



CITY OF NORWICH, CONNECTICUT
CONSOLIDATED PLAN
2020-2024

ANNUAL ACTION PLAN
2020

Starts Here

Starts Here

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Starts Here



RENTALS
Apartments

BAL TIC
1 Bedroom
First Floor
Off Street Parking!

Close to Casinos & Shopping
From only \$650.
No Pets
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Martin McKinney
Chairman

LEGAL NOTICE
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CITY OF NORWICH

Community Development Block Grant (2020-2021)
The City of Norwich Office of Community Development is accepting Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) estimates of funding have not yet been provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The anticipated amount will be approximately \$828,000. Funding is available for activities that are in-line with the National Objectives of CDBG and assist in achieving the overall goals set forth in the 5-Year Consolidated Plan (program guidelines) as categorized below.

- **"Provide Decent Affordable Housing"**
Programs that increase home ownership opportunities as well as promote code improvement and energy efficient housing
- **"Create a Suitable Living Environment"**
Activities addressing quality of life issues that improve infrastructure, encourage collaboration and foster a sense of community on a city-wide scale
- **"Expand Economic Opportunities for Low-to-Moderate Income Residents"**
Proposals that provide a measurable increase in job creation through business retention/expansion/creation; Proposals that will create an improved skill set and result in direct employment or business creation

Applications will be accepted until **4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11, 2020** at the Community Development Office, 23 Union St., Norwich, CT. Applicants must submit 1 original, 10 copies (only one copy hard copy of financials and one electronic copy) and 1 electronic version of their application. The electronic version need only contain Parts I, II & III (Microsoft Word document) Copies must be double sided and be on pre-punched, 3-hole paper. Please note that there are 2 different applications. The "Public Service" version should be used for programs benefiting low to moderate-income clientele. The "Non-Public Service" version should be used for public facilities. Improvements, economic development, rehabilitation and preservation activities whose service population is low to moderate-income clientele.

Applications and program guidelines are available at the Office of Community Development, 23 Union St., Norwich, CT or at the <http://www.norwichct.org> (under "government" and "departments").

We reserve the right to refuse applications that are incomplete and/or do not include necessary documentation.
Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action

City of Norwich
Assessment Analyst
Salary: \$44,868-\$48,769
Accountant
Salary: \$60,342-\$65,589
Visit www.norwichct.org/hr to apply and for more information. AA/EEO.

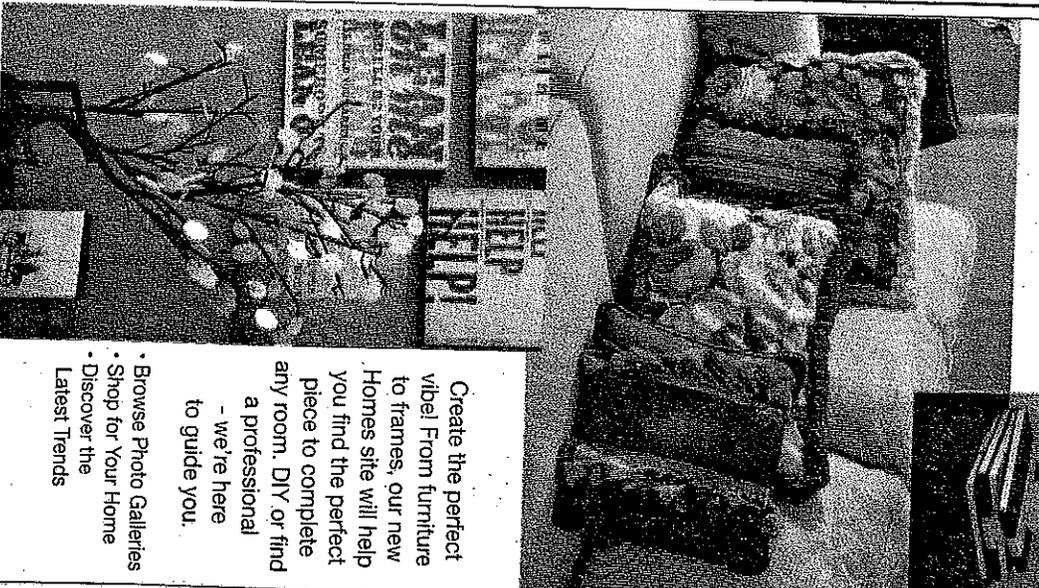
Chaplin Elementary School (approximately 155 students) has an immediate opening for a full-time (1.0 FTE) School Psychologist position servicing grades PK-6.

- Qualifications:**
- Must have CT School Psychologist certification (070)
 - BCBA or BCABA preferred
 - Strong background in behavior management
 - Working knowledge of IDEA and CT special education regulations
 - Working knowledge of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- Job Responsibilities:**
- Conduct evaluations (including Functional Behavior Assessments), write reports, present at PPT meetings
 - Provide IEP and 504 counseling (e.g., anxiety/anger management, social skills) to students
 - Design Behavior Intervention Plans (BIPs) and associated data collection methods that can be carried out in the school setting
 - Model implementation of BIPs and data collection
 - Present data from BIPs at PPT meetings
 - Lead the school's SRBI-Behavior process
 - Chair 504 meetings
 - Complete IEP paperwork that pertain to the position
 - Provide training to staff
 - Provide support/consultation to school's flex program
 - On-going consultation/collaboration with principal and Director of Special Education
 - Other responsibilities as directed by administration
- Please send application, resume, copy of license, certification for School Psychologist and three letters of reference to Kenneth V. Henrick, Superintendent, c/o Carol Cyr, 304 Parish Hill Road, Chaplin, CT 06235. E-mail submissions to ccyr@parishhill.org are strongly encouraged but not required. Position is open until filled.

The Bulletin

REGIONAL

ROOMIE



Create the perfect vibe! From furniture to frames, our new Home site will help you find the perfect piece to complete any room. DIY or find a professional - we're here to guide you.

- Browse Photo Galleries
- Shop for Your Home
- Discover the Latest Trends

www.norwichbulletin.com/homes
powered by houzz

Sprague Board of Education Job Opening

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

The Bulletin

Norwich to host block grant public meeting

By Staff reports

Posted Feb 18, 2020 at 5:00 PM

The city of Norwich will host a Community Development Advisory Block Grant public meeting from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Feb. 25 at the city's Community Development Office, 23 Union St., Norwich.

Attendees can provide opinions on what the community needs to do in order to improve housing opportunities, infrastructure, the physical environment and quality of life in Norwich before the committee gives testimony about these needs and suggestions for how the city can address them through the Community Development Block Grant program.

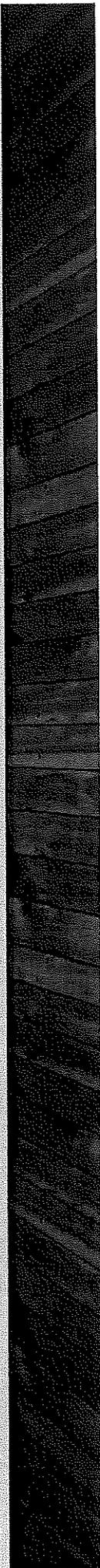
RSVP is requested by calling (860) 823-3770 or emailing

tcurtis@cityofnorwich.org.

2/25/20

CITY OF NORWICH

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – FIVE YEAR PLANNING PROCESS



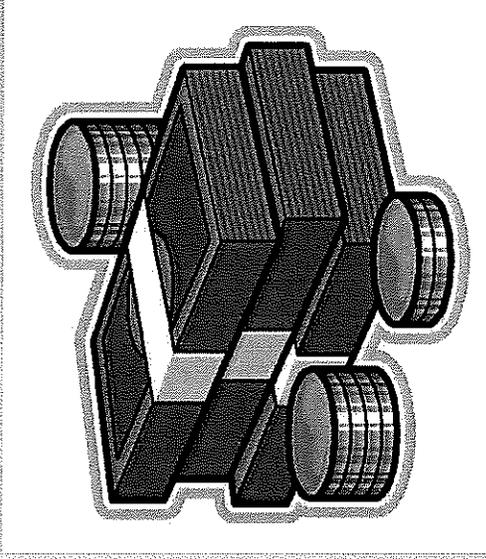
CONSOLIDATED PLAN

- **FIVE YEAR PLAN 2020-2024**
 - Identifies local housing and community development needs
 - Identifies the strategy for addressing local needs
- **ANNUAL PLAN**
 - Describes actions to be undertaken to meet strategic plan goals
 - Details budget for use of federal funds

FUNDING CYCLE

- **FY 2020 ALLOCATION ESTIMATES:**

- **CDBG:** \$861,120
- **RETURN OF LOAN:** \$50,000



ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES: SOME EXAMPLES INCLUDE

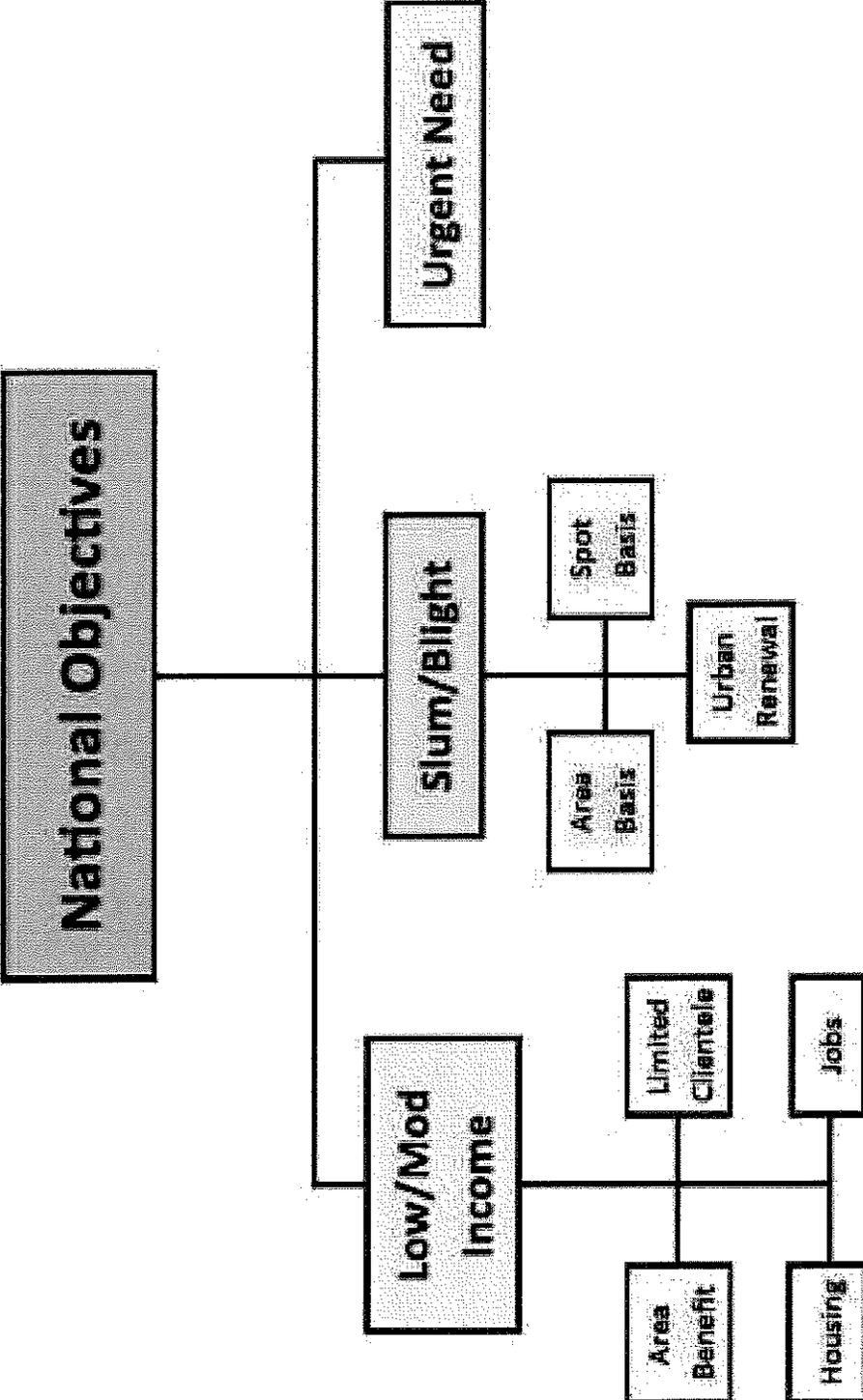
- Housing Rehabilitation
- Homeownership Assistance
- Public Facilities and Improvements
- Blight Removal/Site Clearance
- Code Enforcement
- Economic Development
- Public Services
- Acquisition/Disposition of Real Property

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES: EXAMPLES

- NO Political activities
- NO Construction of housing units by a unit of local government
- NO Operation and maintenance of public facilities
- NO General government expenses including construction of general government buildings
- NO Purchase of equipment (except fire)
- NO Direct Income Payments

FUNDABLE ACTIVITIES: MEETING NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

- Each Activity **MUST** meet one of the **THREE NATIONAL OBJECTIVES**:
- 1. Benefit to Low & Moderate Income Persons
- 2. Prevent or Eliminate Blights
- 3. Meet urgent needs when health and welfare are threatened



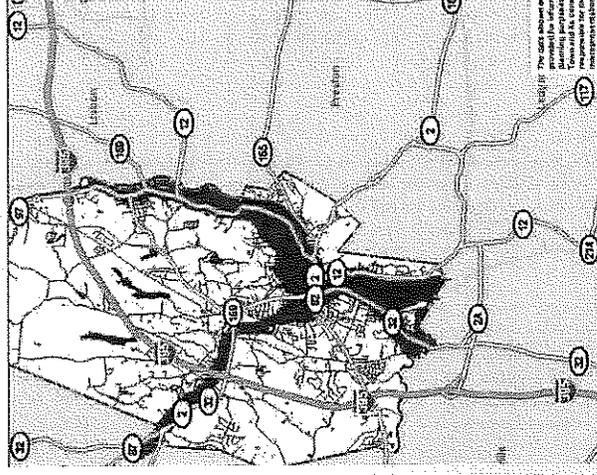
LOW & MODERATE INCOME BENEFIT

AREA BENEFIT

Must serve 51% low/moderate income persons by

Census Tract or block group:

Eligible census tracts: 6968; 6964; 6961; 6967



AREA BENEFIT

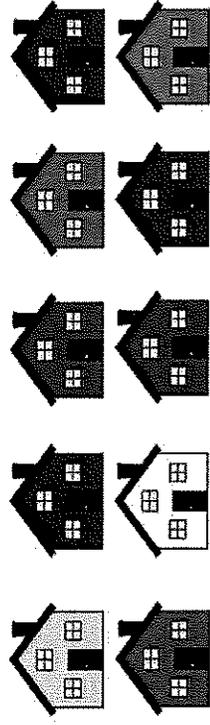
- **FACTORS to determine the area served by a public facility or improvement are:**
 - The nature of the activity – What are you planning on doing?
 - The location of the activity – Have you checked to make sure it is allowed (planning, zoning, state, feds)?
 - Access to the facility
 - The availability of comparable activities (does this already exist)?

