in low-to-moderate income areas, that directly benefits residents, ADA modifications to existing facilities, and installation of ADA accessible playground equipment in citywide parks and/or on city owned property.</p>
5	Priority Need Name	Economic Development
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate
	Geographic Areas Affected	City-Wide
	Associated Goals	Economic Development
	Description	CDBG funds will be used for job creation projects for low-to-moderate income individuals.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Funding to retain or create jobs for low-to-moderate income individuals assists in stimulating the economy.
6	Priority Need Name	Public Services
	Priority Level	High

Population	Extremely Low Low Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence
Geographic Areas Affected	City-Wide
Associated Goals	Public Services

<p>Description</p>	<p>The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program allows the use of grant funds for a wide range of public service activities. These activities include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment services (such as job training). • Crime prevention and public safety initiatives. • Child care programs. • Health services. • Substance abuse services (including counseling and treatment). • Fair housing counseling. • Education programs. • Energy conservation efforts. • Services for senior citizens. • Assistance for homeless persons.
<p>Basis for Relative Priority</p>	<p>Public services play a crucial role in comprehensive community development strategies. They address a range of individual needs and enhance the impact of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) dollars by complementing other activities. Under the CDBG program, eligible public service activities include employment services (such as job training), crime prevention, child care, health services, substance abuse counseling, fair housing counseling, education programs, energy conservation, services for senior citizens, assistance for homeless individuals, and more. These services primarily benefit low and moderate-income individuals and contribute to building stronger, more resilient communities. By prioritizing public services, CDBG aims to foster well-being, equity, and community development across various domains.</p>

Narrative (Optional)

The City of Cuyahoga Falls has chosen 6 priority needs for the 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan years. These priorities include:

- affordable housing, including single-family residential owner-occupied minor home rehabilitation;
- acquisition, remediation, and demolition of blighted structures;
- historic preservation of buildings and structures listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or the local inventory of historic places;
- public facilities and improvements, including improvements to infrastructure, parks, playgrounds, public art, and public buildings;

- economic development which provides assistance to small businesses that create jobs for low-to-moderate income individuals;
- public services, including senior assistance, fair housing services, education services, prevention of homelessness, and food pantry services.

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

Influence of Market Conditions

Affordable Housing Type	Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	The City of Cuyahoga Falls does not participate in Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA).
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	The City of Cuyahoga Falls does not participate in TBRA.
New Unit Production	The City of Cuyahoga Falls does not use CDBG funding for new unit production. CDBG funding is used to purchase qualifying property that is then donated to a CBDO who then builds affordable housing for low-to-moderate income families.
Rehabilitation	The City of Cuyahoga Falls includes many homes in need of minor home rehabilitation to increase their energy-efficiency. Many homes are also in need of basic health and safety modifications such as smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, hand rails, and ADA-accessible restroom modifications.
Acquisition, including preservation	The City of Cuyahoga Falls does not use CDBG funds for acquisition of housing, except for blighted structures. The City does use CDBG funding for rehabilitation projects that benefit low-to-moderate income persons in Cuyahoga Falls.

Table 50 – Influence of Market Conditions

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

Introduction

The City of Cuyahoga Falls anticipates the following resources for the 2024-2028 consolidated planning period:

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	683,682	167,988	700,984	1,552,654	2,734,728	The City of Cuyahoga Falls, Community Development Department anticipates receiving an annual CDBG allocation of an estimated \$683,682.00 for each upcoming year covered in the 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan. The total amount received over the next 5 years would be \$4,287,382.00.

Table 51 - Anticipated Resources

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

The City collaborates with its Community Improvement Corporation's (CIC) revolving loan program to bring gap financing to its businesses. It also leverages its CDBG funding with County programs such as its lead hazard reduction program, healthy homes funding, and its home weatherization program.

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

N/A

Discussion

The City of Cuyahoga Falls anticipates receiving an annual CDBG allocation of an estimated \$683,682.00 for each upcoming year covered in the 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan. The total amount received over the next 5 years would be \$3,418,410.00.

SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure – 91.215(k)

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

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority	PHA	Public Housing	Region
Neighborhood Development Services	Non-profit organizations	Ownership public facilities	Region
Summit County Public Health	Departments and agencies	Non-homeless special needs public services	Region
Fair Housing Advocates Association	Non-profit organizations	Non-homeless special needs public services	Region
Summit County Continuum of Care	Continuum of care	Homelessness	Region
United Way of Summit & Medina	Non-profit organizations	Homelessness Non-homeless special needs public services	Region
AKRON URBAN LEAGUE	Regional organization	Non-homeless special needs public services	Region
Cuyahoga Falls Good Neighbors	Non-profit organizations	Non-homeless special needs public services	Jurisdiction
Vantage Aging, Inc	Non-profit organizations	Non-homeless special needs public services	Region

Table 52 - Institutional Delivery Structure

Assess of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

The City of Cuyahoga Falls, Community Development Department has not identified any gaps in the institutional delivery system.

The City of Cuyahoga Falls implements its community development and housing plans through its CDBG program, which is administered through the City of Cuyahoga Falls, Community Development Department and local social service and housing assistance agencies which are funded as sub-recipients. The various agencies and communities provide services and complete projects throughout

the City, ensuring that most areas with low-to-moderate income persons have the potential to benefit from one or more CDBG funded programs.