LOW AND MODERATE INCOME BENEFIT – TYPES OF LOW/MOD BENEFIT

- Presumed to be low/mod: abused children, battered spouses, elderly, homeless..., or
- Client documents income, or
- Eligibility requirements limit clientele to low/mod income persons, or
- Nature and location of service predominantly used by low income persons, or
- Activity removes material or architectural barriers to accessibility of elderly persons or severely disabled adults.

LOW/MOD BENEFIT - TYPES

- HOUSING



- Providing or improving permanent residential structures, which upon completion, will be occupied by low and moderate income households

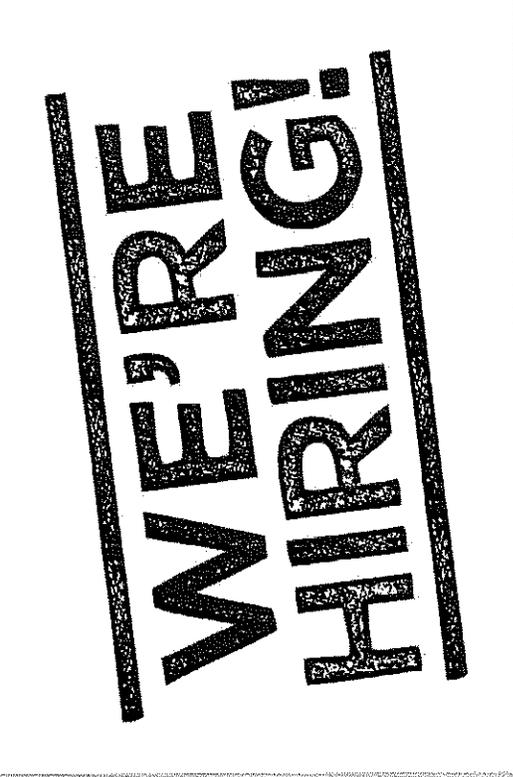


LOW & MODERATE INCOME BENEFIT - TYPES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- The activity must involve

EMPLOYMENT of persons, a majority of whom are low and moderate income.



**WE'RE
HIRING!**

LOW & MODERATE INCOME BENEFIT: DEFINITIONS

❖ INCOME – Section 8 low income limit established by HUD

- Very Low Income – under 30% of Area Median Income
- Low Income – 31% - 50% of AFMI
- Moderate Income – 51% to 80% of AFMI

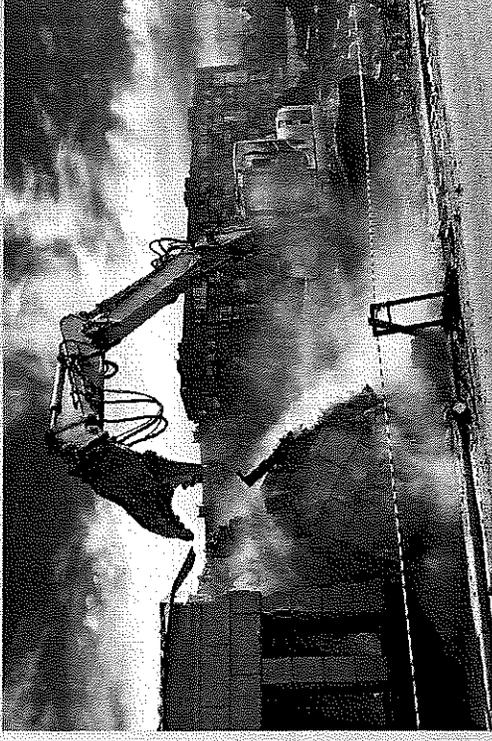
FAMILY – all persons living in the same household related by birth, marriage or adoption

2019 INCOME LIMITS

Income Limit Area	Median Family Income	Explanation								
		FY 2019 Income Limit Category	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Norwich- New London, CT HUD Metro FMR Area	\$94,500	Very Low (50%) Income Limits (\$)	35,350	40,400	45,450	50,450	54,500	58,550	62,600	66,600
		Extremely Low Income Limits (\$)*	21,200	24,200	27,250	30,250	32,700	35,100	39,010	43,430
		Low (80%) Income Limits (\$)	52,850	60,400	67,950	75,500	81,550	87,600	93,650	99,700

ELIMINATION OF SLUM & BLIGHT

- Definition of slum and blight per state law or local law.



SCHEDULE

- 5 YEAR CONPLAN Public Meetings/Request for Information from groups:
February/March 2020
- Applications for funding due – March 11
- CDAC/CD staff review for eligibility and recommend funding – March/April
- Public comment period April/May
- City Council vote on the Action Plan June/July
- Annual Action Plan submitted to HUD by August 15th

Kathy Crees

From: Kathy Crees
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2020 1:24 PM
To: 'Terri O'Rourke'; 'Peter Battles'; Patrick McLaughlin; Robert Mills; 'Jason Vincent'; 'jeffa@norwichha.org'; 'Joanne Drag'; 'Susy Hurlbert'; Deanna Rhodes; 'jsquarto@hotmail.com'; Chris LaRose
Cc: Tianne Curtis; Wayne Sharkey
Subject: Public Hearing on February 25, 2020 - Community Development
Importance: High

Hello

The City of Norwich Office of Community Development is charged by the Department of Housing and Urban Development to formulate a five year plan outlining the most pressing Community Development priorities facing Norwich and its residents for the upcoming period 2020-2025.

Your input is requested as a leader of a HOUSING, DEVELOPMENT/REDEVELOPMENT/CITY AGENCY IN Norwich. As a community leader, you are uniquely knowledgeable in what the community needs to do in order to improve housing opportunities, infrastructure, the physical environment and quality of life in Norwich.

The City of Norwich, Office of Community Development, invites you to attend a hearing on Tuesday, February 25, 2020, 23 Union Street – lower level conference room, from 3:30 – 5:30 pm before the Community Development Advisory Committee to give testimony about these needs and suggestions for how the City can address them through the Community Development Block Grant program. Your perspective on our community needs is essential.

Please RSVP to the Office of Community Development, 860-823-3770 or tcurtis@cityofnorwich.org regarding your attendance at the hearing. We ask that you provide a copy of your written comments to ensure that we have them recorded properly for our records. This written testimony will assist in formulating the five year plan and will be listed as part of the record of comments.

[CDBG Entitlement Program](#) provides annual grants on a formula basis to entitled cities and counties to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.

Kathryn M. Crees
Community Development Director
City of Norwich
23 Union Street
Norwich, CT 06360
860-885-2911
860-455-8637

Kathy Crees

From: Tianne Curtis
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2020 2:33 PM
To: Gemma Fabris; Kevin Saythany; Les King; Mark Marcy; Robert Moore; Robert Moore; Sean Barnes
Cc: Kathy Crees
Subject: FW: Public Hearing on February 25, 2020 - Community Development

Importance: High

Good afternoon,
Please read the below information for the upcoming CDAC Public Hearing February 25, 2020 at 3:30.

Thank you.
Tianne Curtis
CDBG Program Assistant
23 Union St 2nd FL
Norwich, CT 06360
www.norwichct.org
p 860-823-3774
f 860-823-3715

From: Kathy Crees <kcrees@cityofnorwich.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2020 1:24 PM
To: Terri O'Rourke <torourke@habitatect.org>; Peter Battles <echopb@sbcglobal.net>; Patrick McLaughlin <PMcLaughlin@cityofnorwich.org>; Robert Mills <bobmills@askncdc.com>; Jason Vincent <jvincent@askncdc.com>; jeffa@norwichha.org; Joanne Drag <joanned@norwichha.org>; Susy Hurlbert <susy.hurlbert@easternctrealtors.com>; Deanna Rhodes <drhodes@cityofnorwich.org>; jsquarto@hotmail.com; Chris LaRose <ChrisLarose@npumail.com>
Cc: Tianne Curtis <TCurtis@cityofnorwich.org>; Wayne Sharkey <WSharkey@cityofnorwich.org>
Subject: Public Hearing on February 25, 2020 - Community Development
Importance: High

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Kathryn M. Crees
Community Development Director
City of Norwich
23 Union Street
Norwich, CT 06360
860-885-2911
860-455-8637

This email was scanned by Bitdefender



CITY OF NORWICH
Office of Community Development

TO: CDAC Members
FROM: Les King, Chairman
DATE: February 18, 2020
SUBJECT: Public Meeting Notice

Please be advised there is a Community Development Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for **Tuesday February 25, 2020 at 3:30 PM** at 23 Union Street, basement conference room, Norwich, CT.

The purpose of the meeting is addressed as follows:

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Testimony of needs for 2020-2025 Five-Year Consolidated Plan

Please RSVP to the Office of Community Development at tcurtis@cityofnorwich.org regarding your attendance at the hearing. We ask that you provide a copy of your written comments to ensure that we have them recorded properly for our records. This written testimony will assist in formulating the five year plan and will be listed as part of the record of comments.

23 Union Street 2nd Floor Norwich, Connecticut 06360
Telephone (860) 823-3770 – Fax (860) 823-3715

DRAFT

**Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC)
February 25, 2020 – 3:30 PM
Basement Conference Room – 23 Union Street**

Members Present: Les King; Mark Marcy

Members Absent: Sean Barnes; Gemma Fabria; Kevin Saythany

Others Present: Kathy Crees; Tianne Curtis

1. Call to Order
The CDAC meeting was called to order at 3:40 PM.
2. Kathy Crees, Community Development Director, gave a Power Point presentation (Attached) on the 5-Year Planning Process and highlighted the key elements of eligible CDBG project funding.

Terri O'Rourke, CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut shared anticipated housing needs for the 5-yr goals for the City of Norwich; noting home ownership is a direct improvement in quality of life. Ms. O'Rourke referenced CR-35 in the 2018 CAPER (Attached) and suggested the City consider creating incentives for developers to offset the negative impact of high pre-development costs.

Kathy Crees announced there would be a second meeting March 2, 2020 for Community Plan comments.
3. Adjournment - There were no more present wishing to speak & meeting was adjourned at 4:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Tianne Curtis
CD Program Assistant



February 24, 2020

My name is Terri O'Rourke; I am the CEO of Habitat for Humanity of Eastern Connecticut, Inc. a nonprofit ownership housing provider for very low income households. Currently we are working on the development of 14 new units of ownership housing in the Greenville neighborhood. The project represents our largest investment in a neighborhood in our 30+ year history. When it is complete, we will have invested approximately \$3.8 million in Norwich and developed 24 units of housing, most of these in the last 10 years. These homes over a 30 year period are expected to generate an estimated \$2.8 million in property tax revenue for the municipality. Additionally, incremental benefit to the local economy occurs as we purchase building supplies and employ subcontractors from local providers, and thousands of volunteers stop for gas, coffee, lunch etc... on their way to and from our job sites.

To date, we have been awarded \$55,000 in CDBG funds, the last of which was June 2014. We no longer invest time applying for funds based on the city's priorities for use of their allocation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input to the development of an updated community plan. My remarks today are in reference to your notes in the FY 2018 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report page 17, which reads:

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

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

First, let me focus on significant kudo's to the City for its efforts to improve the zoning and permitting process. We are extremely appreciative of the staff in zoning and building enforcement for their willingness to educate us on what is permissible, what is safe and for their expeditious treatment of all applications and permitting requests. Even though we have been building homes for a long time, we still come across situations that are firsts for us, and appreciate the intervention of your staff to help us understand how to deal with some of the physical challenges on our sites. They do a great job.

Second, we would like to share some thoughts on tax policies affecting land, and fees and charges. For the 19 most recent homes we have and are investing in, we have already paid \$92,549 in pre-development property taxes. For those same homes, we have paid \$45,030 in permits and bond fees; together these two line items could have built another home, instead they act as a deterrent for further development. Today I turned down the donation of a blighted home in Norwich because of the carrying



costs associated with pre-development property tax. I urge the committee to consider creating an incentive for developers by limiting the amount of pre development taxation. While we appreciate the economic challenges every town and city in the state is facing, trading off short term solutions for long term benefit should be carefully weighed. One new house or like new renovation has the potential to generate an estimated \$105,000 over 30 years. One house we develop pays for the pre development taxation on the 19 projects. If the objective is to encourage development please carefully consider this request for pre-development relief, especially in light of the prioritized and limited use of CDBG funds.

Finally, we would like to advocate for the opportunity for renters to file complaints regarding the living conditions of a rental unit as they vacate it. For every full application we receive for homeownership, we conduct a home visit to assess the current living conditions. Pictures are taken to document mechanical and environmental issues. While an accepted applicant escapes from a dwelling that is substandard, it is the next renter that inhabits the unit we are concerned about. We know anecdotally that renters may not trust their landlord not to seek to evict them if they complain about problems in their unit, and a bad place to live is better than no place to live. When we have tried to intervene post removal, especially properties we know are subsidized with federal funds, landlords have been unresponsive to us.

In closing I would like to suggest why a provider like Habitat is important for Greenville and for Norwich. The area median income for Norwich Metropolitan Statistical Area is \$82,100 for a household of 4. The area median income for Greenville is \$39,597. The median income for owner occupied housing is \$75,000. The median income for renters is \$35,000.

Habitat is the only provider creating homeownership opportunities for very low income families. Homeownership is a crucial foundation for helping low-income families find a path out of poverty. When they move out of substandard housing and into decent affordable homes, homeowners and their families frequently improve their health, educational attainment, safety and personal wealth. Academic research and surveys point to one inescapable conclusion: that owning one's home enhances quality of life in a variety of specific, verifiable ways.

Homeownership leads to better health.

- A national survey of Habitat homeowners found that 74 % said their families overall health had improved since moving into their home.

Homeownership provides better security and safety.

- A 2011 national survey of Habitat homeowners by the University of Southern Indiana found that 84% felt safe in their neighborhoods.



Homeownership helps generate wealth building and a pathway out of poverty.

- "The median net wealth of low-income homeowners is dramatically higher than the median net wealth of low-income renters," according to a 2005 report by the Joint Center for Housing Studies.

Homeownership leads to greater educational achievements.

- Children in home owning families outperform children in renting families in both math and reading. These children will have fewer behavioral problems, higher educational attainment and greater future earnings, according to a study by an Ohio State University economist.

Thank you for your efforts and for allowing us the opportunity to speak with you today,

Sincerely,
Terri O'Rourke
CEO/Executive Director





CITY OF NORWICH
Office of Community Development

TO: CDAC Members
FROM: Les King, Chairman
DATE: February 20, 2020
SUBJECT: Public Meeting Notice

Please be advised there is a Community Development Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for:

Monday March 2nd, 2020 3:30 – 5:30 PM
at Room 335 City Hall 100 Broadway Norwich, CT

The purpose of the meeting is addressed as follows:

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Testimony of community needs for 2020-2025 Five-Year Consolidated Plan

Please RSVP to the Office of Community Development at tcurtis@cityofnorwich.org regarding your attendance at the hearing. We ask that you provide a copy of your written comments to ensure that we have them recorded properly for our records. This written testimony will assist in formulating the five year plan and will be listed as part of the record of comments.