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

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

Table 53 - Homeless Prevention Services Summary

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

HIV and AIDS: Community AIDS Network and Pride Initiative (CANAPI) provides free confidential HIV testing. Through this agency, individuals diagnosed with HIV or AIDS can receive supportive services, such as support groups, counseling, and housing assistance. Assistance for individuals who are living with HIV or AIDS is also available through the AIDS Resource Center (ARC), of Akron. Although neither of these agencies is located within the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction, they do provide services to

residents of the Jurisdiction. Counselors at the ARC work with low-income and homeless individuals to identify financial assistance programs to cover the costs of medication and medical treatment.

Health Services: Free health services are available to the homeless, or anyone else who is unemployed, has no insurance, and whose household income is at or below 200% of poverty, through the Faithful Servants Care Center, in Tallmadge, or through OPEN M, in Akron. Both locations serve residents living anywhere in the County of Summit.

Mental Health Services: The following is a list of community-based outpatient facilities that offer individual, group, conjoint and family counseling, therapy groups, medication and other mental health services for community residents, especially those who are indigent, who have acute or chronic psychiatric disorders or who may be experiencing difficulty resolving personal or interpersonal conflicts or making personal adjustments to stressful life situations such as separation, divorce, loss of a spouse or a child, poor health, unemployment, family violence, delinquency or substance abuse: Summit County ADM Board, Cleveland Clinic-Akron General Medical Center, Community Support Services, Minority Behavioral Health Group, Pastoral Counseling Center, and Portage Path Behavioral Health.

Employment Services: Ohio Means Jobs - Summit County - Offers various free job fairs aiming to connect individuals seeking employment with prospective employers. The City is also currently working with Harvard University's Next Level Lab to provide training and workforce development to its businesses. This program will provide employers with the necessary information to attract and retain international newcomer talent and hopefully stay ahead of the projected 80.1 million employee shortfall in 2030.

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

The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and the Akron/Summit County Continuum of Care (CoC) are very useful resources to the providers of services to the special needs and homeless populations. The pilot centralized intake/referral system with the HMIS has been very successful, with both participating agencies reporting reduced costs and placement times. Funding is always an issue if the need for services, particularly medical and housing, far exceed the supply.

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

No gaps in institutional structure or service delivery system were found.

SP-45 Goals Summary – 91.215(a)(4)

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Affordable Housing	2024	2028	Affordable Housing	City-Wide	Affordable Housing Acquisition/Demolition/Remediation	CDBG: \$500,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 25 Household Housing Unit
2	Public Facilities and Improvements	2024	2028	Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide	Public Facilities and Improvements	CDBG: \$1,774,622	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1000 Persons Assisted
3	Economic Development	2024	2028	Economic Development	City-Wide	Economic Development Historic Preservation	CDBG: \$1,500,000	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation: 5 Business Jobs created/retained: 50 Jobs Businesses assisted: 25 Businesses Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Public Services	2024	2028	Non-Homeless Special Needs	City-Wide	Public Services	CDBG: \$512,760	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2500 Persons Assisted

Table 54 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	The City of Cuyahoga Falls will use CDBG funds to provide income eligible homeowners with minor home repair.
2	Goal Name	Public Facilities and Improvements
	Goal Description	Improved infrastructure throughout the City of Cuyahoga Falls Jurisdiction.
3	Goal Name	Economic Development
	Goal Description	CDBG funds will be used to support economic development projects throughout the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction that create and/or retain jobs for low-to-moderate income individuals.
4	Goal Name	Public Services
	Goal Description	The Community Development Department will use CDBG funds to provide public services to low-to-moderate income individuals and families living in the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction. Activities may include but are not limited to food pantry, educational, senior services, and fair housing service activities.

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.315(b)(2)

The City of Cuyahoga Falls anticipates using CDBG funds to provide an estimated 5 housing units per year with its single-family, owner-occupied, minor home rehabilitation program, with a total of 25 low-to-moderate income families receiving assistance over the 5 years of the Consolidated Plan.

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

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

N/A

Activities to Increase Resident Involvements

Involvement in management is addressed through the “A-CAN” organization, which is a council of leadership from different resident councils. A-CAN reviews and approves AMHA’s annual Action Plans. AMHA’s Homeownership program continues, although utilization has greatly declined.

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

No

Plan to remove the ‘troubled’ designation

N/A

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

Barriers to Affordable Housing

Barriers to affordable housing exist in every community. While some of these barriers can be addressed through legislative or procedural changes, others are very difficult to alter because they are the result of societal, financial, and/or market conditions.

Analysis shows the following barriers to affordable housing exist in the City of Cuyahoga Falls jurisdiction:

- Limited supply of affordable single-family housing units that make it difficult for low-to-moderate income first-time home buyers to make the transition from renting to homeownership.
- The average price for houses in the City of Cuyahoga Falls, frequently exceeds the affordability level of many low-to-moderate income households.
- Housing rehabilitation is often costly, making it difficult for low-to-moderate income households to afford necessary repairs.
- Provisions within existing local zoning codes that tend to favor conventional site design rather than cluster or planned residential developments, and that require separation of housing types which can hinder the development of mixed-use housing. Additionally, provisions that stipulate minimum lot sizes make the development of smaller, more affordable housing difficult.
- Well and Septic Regulations that require minimum lot sizes, as determined by the local health department or EPA, when public utilities are not available.
- Resistance to the development of affordable housing, particularly affordable housing developments. This is frequently labeled as NIMBYism (Not in My Back Yard), and has been the subject of fair housing law for years.
- Cost prohibitive local ordinances for storm water systems, sidewalks, and landscaping that often add unnecessary costs to affordable housing development projects.

Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing

The City strives to make housing decent, safe, sanitary and affordable through a variety of state and federally funded programs as well as through code enforcement. The AMHA ensures residents requiring affordable public housing have a place to call home in our community. The CoC ensures the homeless and potentially homeless population are matched with supportive services and temporary and /or permanent housing. The City will continue to collaborate with the AMHA, CoC and other public services agencies within Summit County.

SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.215(d)

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

The City of Cuyahoga Falls reaches out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assesses their individual needs through staff involvement on the Continuum of Care Board, Continuum of Care Steering Committee, the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Steering Committee, and the annual Point-in Time Count.

Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The City of Cuyahoga Falls addresses the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons through staff involvement on the Continuum of Care Board, the Continuum of Care Steering Committee, and the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Steering Committee.

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

The City of Cuyahoga Falls helps homeless persons, including 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 through staff participation on the Continuum of Care Board, the Continuum of Care Steering Committee, and the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Steering Committee.

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

The City of Cuyahoga Falls helps 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 social services, employment, education, or youth needs through staff involvement on the Continuum of Care Board, the Continuum of Care Steering Committee, the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Advisory Committee.

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

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

The City of Cuyahoga Falls leverages CDBG funds by collaborating with Summit County Public Health District to provide lead paint abatement for child-occupied homes built before 1978.

Individuals living in homes with lead-based paint hazards may be eligible to receive a forgivable loan with a maximum amount of \$12,902.71 from the Summit County Public Health District. Individuals who receive assistance from the Summit County Public Health District may also be eligible to receive up to \$6,955.24 in Healthy Homes assistance. To be eligible, the homeowner must have a child living in the home under the age of 6 or have a child visiting the home more than 6 hours a week or 62 hours a year.

Cuyahoga Falls homes requiring minor housing rehabilitation that are not child-occupied (under the age of 6), must have contractors and subcontractors that are EPA certified and their firms must be registered with the EPA.

Neighborhood Development Services, Inc. a subrecipient for the City of Cuyahoga Falls manages the minor housing rehabilitation program. Neighborhood Development Services staff are required to carry lead abatement contractor licenses and risk assessor licenses. Neighborhood Development Services ensures that state licensed lead abatement contractors and EPA certified lead renovators bid, enter into an agreement, and perform all lead abatement work.

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

The actions listed above are related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards because the City of Cuyahoga Falls is directly correlating their entire housing program to ensure that if a home was built prior to 1978 and a child under the age of 6 resides in the home or visits the home more than 62 hours per year, the staff will automatically refer them to the Summit County Lead Hazard Demonstration Reduction Grant program in order to eliminate the lead contamination in the home.

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

City of Cuyahoga Falls and/or its minor home rehabilitation subrecipient automatically refer applicants who have a home built prior to 1978 and who have a child under the age of 6 living in the home or visiting the home at least 62 hours per year to the Lead Hazard Demonstration Reduction Grant program. If while conducting an inspection of a home, a staff member notices chipping/chalking/flaking paint and the home is built prior to 1978 and a child under the age of 6 resides in the home or visits at least 62 hours per year, the staff member will discuss the Lead Hazard Demonstration Reduction Grant program with the homeowner and with his/her permission, forward his/her application to the

program. The City will leverage the Lead Hazard Demonstration Reduction Grant with CDBG funds to ensure that all health and safety concerns are addressed in the unit.

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

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

During the 2024–2028 Five-Year Consolidated Strategic Plan period, the City of Cuyahoga Falls will continue to refer needy families in the community to the Department of Job & Family Services for assistance. The City will work to raise awareness of the availability of housing rehabilitation assistance through the City of Cuyahoga Falls Community Development Block Grant program and refer residents to the Summit County Home Weatherization Assistance Program, which utilizes the Department of Energy, Healthy Homes, and State of Ohio funding in the form of grants to improve the overall weatherization of extremely low-income households.

The Department of Job & Family Services determines applicant eligibility for participation in the following programs which are in place to assist extremely low- and low-income households and individuals:

Children and Families:

- Cash Assistance – OWF
- Child Care Services
- Food Assistance – FAP
- Healthy Start Medical Coverage
- Pregnancy Related Services
- Repairs and Expenses – PRC

Disabled and Seniors:

- Adult Protective Services
- Home Health Care – Ohio Home Choice Waivers
- Medicaid Transportation – NET
- Medicare Premium Payments
- Nursing Home Care
- Refugee Resettlement
- Supportive Services – PRC
- Age, Blind, and Disabled Medicaid Eligibility

Employment and training assistance are provided through *Ohio Means Jobs – Summit County* where more than 13 workforce service providers are housed under the same roof to better serve the needs of both businesses and job seekers. The facility is the result of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 which mandated that career centers be developed throughout the nation for the convenience of employers and job seekers. As previously mentioned, the City is currently working with Harvard University's Next

Level Lab to provide training to its employers to attract international newcomer talent, including refugees, immigrants, and international students.

- Ohio Means Jobs - Summit County
- Resource Room
- Fun Stop Daycare Center
- Unemployment Benefits
- Search for Employment

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

The City of Cuyahoga Falls intends to use its CDBG funds to provide suitable living environments for low-to-moderate income residents of the Jurisdiction through the minor home rehabilitation program.