23 Union Street 2nd Floor Norwich, Connecticut 06360
Telephone (860) 823-3770 – Fax (860) 823-3716

DRAFT

Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC)
March 2, 2020 – 3:30 PM
Room 335 City Hall 100 Broadway Norwich, CT

Members Present: Les King;

Members Absent: Mark Narcy; Sean Barnes; Gemma Fabris; Kevin Saythany

Others Present: Kathy Crees; Tianne Curtis

- i. Call to Order
The CDAC meeting was called to order at 3:40 PM.
- ii. Kathy Crees, Community Development Director, gave a Power Point presentation (Attached) on the 5-Year Planning Process and highlighted the key elements of eligible CDBG project funding. The floor was opened. Present and wishing to speak were:
 1. TVCCA representatives Jon-Paul Mandelburg, Director of Housing and Megan Brown, Senior Director of Marketing & Development. TVCCA's concerns focused around affordable, permanent housing & the housing cost burden, increased employment & training opportunities, affordable & accessible child care and improving public transportation. (Statement attached.) Les King asked if there was a way to track Norwich residents assisted only; Ms. Brown responded there was and that she would forward an example.
 2. Christine Goracy, Youth and Family Case Worker representing Norwich Youth and Family Services stated the most important need of City was a community center with a focus on activities in the after-school hours.
 3. Cheryl Hancin-Preston, Recreation Director stated the needs of the City have changed and that there are public spaces that have become rundown and dangerous. Ms. Crees noted that maintenance is not an Eligible Activity for CDBG funds. Ms. Hancin-Preston stated they also felt the City needed a community center.
 4. Mike Van Vlaanderen, COO of Reliance Health stated his organization had been awarded CDBG funds in the past, however the focus had shifted to larger awards to a lesser number of recipients.
 5. LeeAnn Gomes, Director of Human Services stated the job training and shelter diversion programs currently funded by CDBG were an asset to the City of Norwich and should continue to be supported.
 6. Leonard Miller, President of Night Flight Basketball League stated he has strong ties to the area and proposed increased involvement of all residents to have pride in the community. Mr. Miller explained how the NF League supports this with tournaments and outreach and stated he would like to see renovations at Jenkins Park on High St.
- iii. Adjournment - Kathy Crees announced there would be a final meeting March 9, 2020 for Community Plan comments. There were no more present wishing to speak & meeting was adjourned at 4:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Tianne Curtis
CD Program Assistant

CDBG – Norwich Needs Statement March 2, 2020
Jon-Paul Mandelburg

Introduction:

Native of Norwich, resident for 20 years, and student of Norwich Public Schools grades K-12, Director of Housing Services at Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc. (TVCCA) which has served the residents of Norwich and surrounding towns since its incorporation in 1965.

I would summarize our perspective on the needs of Norwich and its residents within the following categories:

1. Affordable, permanent housing and a means to decrease the housing cost burden experienced by Norwich residents.
2. Additional Employment & Training opportunities
3. Affordable and accessible child care
4. Improved Public Transportation

In recent years, the city of Norwich has done well to improve its economy as evidenced by its drop in unemployment rates, cited at 3.6% at the end 2019. However, according to the United Way's 2018 ALICE report, approximately 40% of Norwich residents are considered Asset Limited Income Constrained and Employed, while the percentage of Norwich residents at or below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) has increased by more than 20% since 2016. In essence, many Norwich households are living paycheck to paycheck, without a financial safety net to contend with an unexpected expense.

Consequently, many local households are working, but struggle to afford and meet their basic needs to include: housing, nutrition, child care, and transportation. Further, nearly 50% of all Norwich Renters are cost burdened, meaning their housing costs exceed 30% of their gross income, with an estimated 20% of renters spending more than 50% of their income on housing.

During my tenure at TVCCA, I've seen a significant number of our service recipients enter the door seeking assistance with a housing crisis, or for support in meeting other basic needs, be it food, transportation or support in navigating another financial burden and accessing local resources.

Often times, our work is with households who have experienced an acute, unexpected financial hardship which they are unable to navigate without assistance due to their limited assets. Our work revolves around assisting these households financially, through the crisis, while developing a plan to be able to maintain stability via the support provided with referrals to supplemental resources in the community.

From October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019, we provided services to more than 4,600 Norwich households, with a majority of them seeking support from our Housing and Community Services departments to include assistance with rental arrearages, security and utility deposits, or the

maintenance of their housing subsidy; with nearly half of these 4,600 households receiving assistance with the cost of their primary home heating source.

As a high cost burden associated with housing remains a reality in Norwich, contributing factors to this are the need for additional employment and training opportunities, aimed at increasing household income.

As of 2017, Norwich had a median annual income 33% less than the median income across the state. In our experience supporting Norwich households, one major obstacle in obtaining and maintaining employment is access to readily accessible public transportation as many households report being unable to afford the cost associated with personally owned transportation i.e.; purchase, insurance, taxes, etc.

Further, the cost associated with childcare can prove prohibitive, as in many cases the cost of child care negates potential job earnings. With the 2018 American Community Survey estimating 2,200 children under the age of 5 residing in Norwich, additional affordable child care opportunities would enable additional households, particularly single parent households, to obtain employment while also providing for their young children.

Thank you for the opportunity to briefly speak to our perspective on the needs of the City of Norwich and its residents.

Kathy Crees

From: Kathy Crees
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2020 6:51 PM
To: B Farwell
Cc: Tianne Curtis
Subject: RE: Norwich 5 Year Consolidated Plan

The meeting is on Monday, March 2nd..

Kathryn M. Crees
Community Development Director
City of Norwich
23 Union Street
Norwich, CT 06360
860-885-2911
860-455-8637

From: Kathy Crees
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2020 1:18 PM
To: B Farwell <bfarwell@otislibrarynorwich.org>
Cc: Tianne Curtis <TCurtis@cityofnorwich.org>
Subject: Norwich 5 Year Consolidated Plan

Hello

The City of Norwich Office of Community Development is charged by the Department of Housing and Urban Development to formulate a five year plan outlining the most pressing Community Development priorities facing Norwich and its residents for the upcoming period 2020-2025.

Your input is requested as a leader of a Public/Social/Community Service Provider in Norwich. As a community leader, you are uniquely knowledgeable in what the community needs to do in order to improve housing opportunities, infrastructure, the physical environment and quality of life in Norwich.

The City of Norwich, Office of Community Development, invites you to attend a hearing on MONDAY, March 2, 2020, Room 335 at City Hall, from 3:30 – 5:30 pm before the Community Development Advisory Committee to give testimony about these needs and suggestions for how the City can address them through the Community Development Block Grant program. Your perspective on our community needs is essential.

Please RSVP to the Office of Community Development, 860-823-3770 or tcurtis@cityofnorwich.org regarding your attendance at the hearing. We ask that you provide a copy of your written comments to ensure that we have them recorded properly for our records. This written testimony will assist in formulating the five year plan and will be listed as part of the record of comments.

CDBG Entitlement Program provides annual grants on a formula basis to entitled cities and counties to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.

Kathryn M. Crees

Community Development Director
City of Norwich
23 Union Street
Norwich, CT 06360
860-885-2911
860-455-8637

Kathryn M. Crees
Community Development Director
City of Norwich
23 Union Street
Norwich, CT 06360
860-885-2911
860-455-8637



CITY OF NORWICH
Office of Community Development

TO: CDAC Members
FROM: Las King, Chairman
DATE: March 5, 2020
SUBJECT: Public Meeting Notice

Please be advised there is a Community Development Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for:

**Monday March 9th, 2020 3:30 – 5:30 PM
at Room 335 City Hall 100 Broadway Norwich, CT**

The purpose of the meeting is addressed as follows:

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Testimony of community needs for 2020-2025 Five-Year Consolidated Plan

23 Union Street 2nd Floor Norwich, Connecticut 06360
Telephone (860) 823-3770 -- Fax (860) 823-3715

DRAFT

**Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC)
March 9, 2020 – 3:30 PM
Room 335 City Hall 100 Broadway Norwich, CT**

Members Present: Les King

Members Absent: Sean Barnes; Gemma Fabris; Mark Marcy; Kevin Saythany

Others Present: Kathy Cress; Tienne Curtis

1. As there were none present, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Tienne Curtis
CD Program Assistant

Page 1 of 1

LEGAL NOTICE
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CITY OF NORWICH

Community Development Block Grant (2020-2021)

The City of Norwich Office of Community Development is accepting Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications for Program Year 46 (9/1/20 –8/31/2021). Preliminary estimates of funding have not yet been provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The anticipated amount will be approximately \$828,000. Funding is available for activities that are in-line with the National Objectives of CDBG and assist in achieving the overall goals set forth in the 5-Year Consolidated Plan (program guidelines) as categorized below:

“Provide Decent Affordable Housing”

- Programs that increase home ownership opportunities as well as promote code improvement and energy efficient housing

“Create a Suitable Living Environment”

- Activities addressing quality of life issues that improve infrastructure, encourage collaboration and foster a sense of community on a city-wide scale

“Expand Economic Opportunities for Low-to-Moderate Income Residents”

- Proposals that provide a measurable increase in job creation through business retention/expansion/creation;
- Proposals that will create an improved skill set and result in direct employment or business creation

Applications will be accepted **until 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11, 2020** at the Community Development Office, 23 Union St., Norwich, CT. Applicants **must** submit 1 original, 10 copies (only one copy hard copy of financials and one electronic copy) and 1 electronic version of their application. The electronic version need only contain Parts I, II & III (Microsoft Word document) **Copies must be double sided and be on pre-punched, 3-hole paper. Please note that there are 2 different applications. The “Public Service” version should be used for programs benefiting low to moderate-income clientele. The “Non-Public Service” version should be used for public facilities improvements, economic development, rehabilitation and preservation activities whose service population is low to moderate-income clientele.**

Applications and program guidelines are available at the Office of Community Development, 23 Union St., Norwich, CT or at the Community Development’s department page online at: <http://www.norwichct.org> (under “government” and “departments”).

We reserve the right to refuse applications that are incomplete and/or do not include necessary documentation.

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action

Payment Information

Total Order Price: \$597.44

Payment Type: MasterCard- Payway | Exp:





The City of Norwich Community Development Department is hard at work ensuring the City receives its annual allocation from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. We are continuing to work both in the office and remotely to meet citizen's needs. As safety, from COVID-19, is of the utmost concern we are conducting our Community Development Advisory Committee meeting utilizing the ZOOM platform. Below is the information to join the scheduled meetings:

MARCH 30, 2020 AT 5:00 P.M. CDAC ZOOM MEETING 1

City of Norwich is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/170235323?pwd=bE9PZVg4YVFCZ3VNTmJISzVNO2Zjdz09>

Meeting ID: 170 235 323

Password: 030070

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US

Meeting ID: 170 235 323

APRIL 2, 2020 AT 3:00 P.M. CDAC ZOOM MEETING 2

City of Norwich is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/869700884?pwd=b0EvZnh3aUloY2RlY0o4ZENrUWRlPUU9>

Meeting ID: 869 700 884

Password: 028676

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US

Meeting ID: 869 700 884

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/869700884>

APRIL 7, 2020 AT 3:00 P.M. CDAC ZOOM MEETING PUBLIC HEARING/DELIBERATIONS

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/128080127?pwd=bXl6bjZOOWVKOThvNVZrJ05GcGVkdz09>

Meeting ID: 128 080 127

Password: 014086

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US

Meeting ID: 128 080 127

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/128080127>

Grantee Unique Appendices



CITY OF NORWICH
Office of Community Development

AGENDA

Please be advised there is a Community Development Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for:

Thursday March 30th, 2020 5:00 PM –ZOOM Videoconference Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting Online at:
<https://zoom.us/j/170235323?pwd=bE9PZVg4YVFCZ3VNTmJlUzVhQ2Zkdz09>

Meeting ID: 170 235 323
Password: 030070

OR:

Dial by your location
+1 646 676 9923 US (New York)
+1 253 215 8782 US

Meeting ID: 170 235 323
Password: 03007

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Establishment of meeting schedule
3. 2020 CDBG Application Presentations
4. Adjournment

23 Union Street 2nd Floor Norwich, Connecticut 06360
Telephone (860) 823-3770 – Fax (860) 823-3716

Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC)

March 30, 2020 – 5:00 PM

ZOOM Platform Teleconference – Meeting ID 170-235-323 Password 030070

Public URL <https://zoom.us/j/170235323?pwd=bEg6ZVZq4YVFCZ3VNTlnJSzVhNC2Zldz09>

Members Present: Les King, Sean Barnes, Gemma Fabris, Mark Marcy and Kevin Saythony

Others Present: Kathy Cress and Tianne Curtis

1. The CDAC meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM.
2. Chairman Les King stated the meeting schedule as 3/30/20 5:00 PM, 4/02/20 3:00 PM and 4/07/20 3:00 PM. All of the meetings are scheduled to be through ZOOM teleconference.
3. The presentation schedule for the meeting was as follows:

5:00 PM	Children in Placement
5:10 PM	Rapid Rehousing & Shelter Diversion - NHS
5:20 PM	Norwich Works - NHS
5:30 PM	Immigration Advocacy & Support - CLEAR
5:40 PM	TVCCA Home Again
5:50 PM	OIC of NL County
6:00 PM	Safe Futures
6:10 PM	CD Admin

Children in Placement (CIP) \$15,000.00

Executive Director Janet Freimuth presented the application. CIP is requesting operating funds to continue serving Norwich abused/neglected youth as the only agency of its kind authorized to recruit, train and supervise volunteers to serve foster and abused/neglected children as a Guardian ad Litem (GAL). They anticipate serving 25 youth from the City of Norwich.

Norwich Human Services – Rapid Rehousing & Shelter Diversion \$15,000.00

The applicant was not logged in and the application was rescheduled to the April 2, 2020 meeting.

Norwich Human Services – Norwich Works \$50,000.00

The applicant was not logged in and the application was rescheduled to the April 2, 2020 meeting.

Immigration Advocacy & Support Center – CLEAR \$3,000.00

IASC Board Treasurer Kathy Parker and Atty. Joseph Marino presented the application. (PowerPoint attached) IASC is a not-for-profit, legal services organization requesting operating costs to address the needs of Norwich residents. Their office space is located in New London; however, Norwich residents are assisted in locations such as Norwich Adult Education and Otis Library. The program Changing Lives, Empowering All Residents (CLEAR) provides free educational presentations on immigration legal requirements.

TVCCA – Home Again \$20,000.00

Jon-Paul Mandelburg, Director of Housing Programs and Development Director Mary Milanoso presented for TVCCA Home Again. The program continues to focus on homelessness prevention and grant funds are passed on to low-income Norwich residents who need partial assistance with housing security items such as rent payments, security deposits. They anticipate providing financial assistance to 33 Norwich households.

OIC of New London County \$25,000

The applicant was not logged in and the application was rescheduled to the April 2, 2020 meeting.

Safe Futures \$15,000.00

The applicant was not logged in and the application was rescheduled to the April 2, 2020 meeting.

Community Development Administration \$172,224.00

Community Development Director Kathryn Cress presented. The formula for the request remains the same; 20% of the annual grant and expended revolving loan.

Meeting adjourned at 6:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tianne Curtis
CD Program Assistant



CITY OF NORWICH
Office of Community Development

AGENDA

Please be advised there is a Community Development Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for:

Thursday, April 16, 2020 5:00 PM - ZOOM Conference Meeting

On April 16, 2020 AT 5:00 PM you will be able to join the Meeting ID: 996 2305 7456 via AUDIO conference by dialing one of the following:

One tap mobile

+13128268799,,99623057456# US (Chicago)
+16468769923,,99623057456# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 8799 US (Chicago)
+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

You will need Meeting ID: 996 2305 7456 and Password: 409762

PLEASE NOTE this is an audio-only conference.

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/aKIWUJ27NG>

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
3. 2020 CDBG Application Deliberations
4. Adjournment

23 Union Street 2nd Floor Norwich, Connecticut 06360
Telephone (860) 823-3770 - Fax (860) 823-3715

**Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC)
Meeting Minutes of April 16, 2020 – 5:00 PM**

ZOOM Platform Audioconference – Meeting ID: 996 2305 7456 Password: 409762
Public Dial-In +1 312 626 8799 US (Chicago) +1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

Members Present: Les King, Sean Barnes, Gemma Fabris, Mark Marcy
Members Present: Kevin Saythany
Others Present: Kathy Cress and Tianna Curtis

- I. The CDAC meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM.
- II. Upon motion by Mark Marcy, second by Gemma Fabris, the Committee voted to approve the minutes of the 3/30/20 and 4/09/20 meetings. Motion passed unanimously
- III. Les King asked if there were any questions the Committee had on the applications before moving to deliberations. Gemma Fabris noted it was unclear if the failed retaining wall appearing in the Boswell Ave Sidewalks proposal was the responsibility of the property owner or the City. Kathy Cress stated the response she received from Civil Engineer Teresa Hanlon was that it's the property owner's responsibility if it was holding up their property.

The Committee continued to deliberations.

1. CD Administration – The request is calculated at 20% of the grant formula. Additional funding will be created by return of loan to cover any necessary expenses. Funded \$179,004.00
2. Children in Placement – Benefits an underserved group. - Funded \$15,000.00
3. Rapid Rehousing & Shelter Diversion – Established program that continues to perform as preventative measure. - Funded \$15,000.00
4. Norwich Works – Successful program with a direct benefit to LMI residents of Norwich and improvement of quality of life. - Funded \$50,000.00
5. Immigration Advocacy & Support (CLEAR) – There was some concern of the budget verbiage "In lieu of" when referring to the church charging rent and the implication. It will be noted for any future applications. - Funded \$3,000.00
6. TVCCA Home Again – Will directly benefit LMI Norwich families. - Funded at \$20,000.00
7. OIC of NL County – The OIC acts as an important conduit but provides soft-services before referral onto another entity. – Not Funded \$0.00
8. Safe Futures – Serves the presumed benefit client. - Funded \$15,000.00
9. NCDC Working Lab – The Committee recommended a pilot program and agreed to partial funding. – Funded \$10,000.00
10. ARC of NL County – Kathryn Cress stated she could not confirm the application was eligible. The HUD CPD Rep had been consulted and, while energy efficiency improvements are an acceptable activity, it refers only to residential properties. The Committee recommended the applicant contact NPU about their energy audit program. – Not Funded \$0.00

11. Rosewood Manor III Ductless Splits, Norwich Housing Authority – There is a direct benefit to the LMI residents of the public housing complex. – Funded \$100,000.00
12. Boswell Ave Sidewalks, DPW – The funding amount was reduced to reflect the failed retaining wall that was the financial responsibility of the private-property owner. – Funded \$200,000.00
13. WWI Memorial Park 540 Norwich Ave, DPW – There was not funding available to make the project a priority. – Not Funded \$0.00
14. Futures, Inc. - Kathryn Crees stated she could not confirm the application was eligible. The HUD CPD Rep had been consulted and, while energy efficiency improvements are an acceptable activity, the reference is to residential properties. -- Not Funded \$0.00.
15. Taftville Basketball Courts – Funding amount was reduced, – Funded \$70,000.00
16. McKoon Park Occum – The proposal included a combination of eligible and ineligible activities. – Not Funded \$0.00
17. Property Rehabilitation – CD – Funding was reduced to balance out the recommendations – Funded \$248,447.72

After careful consideration, motion was made by Mark Marcy, second by Gemma Fabris to fund the applications as stated. Motion passed unanimously. Award recommendations will be referred to City Council.

IV. Upon motion by Mark Marcy, second by Lee King, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tianne Curtis
CD Program Assistant

CDBG Requests - PY46 (2020-2021)

Anti-raped PY 2020 Allocation	\$	831,123.00
PY 46 Recourse	\$	58,551.72
RCF Admin	\$	6,793.00
	\$	923,451.72

		PY 46 Request	COAC Recommendation	Council Recommendation
SD China - Administration	\$	172,224.00		
20% of ROL	\$	5,700.00	\$ 178,034.00	\$ -
Public Services				
Children in Placement	\$	15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -
Rapid Response & Shelter Division - RHE	\$	15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -
March Works - NPS	\$	50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
Immigration Advocacy & Support - CLEAR	\$	3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -
TVCCA Home Again	\$	20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -
Old of Nl County	\$	25,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Safe Futures	\$	15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -
NCDC Working Lab	\$	40,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
Total Public Services	\$	148,000.00	\$ 128,000.00	\$ -
Non-Public Services				
ARC of Nl County	\$	22,331.25	\$ -	\$ -
Rosewood Manor III Unifirst Splits - NWA	\$	100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -
Boswell Ave Snowwalks - DPW	\$	227,183.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -
WWI Memorial Park 640 Norwich Ave - DPW	\$	98,010.00	\$ -	\$ -
Futures, Inc	\$	41,705.53	\$ -	\$ -
Tuttle Basketball Courts - Norwich Recreation	\$	70,000.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$ -
McKeon Park Occurs - Norwich Recreation	\$	180,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Property Rehabilitation - CD	\$	250,000.00	\$ 216,447.72	\$ -
Total Non-Public Services	\$	888,198.78	\$ 616,447.72	\$ -
Public Service	\$	143,000.00	\$ 128,000.00	\$ -
Non-Public Service	\$	858,158.78	\$ 616,447.72	\$ -
CD Administration	\$	179,004.00	\$ 179,004.00	\$ -
Total All Requests	\$	1,280,202.78	\$ 923,451.72	\$ -

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich is an entitlement community receiving U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) dollars of \$861,120.00; \$55,551.72 Recaptured funds and \$6,780.00 anticipated return of loan (administration) for program year (PY 46) 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) has held public meetings and voted on their recommendations for CDBG allocations in the month of April; and

WHEREAS, the allocation process is subject to a 30-day comment period prior to being placed into effect and the Council of the City of Norwich must hold a public hearing regarding the recommendations prior to the final vote on the allocation and the City of Norwich has held a public hearing regarding the recommendations prior to the final vote on the allocation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH that the Council shall and hereby does allocate the funds for (PY 46) 2020 Community Development; Recapture and anticipated Return of Loan for administration as follows:

CDBG Requests - PY46 (2020-2021)

Anticipated PY 2020 Allocation	\$	861,120.00
PY 46 Recaptures	\$	55,551.72
RSL Admin	\$	6,780.00
	\$	923,451.72

	PY 2020 Request	CDAC Recommendation	Council Recommendation
CD Office - Administration	\$ 172,224.00	\$ 176,004.00	\$ -
CD Office - RSL	\$ 6,780.00	\$ -	\$ -
Public Services			
Children in Placement	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -
Capital Planning & Grants Division - MHA	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00	\$ -
Norwich Works - MHA	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -
Immigration Advocacy & Support - CLEHR	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -
TVOCIA Home Again	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -
CGC of NE County	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Safe Futures	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00	\$ -
NICAD Working Lab	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
Total Public Services	\$ 148,000.00	\$ 128,000.00	\$ -
Non-Public Services			
APC of NE County	\$ 22,391.25	\$ -	\$ -
Rosewood Manor II Business Spitz - MHA	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -
Brookside Age Fellowship - DPHU	\$ 227,163.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -
WWI Memorial Park 510 Norwich Ave - DPHU	\$ 06,018.00	\$ -	\$ -
Palmas, Inc	\$ 41,786.03	\$ -	\$ -
Tabelle Baseball Courts - Norwich Recreation	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$ -
Walden Park Ocean - Norwich Recreation	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Property Rehabilitation - CH	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 148,447.72	\$ -
Total Non-Public Services	\$ 986,108.78	\$ 616,447.72	\$ -
Public Services	\$ 145,000.00	\$ 128,000.00	\$ -
Non-Public Services	\$ 965,180.70	\$ 616,447.72	\$ -
CD Administration	\$ 123,051.02	\$ 123,051.00	\$ -
Total All Requests	\$ 1,232,262.78	\$ 869,498.72	\$ -

City Manager John L. Salomoue

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NOTICES

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Home Services

Starts Here

Legals

Starts Here

Notices

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blessings and love
as you move
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Legals

TOWN OF FRANKLIN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Finance will hold a Public Hearing Tuesday, June 9, 2020, 7:50 p.m. to hear all persons wishing to comment on the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Town Municipal and Board of Education Budgets. A copy of the Budget is posted on www.frnklin.com under News. At this hearing interested persons may be heard and written communications may be received.

Legals

To join with your phone dial-in: +1 (929) 205 6099 US (New York), Meeting ID: 858 0196 0053. Password: 163233; OR with ZOOM free sign-up and sign-in @ zoom.us. Same ID & PASSWORD. Sign-in early to be prepared for meeting start. If you are experiencing difficulty call (860) 886.3114.

Richard Handfield
Chairman Board of Finance

Legals

The proposed Community Development Advisory Committee allocation recommendations for Community Development Block Grant PY 2020.

Copies of the applications and recommendations are available for public inspection at norwichct.org and on file available in the Community Development Offices 23 Union St Norwich, As City of Norwich offices are closed at this time, please call 860-623-3770 for arrangements.

Dated at Norwich, on this 30th day of May 2020.

Kathryn Cross
Director of Community Development

Legals

FUN AND GAMES

Legals

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

Legals

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Listen carefully, and use the information you gather to assess your current situation and to re-visit the way you move forward. Take the time to update your skills and knowledge into something that will encourage a shift in lifestyle. 3 stars
TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Something you read will change the way you think and do things. Verify information someone uses to tempt you to get involved in something they do what feels right for you do not follow in someone's footsteps. 3 stars
GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take better care of your health and physical well-being. A fitness routine will ensure that you are strengthening yourself in preparation for what's to come. Don't let anger consume you. Instead, let physical movement ease stress and clear your mind. 5 stars
CANCER (June 21-July 22): Try to stay positive. Emotional spending won't solve anything. Work with what you've got, and you'll find a way to minimize your lifestyle rather than adapt to the clutter. Organization will lead to positive changes and new beginnings. 2 stars
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Search for a new image that suits your changing personality. Set a course that leads to a brighter future. Choose to associate with people who share the same opinions. 2 stars
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Use intelligence, experience and facts to help you overcome any adversity you face. Someone will play games with you if you are gullible or too accommodating. Recognize who is in your corner before you alter your course. 4 stars
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): Consider what you enjoy doing most, and head in that direction. Look for a way to turn your talents and desires into something lucrative. Stretch your boundaries until you find a balance between what you love and what you can achieve. 3 stars
CORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Question your motives, lifestyle and direction. Evaluate what you have accomplished and what you want to pursue. The past, coupled with what's happening in your life now, will help you discover a path that feels right. 3 stars
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Gather information, but before you pass it along, verify facts. A partnership will require an adjustment if it's going to work. Discuss what's important to you and what you are willing to offer in return. Romance is in the stars. 3 stars
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): An opportunity looks better than anticipated. Make any changes necessary to ensure that you can take advantage of whatever comes your way. Discuss your plans with someone who will be affected by the decision you make. Clear the way. 4 stars
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep your life simple and affordable, and head in a direction that brings you peace of mind and a better relationship with the ones you love. A positive change at home or in your life is a contract with your situation for the future. 5 stars
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Listen, observe and consider the best route to take to avoid a negative encounter. Choose to work alone if it will minimize interference. Focus on accomplishment, not presentation. Let your intuition guide you when faced with uncertainty or a negative influence. 3 stars

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The Bulletin Friday, April 10, 2020 A

Jim Konrad, Executive editor
860-425-4201
jkonrad@norwichbulletin.com

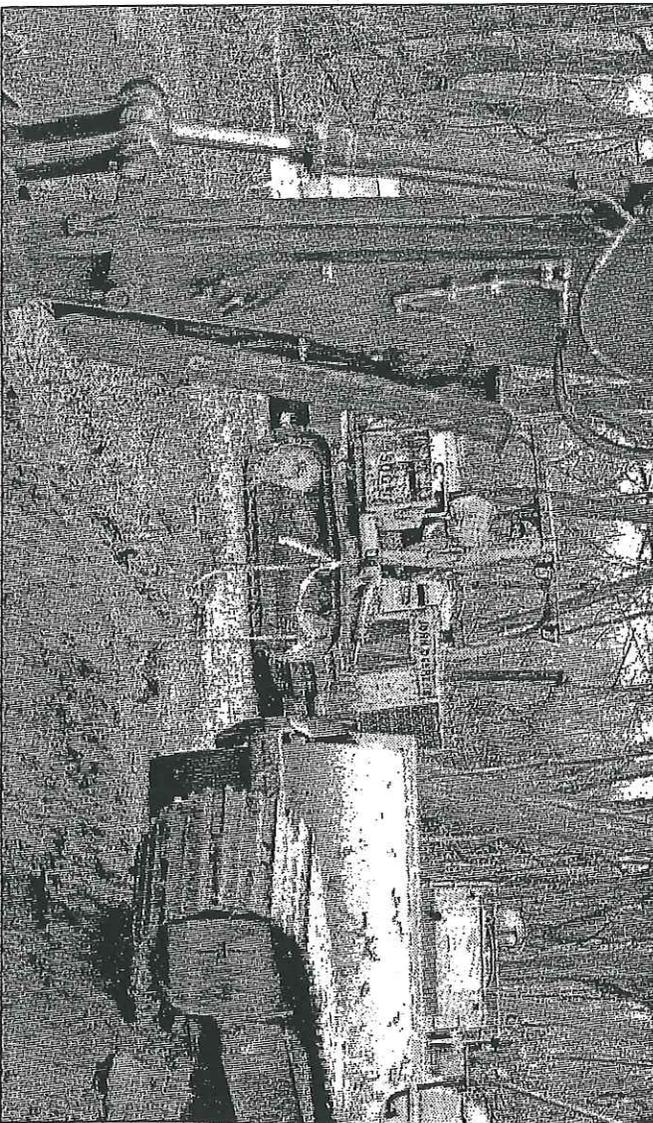


NORWICH Office of Community Development seeking input

The city of Norwich Office of Community Development is charged by the Department of Housing and Urban Development to formulate a five year plan outlining the most pressing Community Development priorities facing Norwich and its residents for the upcoming period 2020-24. Surveys should be completed by April 20.