SP-80 Monitoring – 91.230

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

The City of Cuyahoga Falls continuously provides technical assistance and monitors all subrecipients and programs to ensure compliance with all Federal laws and regulations. Activities are monitored according to City policies and procedures and the requirements set forth in the subrecipient agreement documents executed with each community and/or agency and funded with CDBG funds.

Monitoring of CDBG projects includes, but is not limited to the following: desk audits of grant files; review of invoices and supporting documentation submitted for reimbursement; review of fiscal record keeping; review of Federal prevailing wage and labor standards; acquisition; relocation; minority business outreach; debarment; compliance with national objectives under the CDBG program; eligibility criteria; income limits; project timeliness; quality of work; work scopes; final punch list for construction and rehabilitation projects.

In Program Years 2024-2028, monitoring site visits will be made annually to all agencies with public service contracts. All construction related projects will receive ongoing technical assistance, as well as, monitoring site visits. Prevailing wage monitoring will be conducted when applicable. A desk audit of each project will be conducted quarterly, and a financial audit will be conducted prior to project close-out.

Projects are monitored with the intent to:

- ensure that the project/program is consistent with the terms of the grant agreements and that funds are expended in a timely manner;
- evaluate organizational and project performance;
- minimize opportunities for fraud, waste, and mismanagement; and
- ensure that activities are carried out in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City of Cuyahoga Falls anticipates the following resources for the 2024-2028 consolidated planning period:

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	683,682	167,988	700,984	1,552,654	2,734,728	The City of Cuyahoga Falls, Community Development Department anticipates receiving an annual CDBG allocation of an estimated \$683,682.00 for each upcoming year covered in the 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan. The total amount received over the next 5 years would be \$4,287,382.00.

Table 55 - 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

The City collaborates with its Community Improvement Corporation's (CIC) revolving loan program to bring gap financing to its businesses. It

also leverages its CDBG funding with County programs such as its lead hazard reduction program, healthy homes funding, and its home weatherization program.

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

N/A

Discussion

The City of Cuyahoga Falls anticipates receiving an annual CDBG allocation of an estimated \$683,682.00 for each upcoming year covered in the 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan. The total amount received over the next 5 years would be \$3,418,410.00.

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	Affordable Housing	2024	2028	Affordable Housing	City-Wide	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$135,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 5 Household Housing Unit
2	Public Facilities and Improvements	2024	2028	Non-Housing Community Development	City-Wide	Public Facilities and Improvements	CDBG: \$600,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 500 Persons Assisted
3	Economic Development	2024	2028	Economic Development	City-Wide	Economic Development	CDBG: \$402,886	Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation: 2 Business Jobs created/retained: 8 Jobs Businesses assisted: 4 Businesses Assisted
4	Public Services	2024	2028	Non-Homeless Special Needs	City-Wide	Public Services	CDBG: \$64,382	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 5 Persons Assisted

Table 56 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Affordable Housing
	Goal Description	CDBG funds will be used for the Minor Housing Rehabilitation Program to assist low-to-moderate income individuals and families with necessary housing repairs.
2	Goal Name	Public Facilities and Improvements
	Goal Description	CDBG funds will be used for Public Facilities and Improvements activities such as ADA accessibility City-wide, improvements to streets, curbs, utility, and water lines, public art, playgrounds, and City parks in low-to-moderate income areas.
3	Goal Name	Economic Development
	Goal Description	CDBG funds will be used for Economic Development equipment matching grants, working capital loans, facade matching grants, and sign matching grants to assist for-profit businesses and create or retain full-time permanent jobs for low-to-moderate income individuals.
4	Goal Name	Public Services
	Goal Description	CDBG funds will be used for public service activities including, homelessness prevention, fair housing, food pantry, senior services, literacy, and education Programs.

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The 2024 Action Plan outlines the priorities and strategies of the Federally funded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. This 1-year Action Plan describes the activities, funding recommendations, and proposed accomplishments for each project.

In 2024, CDBG funds will be utilized by the City of Cuyahoga Falls, non-profit agencies to provide public services for low-to-moderate income individuals. Emphasis will be on home rehabilitation programs, public services, public facilities improvements, and economic development projects.

These activities will help further the following Consolidated Plan goals:

The Provision of Expanded Economic Opportunities - To retain existing jobs or aid in the creation of new jobs, for low-to-moderate income individuals in the City of Cuyahoga Falls Jurisdiction, and to provide gap financing to existing and new companies.

The Provision of Decent, Safe and Affordable Housing - To preserve and/or increase the availability of decent, safe and affordable housing for low-to-moderate income individuals in the City of Cuyahoga Falls Jurisdiction.

The Provision of a Suitable Living Environment - To enhance the quality of life and promote healthy neighborhoods for low-to-moderate income individuals through a variety of public services, infrastructure projects and other activities that address specific community needs.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Admin/Planning
2	Affordable Housing
3	Public Service
4	Economic Development
5	Public Facilities/Infrastructure

Table 57 – Project Information

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

The City of Cuyahoga Falls uses CDBG funds for eligible activities that either serve low-to-moderate

income individuals, families and households, or benefit low-to-moderate income areas.

Actions to Address Obstacles to Meeting Underserved Needs

Reductions in CDBG funding levels continues to create obstacles to meeting underserved needs within the City of Cuyahoga Falls Jurisdiction. Unfortunately, while the available funding has decreased, the demand for services for low-to-moderate income individuals has increased. The pre-existing shortage of funds, in comparison to demand for assistance, combined with the additional cuts, means that the City of Cuyahoga Falls may have to reduce the level of services provided to its residents while continuing to seek additional ways to leverage CDBG funds through collaboration and additional funding sources.