The city is seeking input from residents; community and social service, faith-based, housing, development and redevelopment agencies; and private industry. The focus is to gain information from organizations regarding community needs in order to improve the quality of life, housing, infrastructure and physical environment in Norwich. The survey is confidential, and no individual information will be shared. To take the survey: survey@orwich.monkey.com or <http://NorwichComPlan.com>

Killing iv ROE chairresigns

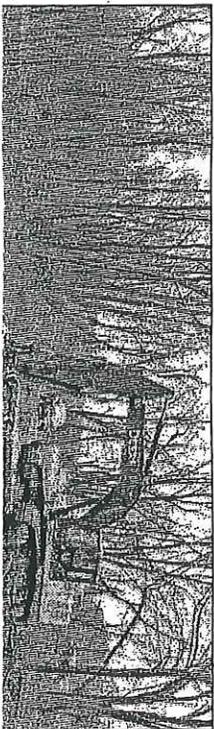


Work continues Thursday on a \$5 million project to expand the Air Line Trail in off Holmes Road in Pontifre. JOHN SHISHMANIAN/NORWICHBULLETIN.COM

Project calls for building access culverts where pedestrians, bikers can pass through

By John Penney

jpenney@norwichbulletin.com



Atheist organization wants Lamont to rescind exemption for churches They shouldn't 'get special privileges'

By Jimmy Zanor
izanor@norwichbulletin.com

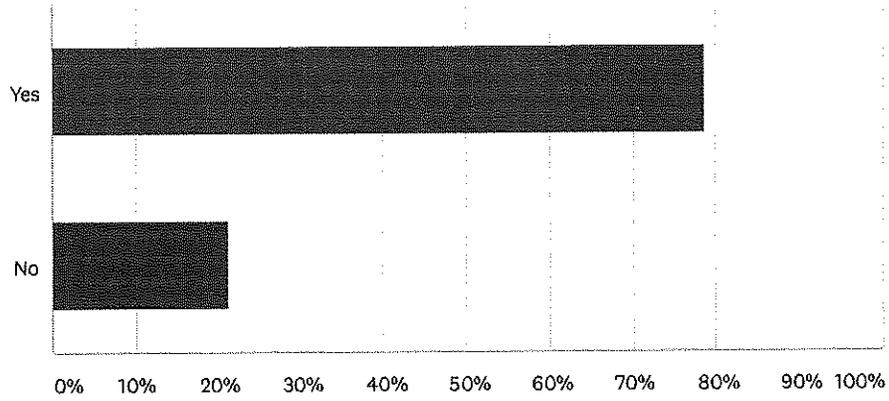
Despite many local church conducting services through live streaming and social media during the coronavirus pandemic, the religious equality watchdog organization American Atheists has targeted Gov. Ned Lamont's recent executive order that places limits on the amount of people who can participate in social and recreational gatherings. Lamont reduced the number to five people while exempting religious, spiritual, or worship gatherings, which were subjected to a limit of 50 persons.

The premier Atheist organization in the country has called for Lamont to rescind the exception.

"Things are going on in all 50 states," said Dennis P. Himes, the Connecticut State Director for American Atheists. "Congress should pass legislation to ensure that all states have the same level of protection for religious freedom."

Q1 Are you a Norwich Resident?

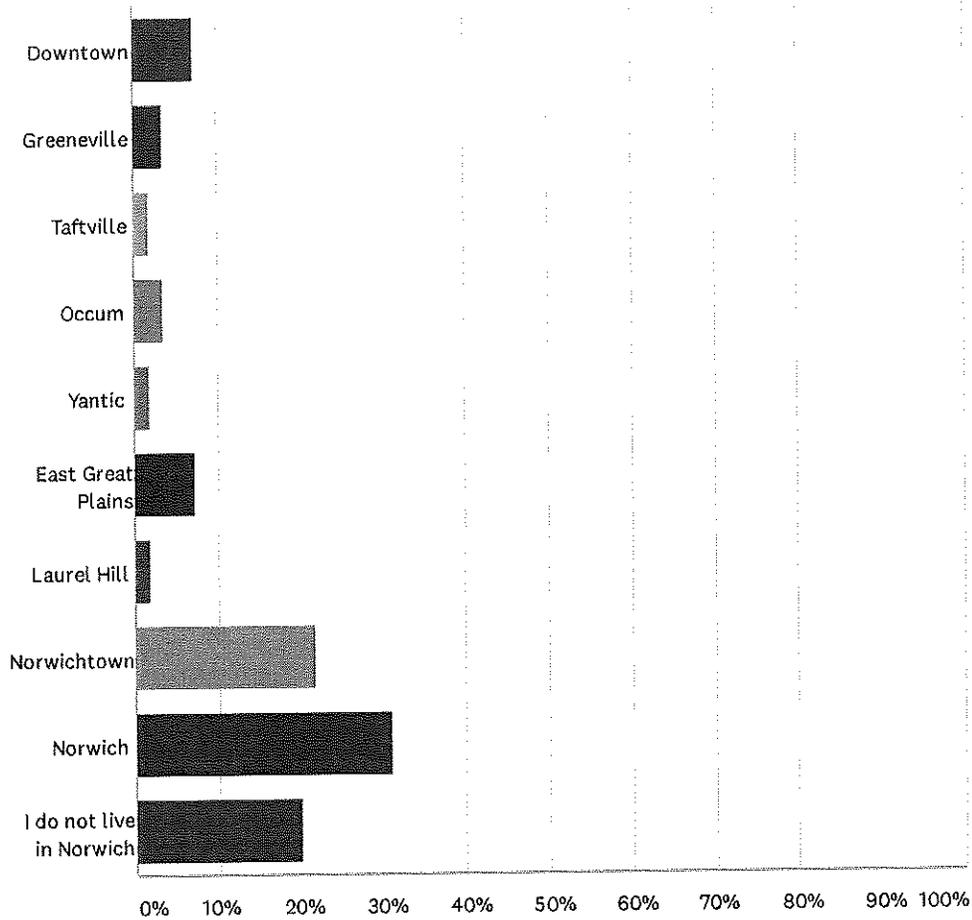
Answered: 56 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	78.57%	44
No	21.43%	12
TOTAL		56

Q2 Where do you live in Norwich?

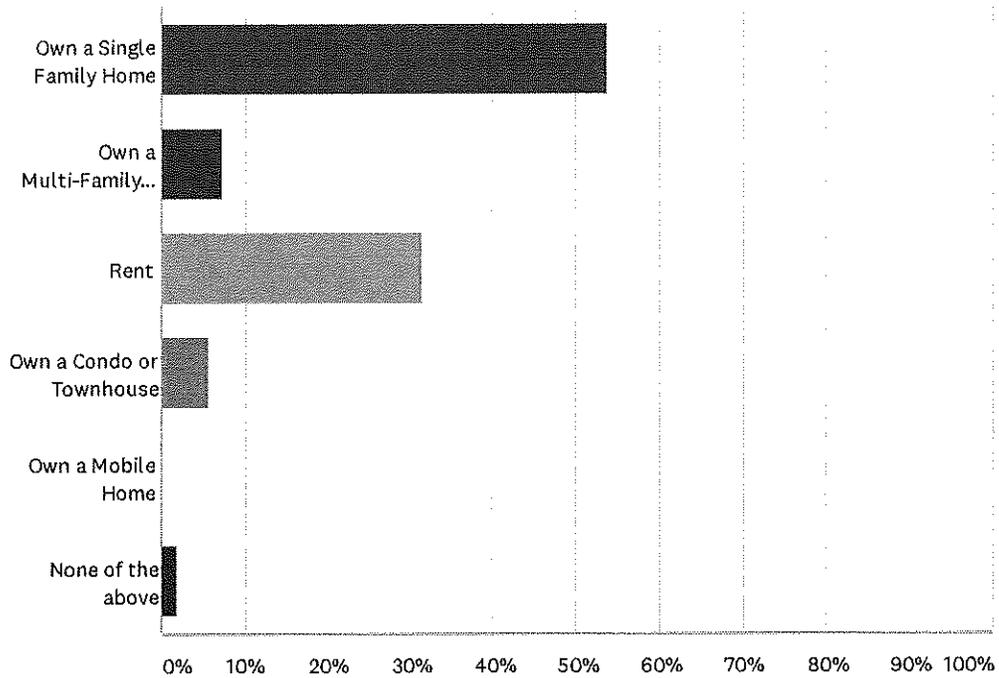
Answered: 55 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Downtown	7.27%	4
Greeneville	3.64%	2
Taftville	1.82%	1
Occum	3.64%	2
Yantic	1.82%	1
East Great Plains	7.27%	4
Laurel Hill	1.82%	1
Norwichtown	21.82%	12
Norwich	30.91%	17
I do not live in Norwich	20.00%	11
TOTAL		55

Q3 Do you:

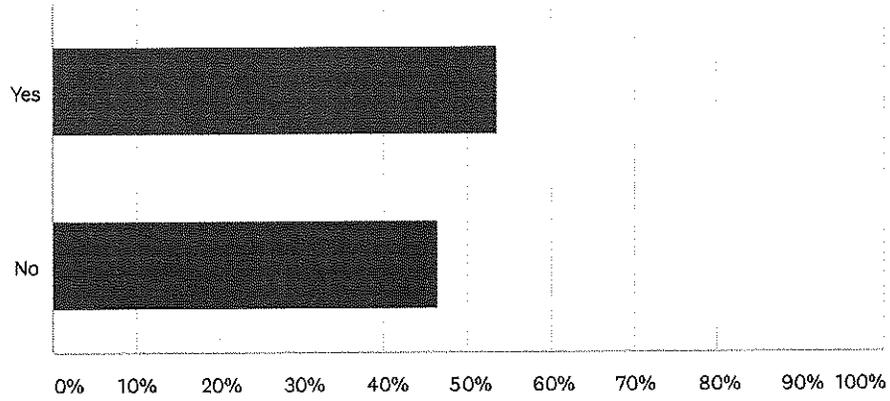
Answered: 54 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Own a Single Family Home	53.70%	29
Own a Multi-Family Home	7.41%	4
Rent	31.48%	17
Own a Condo or Townhouse	5.56%	3
Own a Mobile Home	0.00%	0
None of the above	1.85%	1
TOTAL		54

Q4 Do you work in Norwich?

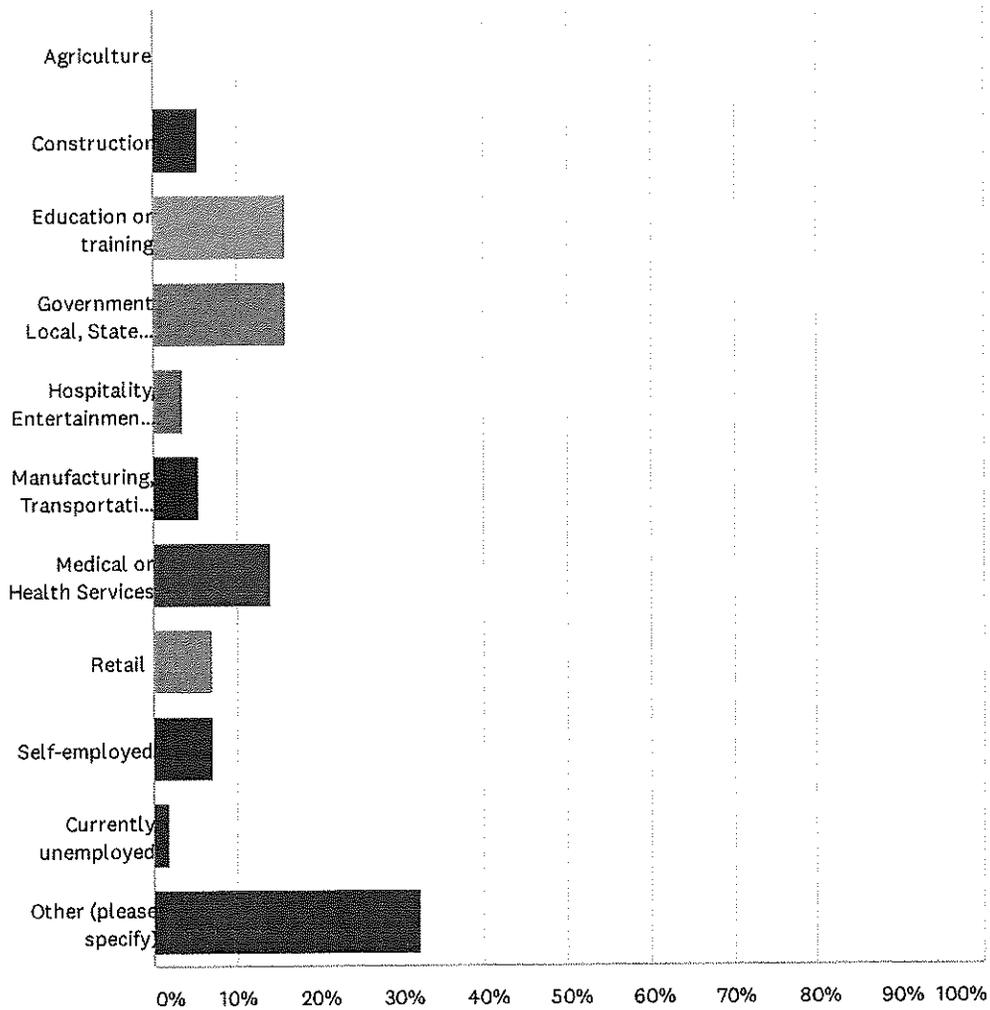
Answered: 56 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	53.57%	30
No	46.43%	26
TOTAL		56

Q5 In which field(s) are you employed? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 56 Skipped: 0