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: \$126,440
	Description	Administrative Funds will be used for salaries, wages, and related costs of the recipient's staff, the staff of local public agencies, or other staff engaged in program administration. Planning funds will be used where activity delivery costs for projects are not appropriate.
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	N/A
	Location Description	Administrative and planning activities will be undertaken at the City of Cuyahoga Falls, Community Development Department, 2310 Second Street, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221.

	Planned Activities	<p>Overall program management, coordination, monitoring, and evaluation include, but are not limited to, the following types of assistance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing program budgets, schedules and amendments; • Evaluating program results against stated objectives; • Coordinating the resolution of audit and monitoring findings; • Developing systems for assuring compliance with program requirements; • Monitoring program activities for progress and compliance with program requirements; • Preparing reports and other compliance documents related to the program for submission to HUD; and • Developing interagency agreements and agreements with subrecipients and contractors to carry out program activities.
2	Project Name	Affordable Housing
	Target Area	City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Affordable Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$100,000
	Description	Projects may include Digital Equity & Inclusion, ADA modifications for owner occupants, lead remediation, HWAP, Minor Home Rehabilitation, and Housing Rehabilitation Administration.
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The City of Cuyahoga Falls estimates that 5 homes will receive minor home rehabilitation which benefits low-to-moderate income families.
	Location Description	Owner-Occupied, single family home, minor home rehabilitation is a City-wide program for low-to-moderate income homeowners.
Planned Activities	Activities include but are not limited to income qualification, initial home inspection, lead remediation, specifications/work write up, bid preparation and soliciting, contract closing, project monitoring, and case management.	
3	Project Name	Public Service
	Target Area	City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Public Services

	Needs Addressed	Public Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$102,552
	Description	CDBG regulations may be used for a wide range of public service activities, including but not limited to employment services, crime prevention and public safety, childcare, health services, substance abuse services, fair housing counseling, education programs, energy conservation, services for senior citizens, services for homeless persons, welfare services, down payment assistance, and recreational services.
	Target Date	9/15/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The City of Cuyahoga Falls estimates that 510 people will benefit from public service activities. Public service activities benefit low-to-moderate income individuals and families residing in the City of Cuyahoga Falls.
	Location Description	Public service activities are undertaken City-wide.
	Planned Activities	Public service programs include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Pantry Program; • Fair Housing Assistance Program; • Homeless Management Information System (HMIS); • STEM Learning Program; • Literacy Program; • Senior Snow Removal Program; • Support for Home Wellness Solutions Program; and • Therapy Canine Program
4	Project Name	Economic Development
	Target Area	City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Economic Development
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$402,886
	Description	CDBG funds may be used to finance eligible economic development projects, including microenterprise and small business development, large-scale commercial and industrial development, and job creation, job retention, and job training activities.
	Target Date	10/15/2024

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The City estimates that at least 9 full-time permanent jobs will be created or retained for low-to-moderate income individuals.
	Location Description	The economic development program is undertaken City-wide.
	Planned Activities	Economic development activities include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment matching grants; • Facade matching grants; • Sign matching grants; and • Working capital loans.
5	Project Name	Public Facilities/Infrastructure
	Target Area	City-Wide
	Goals Supported	Public Facilities and Improvements
	Needs Addressed	Public Facilities and Improvements
	Funding	CDBG: \$820,776
	Description	CDBG funds used for Public Facilities and Improvement activities help support infrastructure and facility projects for the community.
	Target Date	10/15/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The City of Cuyahoga Falls estimates that 520 low-to-moderate income families will benefit from public facilities and improvement activities.
	Location Description	Public facilities and improvement activities are undertaken in low-to-moderate income areas and/or public facilities that require ADA improvements.
Planned Activities	Public facility and improvement activities include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADA office furniture and/or equipment; • Accessible playground equipment; • Accessible public facilities courtyard and • ADA restroom equipment. • Public Art 	

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

Funds must be used to meet the housing, community, and economic development needs of low-to-moderate income individuals. HUD defines this as those with a gross annual household income at or below 80% of the area median income, as established annually by HUD. At least 70% of the aggregate CDBG allocation must be used for activities that benefit low-to-moderate income families and individuals.

The City of Cuyahoga Falls is home to approximately 51,114 residents. The City defines a concentration of low-to-moderate income persons as a census tract or block group in which 45.8 percent or more of the total population is low-to-moderate income according to HUD guidelines.

Minority concentrations within the City can be found near Prange Drive and Wyoga Lake Road which are in the northern part of the City.

The City does not have an NRSA, nor are CDBG funds allocated to a specific target area as defined by HUD and/or any areas that would be established locally. During the 2024 Action Plan Period, CDBG funds will be used on a city-wide basis.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
City-Wide	100

Table 58 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

To varying degrees, there is a need for CDBG-assistance throughout the community, as such, the City does not focus on a specific geographic area. CDBG funds are utilized on a city-wide basis.

Discussion

As part of the yearly planning process, Development and Planning staff meet to discuss whether or not there is a benefit to targeting funds to a specific area. With so many diverse needs throughout the community, staff feel that making CDBG funds available for use throughout the community is the most prudent approach. This city-wide approach has been used successfully during previous Action Plan periods.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The City will continue to provide affordable housing each year during the Five-Year Consolidated Plan in the following ways:

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	0
Non-Homeless	5
Special-Needs	0
Total	5

Table 59 - 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	5
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	5

Table 60 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The City of Cuyahoga Falls will continue to support households with public service programs, and minor housing rehabilitation for low-to-moderate income families.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The City does not own or operate public housing. In Ohio, public housing is administered directly through local Public Housing Authorities (PHAs). Pursuant to HUD requirements, public housing authorities are not eligible to apply for CDBG funds directly. However, the City collaborates with Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA) in regards to public housing concerns. The City provides fair housing services to all residents including those living in public housing.

There are three (3) Family Housing units, one (1) Senior Housing unit, and five (5) independent (scattered) sites within the City of Cuyahoga Falls.

1. Lobello Lane - Family Housing - 12 units - Prange Drive
2. Honey Locust Apartments - Family Housing - 125 units - Prange Drive
3. Maplewood Gardens - Family Housing - 105 units - Prange Drive
4. Ray C. Sutliff Towers - Senior Housing - 185 units - Second Street
5. Scattered/independent sites

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

During the 2024–2028 Five-Year Consolidated Plan period, the City of Cuyahoga Falls does not intend to use CDBG funds to directly address public housing needs.

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

AMHA is the public housing agency that serves the greater Summit County area. AMHA representatives have affirmed that the City should continue its efforts to provide programs and opportunities that either complement or further AMHA’s own homeownership programs.

AMHA encourages public housing residents to become involved in management through the “A-CAN” organization, which is a council of leadership from different resident councils. A-CAN reviews and approves AMHA’s annual Action Plans.

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

provided or other assistance

The local public housing authority, AMHA has been designated as a “High Achieving” PHA.

Discussion

The City of Cuyahoga Falls maintains a working relationship with AMHA. Although the City does not have direct input into matters regarding hiring, contracting and procurement, provision of services, review of proposed capital improvements, or development, demolition or disposition of public housing developments, AMHA and the City of Cuyahoga Falls continue to work together to address the public housing needs of the City of Cuyahoga Falls' Jurisdiction.

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

Introduction

Through staff participation in the CoC, and the PIT Counts, the City of Cuyahoga Falls is kept abreast of the needs and concerns of local homeless and service agencies. Ongoing concerns with these agencies include the need for affordable housing and public services for at-risk populations. Of particular concern is the need for housing and supportive services for youth who are aging out of the foster care system, homeless Veterans, and victims of domestic violence.

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

During the 2024-2028 Five-Year Consolidated Plan period, the City of Cuyahoga Falls will continue to participate in outreach to homeless persons through their involvement in the CoC. As they have in previous years, Community Development staff will continue to serve on the HMIS Advisory Board, the CoC Board, the CoC Steering Committee, and the Annual PIT Count.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Summit County has a limited amount of shelter beds available to serve individuals and families. ACCESS and Haven of Rest are the two largest providers of shelter beds in the community. Those agencies are the only providers for individuals, with Haven of Rest being the primary provider for individual males. Stays within the shelters can vary in length according to availability and client adherence to the rules in these facilities. Shelters for women with children are provided by ACCESS, Harvest Home and the Battered Woman's Shelter (BWS); space is often limited at these locations. Shelter Care provides 24 beds for unaccompanied youth ages 10 through 17. HM Life Opportunity Services (HMLOS), the Ohio Multi County Development Corporation (OMCDC), CSS, Haven of Rest, BWS, Legacy III, and Summit County Children Services all provide transitional housing beds in our community. They prioritize those being served in their programs by taking referrals directly from shelters or those living on the streets whenever possible or target those with greatest needs such as drug and alcohol dependence, mental health, families, youth aging out of foster care or pregnant teens.

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

Summit County relies on the aforementioned CoC housing stock to address the needs of those persons emerging from public institutions, health care centers, or emancipating from foster care. These persons often face a lengthy wait period between their discharge and the availability of housing, leaving them in a vulnerable state for recidivism and exploitation. Some faith-based organizations exist to serve a small percentage of those persons re-entering from corrections facilities, but there are often long wait lists for these beds. The Summit County community does operate various hotlines and support groups to connect people with services and opportunities that are available, but those resources remain very limited.

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

The Summit CoC has at least 165 beds dedicated to the chronic homeless population including several programs that adopt a Housing First model designed to triage chronic homeless with housing as a first step towards stabilization. The CoC and its central intake follow HUD policies regarding prioritization for those requiring housing assistance including placement of individuals with multiple barriers to otherwise secure housing. Once housed, residents can receive treatment for issues such as, substance abuse, mental illness or physical problems that often keep a person homeless. The CoC is adapted the policies set forth by HUD Release CPD-14-012, which sets a guideline for placement in CoC housing according to applicant need. Beds within the CoC housing stock should be prioritized for applicants that are chronically homeless and/or have multiple barriers to achieving housing stability. Moreover, the HUD release advises communities to rededicate Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) beds to those that fit the criteria for classification as chronic homeless. They have initiated this process and a number of their PSH beds which are not currently allocated to serve the Chronically Homeless and will make them available upon bed turnover and if the need is still there. Through the use of central intake, applicants will be assessed with a vulnerability index to determine those with the greatest need for PSH or transitional housing. Those with the highest needs will be prioritized for available PSH beds and programs. Applicants with lower needs or barriers will be referred to programs such as rapid re-housing and homeless prevention for short-term assistance designed to bridge the gap from a temporary crisis to housing stability. Currently, Summit County is operating HPRP for those individuals in shelter or facing eviction from existing housing. Additionally, RRHP programs for veterans and veteran families are being operated within the county. HPRP programs combine short-term assistance up to 9 months and case management and life skills programming designed to help residents stabilize from a housing crisis. Summit County currently has 27 CoC beds dedicated to homeless young adults and young adults emancipating from Children Services custody. It is worth noting that the need for all these types of

housing programs far exceeds the current supply.

Discussion

The PIT count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night in January. HUD requires that the CoC conduct an annual count of homeless persons who are sheltered in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and safe havens on a single night. The CoC also must conduct a count of unsheltered homeless persons every other year (odd numbered years). During the 2024–2028 Five-Year Consolidated Plan period, City of Cuyahoga Falls will participate in these counts.

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

Introduction:

Barriers to affordable housing exist in every community. While some of these barriers can be addressed through legislative or procedural changes, others are very difficult to alter because they are the result of socio-economic and/or market conditions. Analysis shows some of the following barriers to affordable housing exist in the City of Cuyahoga Falls:

- **Smaller supply of affordable single-family housing units** that make it difficult for low-to-moderate income, first time homebuyers to make the transition from renting to homeownership.
- **The current average sales price** of many of the homes on the market are below the national average, but still above the affordability level of many low-to-moderate income households.
- **Housing rehabilitation is often costly** making it difficult for low-to-moderate income households to afford necessary repairs. Bank financing to assist with such repairs is often more difficult for lower income individuals and families.
- **Minimum lot sizes** that increase the cost of land and decrease the feasibility of providing smaller, more affordable homes.
- **Cost prohibitive local ordinances, zoning ordinances and building codes** for storm water systems, sidewalks and landscaping that often add unnecessary costs to affordable housing development projects.
- **Environmental conditions** such as brownfields, eliminate the possibility of building homes in some of the more affordable areas of the community. Ohio brownfield remediation grant funding has been cut in recent years with the change in the State legislature.
- **NIMBYISM** attitudes often dictate where affordable housing projects are located. NIMBYism has been the subject of fair housing laws for years.
- **Lack of Transportation** or lack of public transportation options have a negative effect on affordable housing location choice.

Policies to market available housing opportunities could be further expanded to include measures ensuring housing information reaches traditionally underserved populations. Advertising in targeted media sources, distributing information at churches or community gatherings or conducting special outreach efforts to targeted groups are effective marketing tools for reducing barriers to affordable housing. The City will continue striving to address negative effects and barriers to affordable housing during the 2024 plan period.

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

The City is committed to removing or reducing barriers to affordable housing whenever possible. During 2024, the City of Cuyahoga Falls:

1. continue to ensure the availability of adequate sites for the development of affordable housing and researched state and federal funding sources to support efforts to construct affordable housing;
2. continue to support the AMHA as a valued business in our community;
3. continue to provide funding if available, in conjunction with a housing provider to develop affordable housing;
4. support Low-Income Housing Tax Credit projects as they arise;
5. continue to utilize the Ohio and USEPA Brownfield programs to remediate underutilized sites; and
6. continue to offer CRA tax abatements to those homes located in an approved CRA District.

The City will also continue to provide housing rehabilitation assistance to preserve and improve the stock of affordable housing options.

Fair housing programming will also continue to play a critical role in addressing barriers to affordable housing. The City will continue to take appropriate actions to affirmatively further fair housing and reduce all negatives effects of public policies within the City.

Discussion:

During the 2024-2028 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, the City of Cuyahoga Falls intends to update the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

This section of the Consolidated Plan addresses the actions it plans to take during Program Year 2024 to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs, foster and maintain affordable housing, evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards, reduce the number of poverty-level families, develop institutional structure, and enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City plans to work with non-profit agencies, municipalities (including Akron, Barberton, and Summit County), and AMHA in order to address the obstacles to meet underserved needs in the area. Staff members will continue to attend HUD, state, and local training sessions in CDBG, HOME, and LEAD programs that will help garner knowledge on how to better serve our clientele.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The City of Cuyahoga Falls will continue to partner with non-profit agencies for its minor housing rehabilitation program. The City of Cuyahoga Falls will continue to offer an affordability subsidy to homebuyers in the form of a deferred and/or grant of up to \$30,000 for its single-family, owner-occupied minor home rehabilitation program.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City of Cuyahoga Falls will leverage CDBG funds, used for its single-family, owner-occupied minor home rehabilitation program with a lead hazard reduction grant from the Summit County Public Health District.

Individuals living in homes with lead-based paint hazards may be eligible to receive a forgivable loan with a maximum amount of \$12,902.71 from the Summit County Public Health District. Individuals who receive assistance from the Summit County Public Health District may also be eligible to receive up to \$6,955.24 in Healthy Homes assistance. To be eligible, the homeowner must have a child living in the home under the age of 6 or have a child visiting the home more than 6 hours a week or 62 hours a year. In addition, the City will offer a deferred loan and/or grant up to \$30,000 to income-qualified homeowners to address safety and health concerns in single-family unit dwellings.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The City of Cuyahoga Falls' anti-poverty strategy is to support State and other County organizations in

their efforts to assist low-to-moderate income persons in achieving economic self-sufficiency or maximum level of economic independence. In instances where this may not be possible because of personal limitations or client's experience, the goal is to enable them to achieve the maximum level of independence of which they are capable.

The City of Cuyahoga Falls will continue to refer needy families in the community to the Department of Job & Family Services. The Community Development Department will work to raise awareness of the availability of housing rehabilitation assistance, and the Summit County Home Weatherization Assistance Program, which utilizes State of Ohio funding in the form of grants to improve the overall weatherization of low-income households.

The Department of Job & Family Services determines applicant eligibility for participation in the following programs that assist extremely low- and low-income households and individuals:

Children and Families:

- Cash Assistance – OWF
- Child Care Services
- Food Assistance – FAP
- Healthy Start Medical Coverage
- Pregnancy Related Services
- Repairs and Expenses – PRC

Disabled and Seniors:

- Adult Protective Services
- Home Health Care – Ohio Home Choice Waivers
- Medicaid Transportation – NET
- Medicare Premium Payments
- Nursing Home Care
- Refugee Resettlement
- Supportive Services – PRC
- Age Blind and Disabled Medicaid Eligibility

Employment and training assistance are provided through Ohio Means Jobs- Summit County, where more than 13 workforce service providers are housed under the same roof to better serve the needs of both businesses and job seekers. The facility is the result of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 which mandated that career centers be developed throughout the nation for the convenience of employers

and job seekers.

- Ohio Means Jobs - Summit County
- Resource Room
- Fun Stop Daycare Center
- Unemployment Benefits
- Search for Employment

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

As they have in previous years, City of Cuyahoga Falls will continue to seek opportunities to work collaboratively with local nonprofit agencies and other municipalities in an attempt to maximize the impact of our Community Development projects and to leverage CDBG funds.

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

The City has continued to financially support social services meeting the needs of the City's lower income residents and that are consistent with Consolidated Plan goals. The City and other housing providers will continue their relationships to ensure continuation of the housing rehab program. AMHA administers the Section 8 and public housing programs for the City and will continue to collaborate to increase the quality of life for lower income residents.

Discussion:

In previous years, City of Cuyahoga Falls has participated in the Point in Time Count. The City of Cuyahoga Falls will continue to participate in the PIT Counts during the 2024-2028 Five-Year Consolidated Plan period.

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program is a federal program that provides grants to states and local governments to help them carry out a wide range of community development activities. The program is designed to help communities improve their physical, economic, and social conditions.

The community must use the CDBG funds to benefit low-to-moderate income persons. At least 70% of the CDBG funds must be used for activities that benefit low- and moderate-income persons.

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%

Consistent with the primary objective of the Act, section 104(b)(3)(A) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended requires each CDBG grantee to certify that, in the aggregate, at least 70% of CDBG funds to be expended, during a one, two, or three program year period specified by the grantee for this purpose, will be for activities meeting the L/M Income Benefit national objective. Although a 70% benefit is required for one, two or three years, the City of Cuyahoga Falls Development Department will strive to ensure that it exceeds this amount. The goal for this 2024-2028 Consolidated Plan period is 80%.

Appendix - Alternate/Local Data Sources

1	Data Source Name Annual COC-HMIS PIT Count
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	<p>List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.</p> <p>The CoC and HMIS created the PIT count data set.</p> <p>Provide a brief summary of the data set.</p> <p>At least every other year the local CoC and HMIS organization take a physical count of the County's homeless population. Based on the data collected from this physical count and inventory count is prepared and given to local governments and non-profit service organizations who use the data to make informed decisions.</p> <p>What was the purpose for developing this data set?</p> <p>To determine and count and other information concerning the local homeless population and their specific needs.</p> <p>How comprehensive is the coverage of this administrative data? Is data collection concentrated in one geographic area or among a certain population?</p> <p>The annual PIT count strives to make the best count possible including as much of the homeless population as possible on a given day in the year. It is a well-organized program assisted my local volunteers who have some knowledge or who work with this sub-population. It is also assisted by local law enforcement going into the woods and different buildings where the homeless are known to exist to make the count and information gathering as accurate as possible.</p> <p>What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set?</p> <p>The last annual count was made on January 22, 2024. Usually this count is made on every other year basis.</p> <p>What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)?</p> <p>Once the data and information are collected it's drafted into a report and provided to local government officials and agencies who assist in caring for the homeless. The report is collected as a point in time date and is as complete as possible as of that date.</p>
2	<p>Data Source Name</p> <p>2023 Point in Time Count</p> <p>List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.</p> <p>OH-506 CoC originated the 2023 PIT count data set.</p> <p>Provide a brief summary of the data set.</p> <p>HUD 2023 CoC homeless assistance programs homeless populations and subpopulations.</p> <p>What was the purpose for developing this data set?</p> <p>The purpose of using this data set is to inform NA40 Homeless Needs Assessment.</p>

	<p>How comprehensive is the coverage of this administrative data? Is data collection concentrated in one geographic area or among a certain population?</p> <p>This administrative data covers Summit County, Ohio and is a comprehensive count of individuals experiencing homelessness.</p>
	<p>What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set?</p> <p>This point in time count was performed on January 25, 2023.</p>
	<p>What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)?</p> <p>The status of this data set is complete.</p>
3	<p>Data Source Name</p> <p>2018-2022 ACS 5-year Estimates Data</p>
	<p>List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.</p> <p>www.census.gov</p>
	<p>Provide a brief summary of the data set.</p> <p>American Community Survey Data.</p>
	<p>What was the purpose for developing this data set?</p> <p>To provide the most recent population characteristics data to assist organizations in making decisions on public services.</p>
	<p>How comprehensive is the coverage of this administrative data? Is data collection concentrated in one geographic area or among a certain population?</p> <p>The ACS is a national comprehensive survey.</p>
	<p>What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set?</p> <p>January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2022.</p>
	<p>What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)?</p> <p>Complete</p>