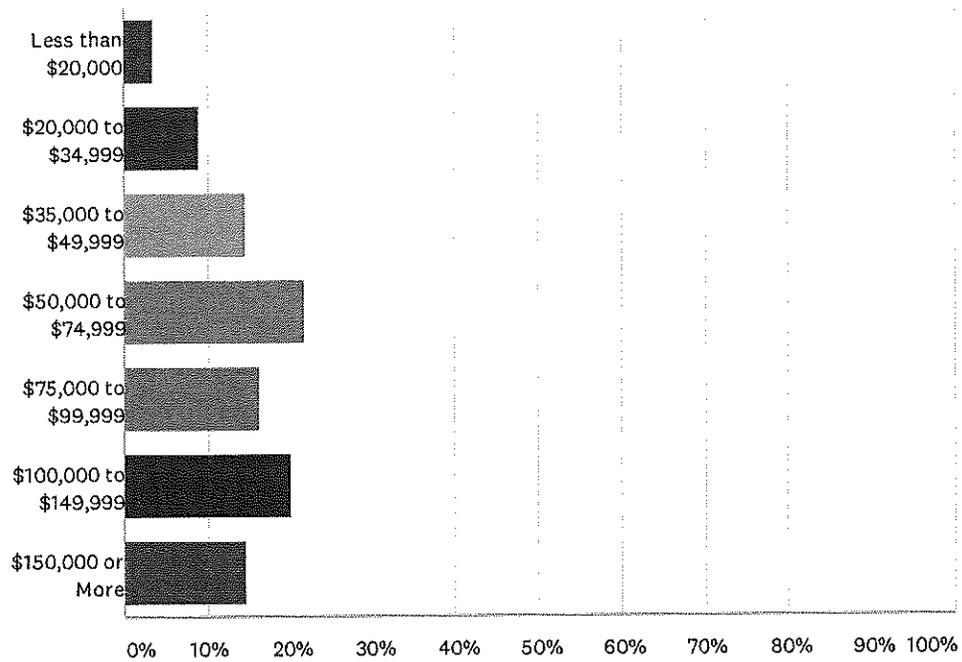
City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agriculture	0.00%	0
Construction	5.36%	3
Education or training	16.07%	9
Government Local, State, Federal	16.07%	9
Hospitality, Entertainment or Tourism	3.57%	2
Manufacturing, Transportation or Distribution	5.36%	3
Medical or Health Services	14.29%	8
Retail	7.14%	4
Self-employed	7.14%	4
Currently unemployed	1.79%	1
Other (please specify)	32.14%	18
Total Respondents: 56		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Financial	5/8/2020 4:52 PM
2	Human Services	4/28/2020 2:17 PM
3	I'm retired. When I was working I worked in Norwich	4/11/2020 10:41 AM
4	CaseManger	4/9/2020 3:12 PM
5	Human Services	4/9/2020 1:35 PM
6	Housing	4/9/2020 8:11 AM
7	Retired	4/8/2020 9:09 PM
8	Retired	4/8/2020 2:30 PM
9	Social Services	4/8/2020 9:19 AM
10	Human Services	4/7/2020 7:40 PM
11	fire department	4/7/2020 2:35 PM
12	HVAC company	4/6/2020 4:49 PM
13	Retired teacher	4/6/2020 2:40 PM
14	Retired	4/6/2020 2:28 PM
15	Comunitions	4/6/2020 12:43 PM
16	Gym	4/6/2020 11:17 AM
17	Retired	4/6/2020 11:13 AM
18	Retired	4/6/2020 10:21 AM

Q6 What is your total household income?

Answered: 55 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than \$20,000	3.64%	2
\$20,000 to \$34,999	9.09%	5
\$35,000 to \$49,999	14.55%	8
\$50,000 to \$74,999	21.82%	12
\$75,000 to \$99,999	16.36%	9
\$100,000 to \$149,999	20.00%	11
\$150,000 or More	14.55%	8
TOTAL		55

Q7 How many people currently live in your household?

Answered: 56 Skipped: 0

City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing

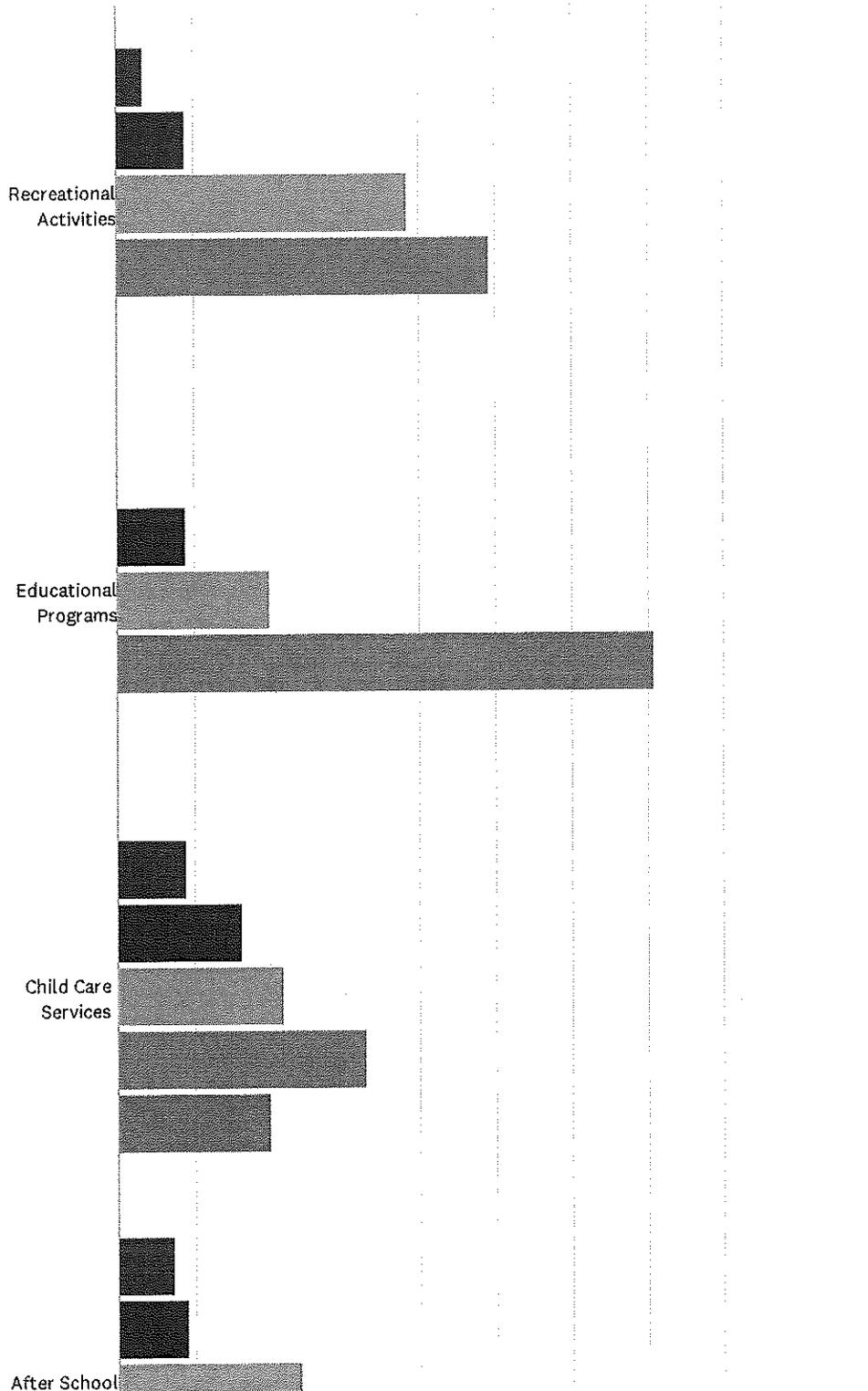
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	4	6/11/2020 2:07 AM
2	4	5/13/2020 9:23 PM
3	3	5/8/2020 4:52 PM
4	4	5/6/2020 1:40 AM
5	2	4/28/2020 2:17 PM
6	1	4/20/2020 9:26 AM
7	1	4/11/2020 10:41 AM
8	2	4/9/2020 3:58 PM
9	1	4/9/2020 3:33 PM
10	4	4/9/2020 3:12 PM
11	3	4/9/2020 1:35 PM
12	3	4/9/2020 9:30 AM
13	2	4/9/2020 8:11 AM
14	2	4/8/2020 9:09 PM
15	3	4/8/2020 2:30 PM
16	5	4/8/2020 9:19 AM
17	4	4/8/2020 9:06 AM
18	2	4/8/2020 8:18 AM
19	3	4/8/2020 7:44 AM
20	2	4/7/2020 11:01 PM
21	4	4/7/2020 8:45 PM
22	2	4/7/2020 8:04 PM
23	4	4/7/2020 7:45 PM
24	5	4/7/2020 7:40 PM
25	4	4/7/2020 2:36 PM
26	4	4/7/2020 2:35 PM
27	2	4/7/2020 8:38 AM
28	2	4/6/2020 11:10 PM
29	1	4/6/2020 9:35 PM
30	4	4/6/2020 9:34 PM
31	4	4/6/2020 9:21 PM
32	2	4/6/2020 8:12 PM
33	2	4/6/2020 4:59 PM
34	4	4/6/2020 4:49 PM
35	4	4/6/2020 4:22 PM
36	3	4/6/2020 3:14 PM
37	6	4/6/2020 2:52 PM

City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing

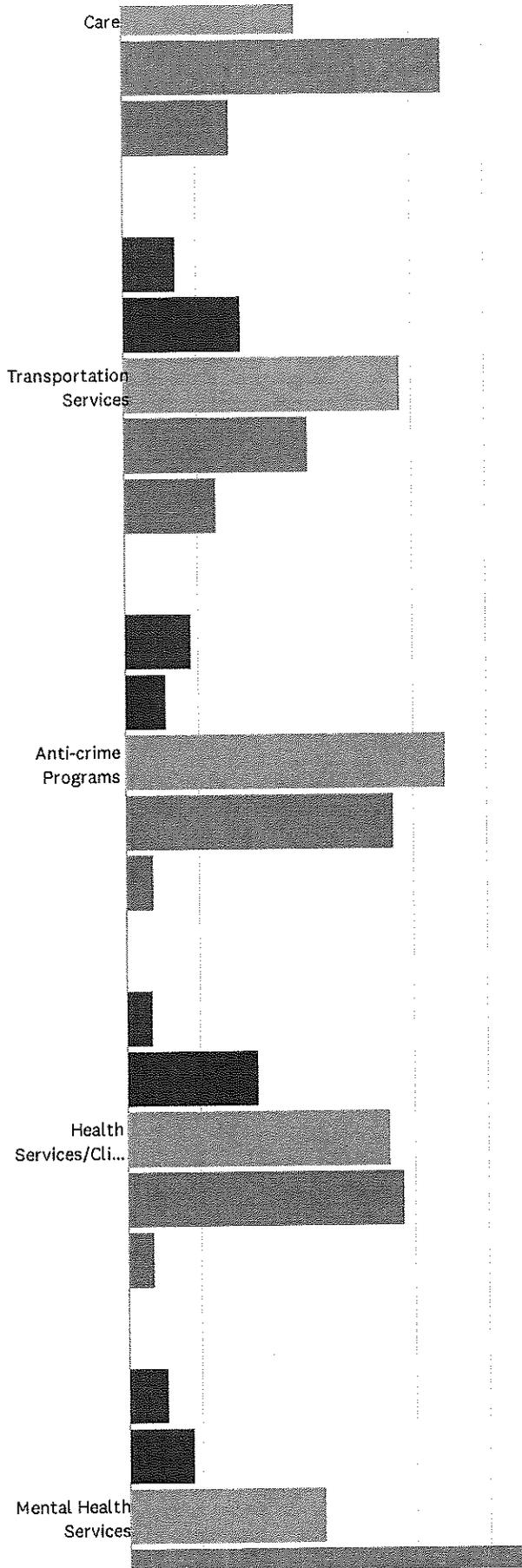
38	2	4/6/2020 2:40 PM
39	2	4/6/2020 2:28 PM
40	2	4/6/2020 2:11 PM
41	2	4/6/2020 1:14 PM
42	3	4/6/2020 12:43 PM
43	4	4/6/2020 12:42 PM
44	4	4/6/2020 11:56 AM
45	4	4/6/2020 11:17 AM
46	2	4/6/2020 11:13 AM
47	3	4/6/2020 11:05 AM
48	2	4/6/2020 10:46 AM
49	1	4/6/2020 10:39 AM
50	2	4/6/2020 10:39 AM
51	2	4/6/2020 10:35 AM
52	3	4/6/2020 10:32 AM
53	1	4/6/2020 10:31 AM
54	2	4/6/2020 10:21 AM
55	3	4/6/2020 10:09 AM
56	4	4/6/2020 10:08 AM

Q8 Community Services - please rate the level of need the City of Norwich has for the following community services with 1 being the lowest level of need and 4 being the highest level of need

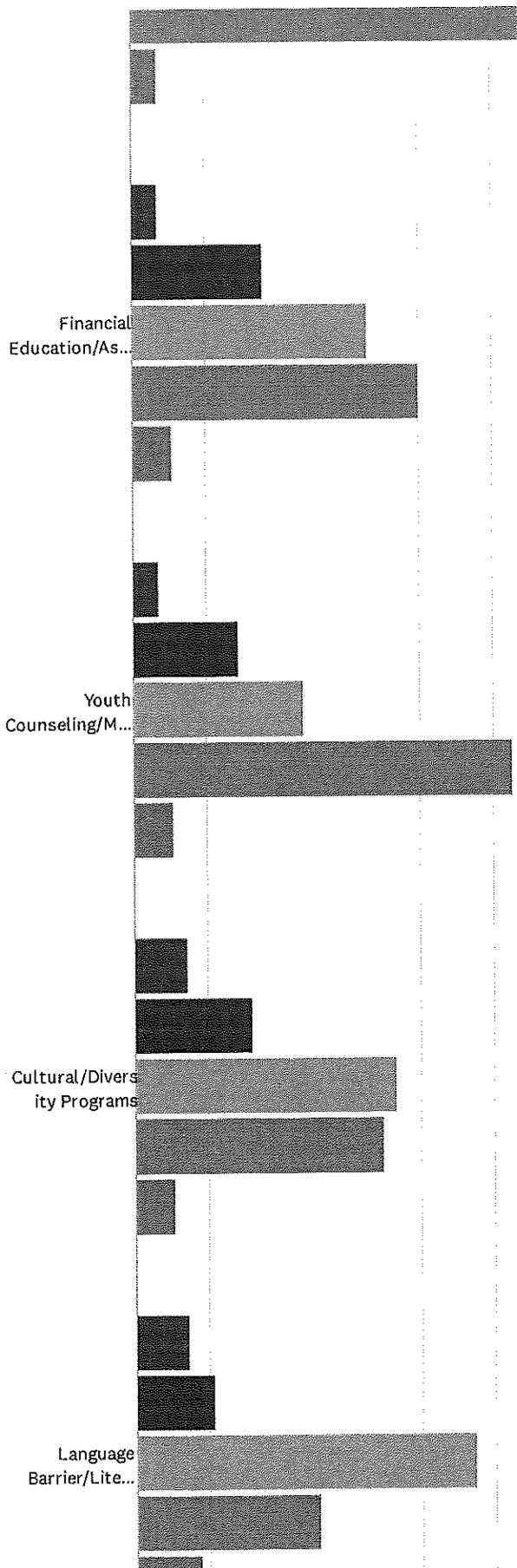
Answered: 55 Skipped: 1



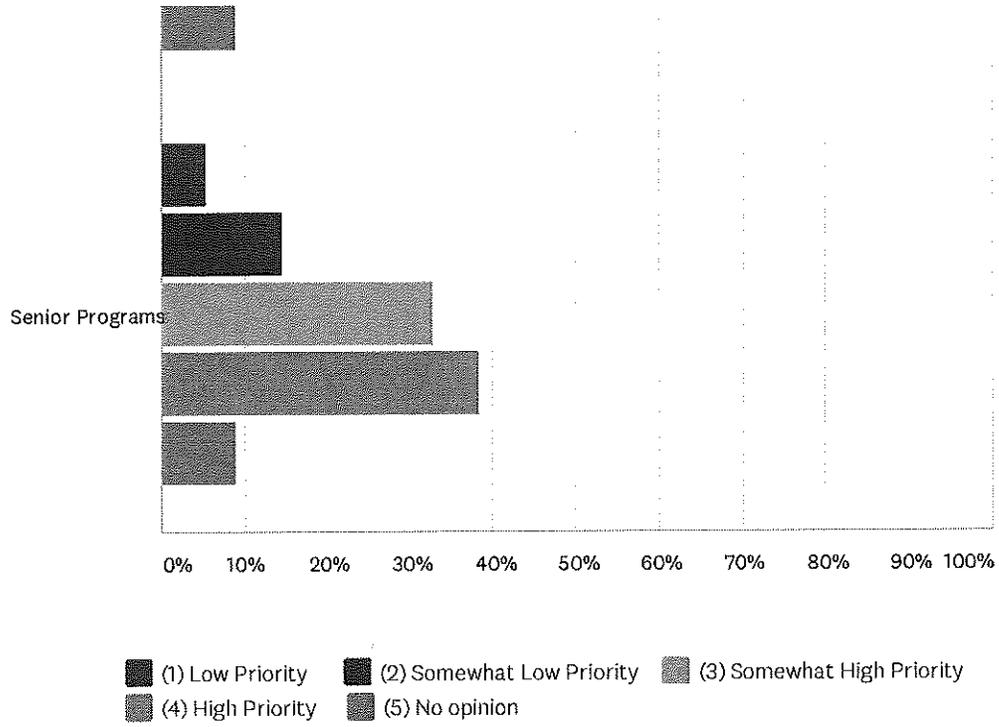
City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing



City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing



City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing



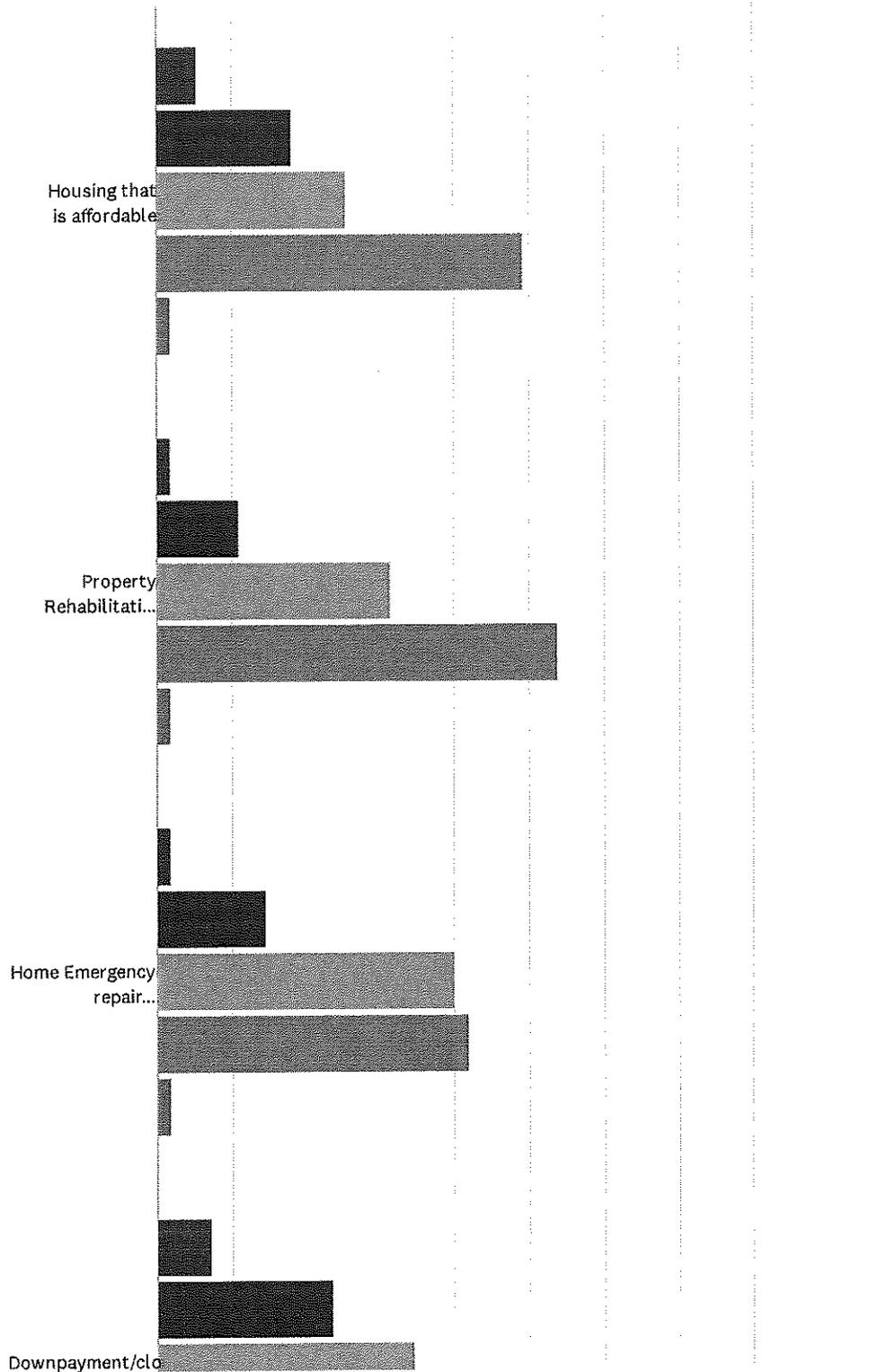
City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing

	(1) LOW PRIORITY	(2) SOMEWHAT LOW PRIORITY	(3) SOMEWHAT HIGH PRIORITY	(4) HIGH PRIORITY	(5) NO OPINION	TOTAL
Recreational Activities	3.64% 2	9.09% 5	38.18% 21	49.09% 27	0.00% 0	55
Educational Programs	0.00% 0	9.09% 5	20.00% 11	70.91% 39	0.00% 0	55
Child Care Services	9.09% 5	16.36% 9	21.82% 12	32.73% 18	20.00% 11	55
After School Care	7.41% 4	9.26% 5	24.07% 13	44.44% 24	14.81% 8	54
Transportation Services	7.27% 4	16.36% 9	38.18% 21	25.45% 14	12.73% 7	55
Anti-crime Programs	9.26% 5	5.56% 3	44.44% 24	37.04% 20	3.70% 2	54
Health Services/Clinics	3.64% 2	18.18% 10	36.36% 20	38.18% 21	3.64% 2	55
Mental Health Services	5.45% 3	9.09% 5	27.27% 15	54.55% 30	3.64% 2	55
Financial Education/Asset Building	3.64% 2	18.18% 10	32.73% 18	40.00% 22	5.45% 3	55
Youth Counseling/Mentoring Services	3.64% 2	14.55% 8	23.64% 13	52.73% 29	5.45% 3	55
Cultural/Diversity Programs	7.27% 4	16.36% 9	36.36% 20	34.55% 19	5.45% 3	55
Language Barrier/Literacy programs	7.27% 4	10.91% 6	47.27% 26	25.45% 14	9.09% 5	55
Senior Programs	5.45% 3	14.55% 8	32.73% 18	38.18% 21	9.09% 5	55

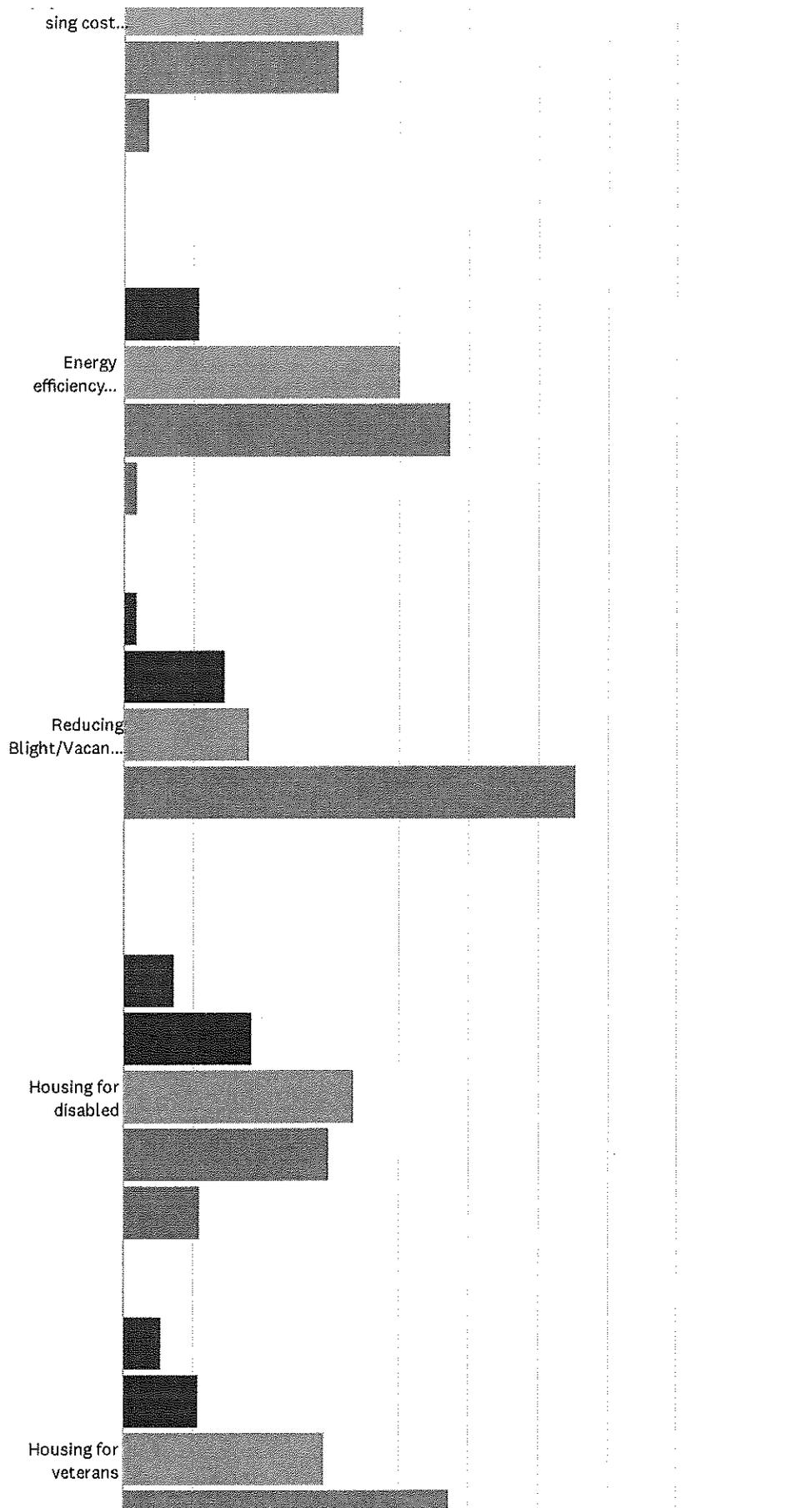
#	COMMENTS ON ANY OTHER SERVICES NOT LISTED	DATE
1	Community events and PARKING-downtown Mohegan Park	6/11/2020 2:07 AM
2	Better parks, more trails and better fields for sports teams facilities are very run down	5/13/2020 9:23 PM
3	Human Services-domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and trafficking services; family support; food security-pantries, soup kitchens, etc., homeless programs	4/9/2020 1:35 PM
4	Equal employment	4/8/2020 2:30 PM

Q9 Housing Services - please rate the level of need the City of Norwich has for the following Housing Services programs, 1 being the lowest level of need and 4 being the highest level of need.

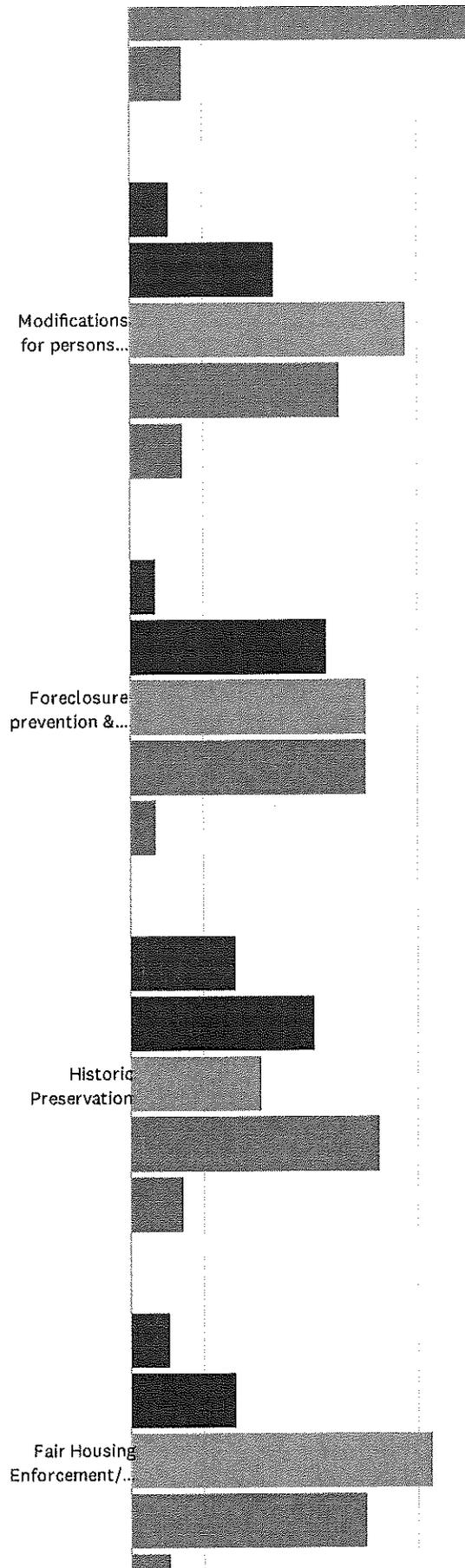
Answered: 55 Skipped: 1



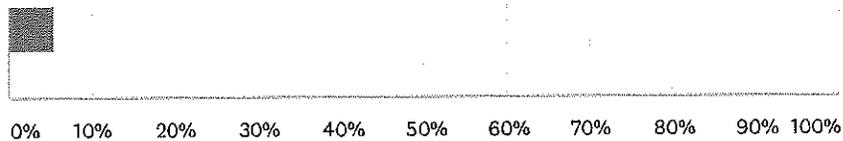
City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing



City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing



City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing



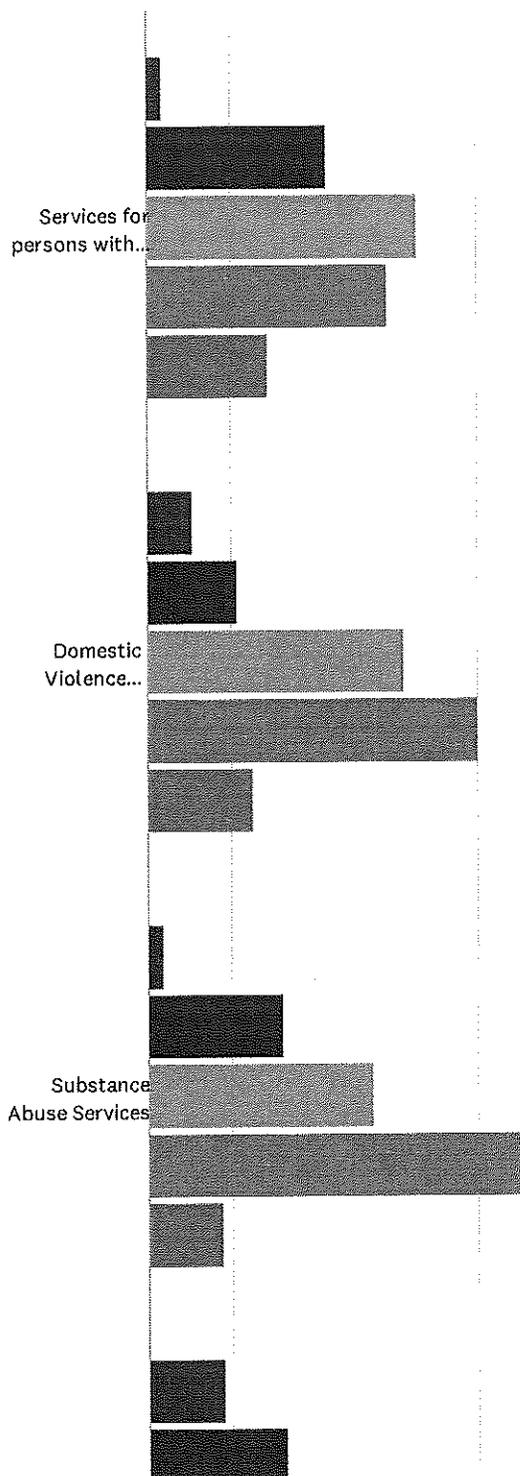
(1) Low Priority
 (2) Somewhat Low Priority
 (3) Somewhat High Priority
 (4) High Priority
 (5) No Opinion

	(1) LOW PRIORITY	(2) SOMEWHAT LOW PRIORITY	(3) SOMEWHAT HIGH PRIORITY	(4) HIGH PRIORITY	(5) NO OPINION	TOTAL
Housing that is affordable	5.45% 3	18.18% 10	25.45% 14	49.09% 27	1.82% 1	55
Property Rehabilitation/funds to repair code violations	1.85% 1	11.11% 6	31.48% 17	53.70% 29	1.85% 1	54
Home Emergency repair (furnace, roofing, etc)	1.82% 1	14.55% 8	40.00% 22	41.82% 23	1.82% 1	55
Downpayment/closing cost assistance	7.27% 4	23.64% 13	34.55% 19	30.91% 17	3.64% 2	55
Energy efficiency improvements	0.00% 0	10.91% 6	40.00% 22	47.27% 26	1.82% 1	55
Reducing Blight/Vacant and Abandoned property	1.82% 1	14.55% 8	18.18% 10	65.45% 36	0.00% 0	55
Housing for disabled	7.41% 4	18.52% 10	33.33% 18	29.63% 16	11.11% 6	54
Housing for veterans	5.45% 3	10.91% 6	29.09% 16	47.27% 26	7.27% 4	55
Modifications for persons with disabilities	5.45% 3	20.00% 11	38.18% 21	29.09% 16	7.27% 4	55
Foreclosure prevention & Assistance	3.64% 2	27.27% 15	32.73% 18	32.73% 18	3.64% 2	55
Historic Preservation	14.55% 8	25.45% 14	18.18% 10	34.55% 19	7.27% 4	55
Fair Housing Enforcement/Education	5.45% 3	14.55% 8	41.82% 23	32.73% 18	5.45% 3	55

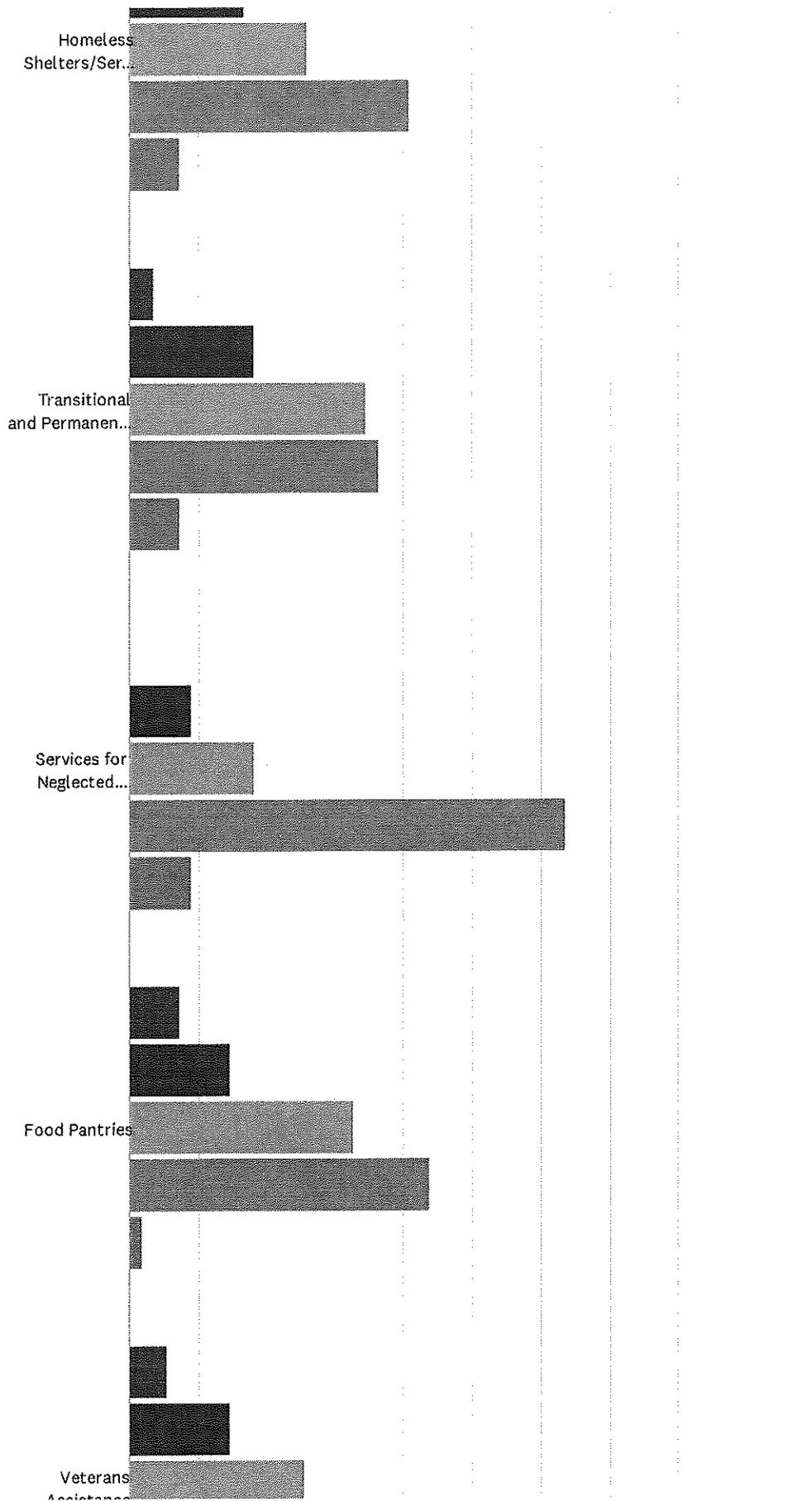
#	COMMENTS ON ANY OTHER HOUSING RELATED NEEDS	DATE
1	Norwich needs to get a handle on out of state landlords	4/9/2020 3:58 PM
2	So many homes are falling apart and in desperate need of repair. They have become a huge eyesore and perpetuate Norwich's negative reputation that other cities and towns across CT have. The simple effort of enforcing their blight ordinances, could have a major positive impact on the whole city in terms of reputation, increased population, revenues, tourism, etc not to mention home values for those who already maintain their properties but see a poor return because of their neighbors lack of responsibility.	4/6/2020 10:39 AM
3	Historic needs need to be thrown out of the window and allow the area to modernize. Get rid of blight and make the town look inviting.	4/6/2020 10:35 AM
4	Clean up the streets!	4/6/2020 10:21 AM

Q10 Special Community Needs Services - please rate the level of need the City of Norwich has for the following Special Community Services programs, 1 being the lowest level of need and 4 being the highest level of need.

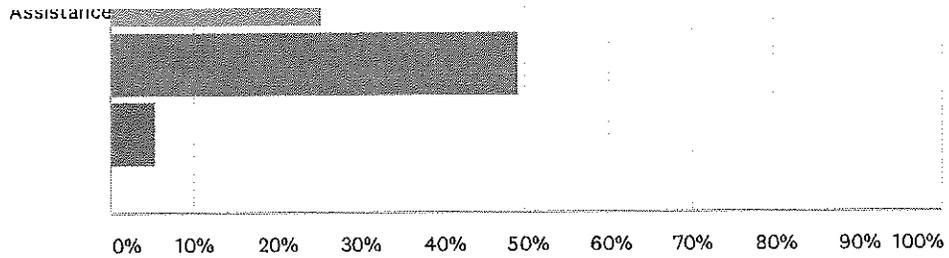
Answered: 55 Skipped: 1



City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing



City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing



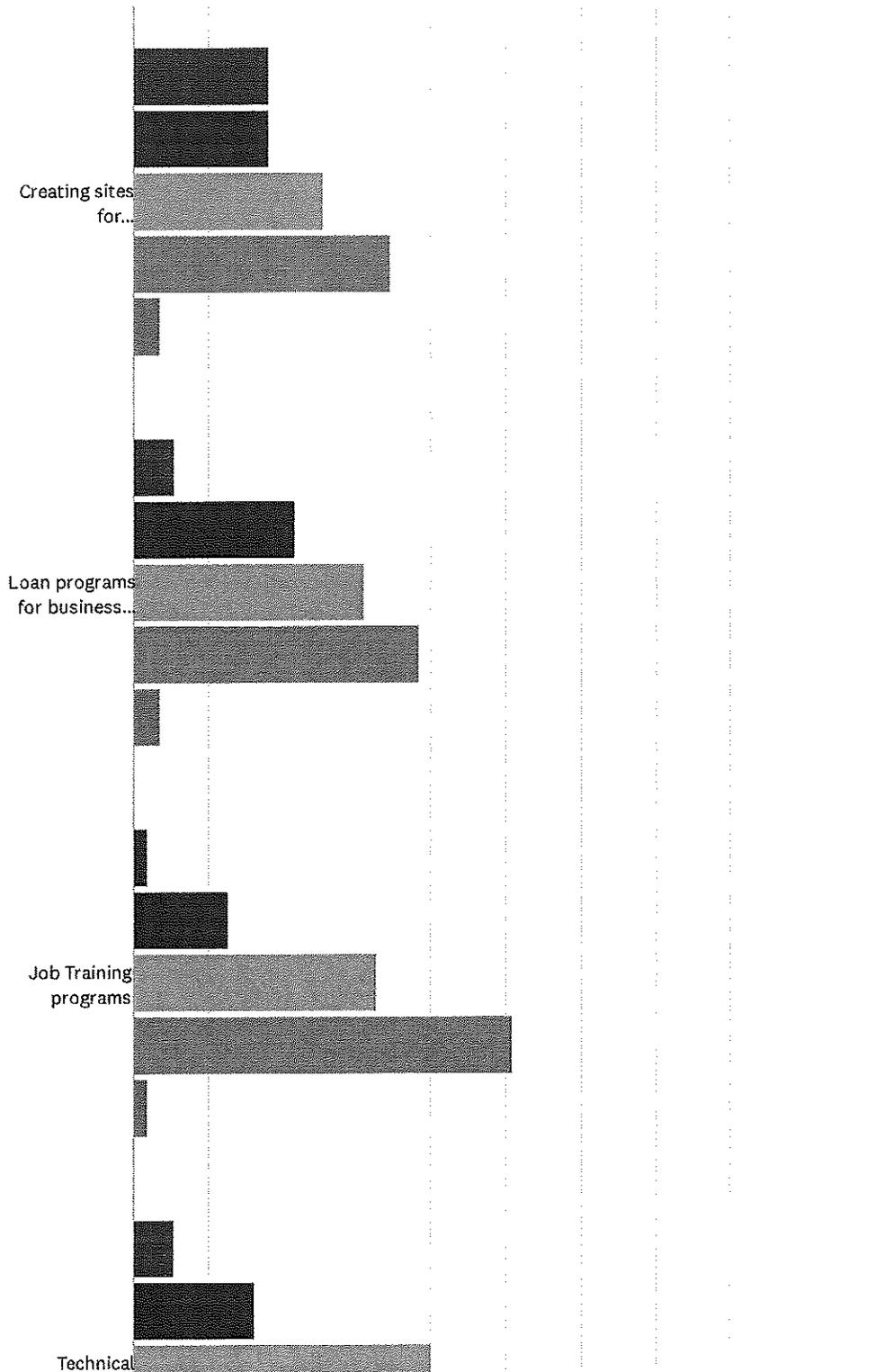
(1) Low Priority
 (2) Somewhat Low Priority
 (3) Somewhat High Priority
 (4) High priority
 (5) No Opinion

	(1) LOW PRIORITY	(2) SOMEWHAT LOW PRIORITY	(3) SOMEWHAT HIGH PRIORITY	(4) HIGH PRIORITY	(5) NO OPINION	TOTAL
Services for persons with Disabilities	1.82% 1	21.82% 12	32.73% 18	29.09% 16	14.55% 8	55
Domestic Violence Services	5.45% 3	10.91% 6	30.91% 17	40.00% 22	12.73% 7	55
Substance Abuse Services	1.82% 1	16.36% 9	27.27% 15	45.45% 25	9.09% 5	55
Homeless Shelters/Services	9.26% 5	16.67% 9	25.93% 14	40.74% 22	7.41% 4	54
Transitional and Permanent Housing for the Homeless	3.64% 2	18.18% 10	34.55% 19	36.36% 20	7.27% 4	55
Services for Neglected and/or Abused Children	0.00% 0	9.09% 5	18.18% 10	63.64% 35	9.09% 5	55
Food Pantries	7.27% 4	14.55% 8	32.73% 18	43.64% 24	1.82% 1	55
Veterans Assistance	5.45% 3	14.55% 8	25.45% 14	49.09% 27	5.45% 3	55

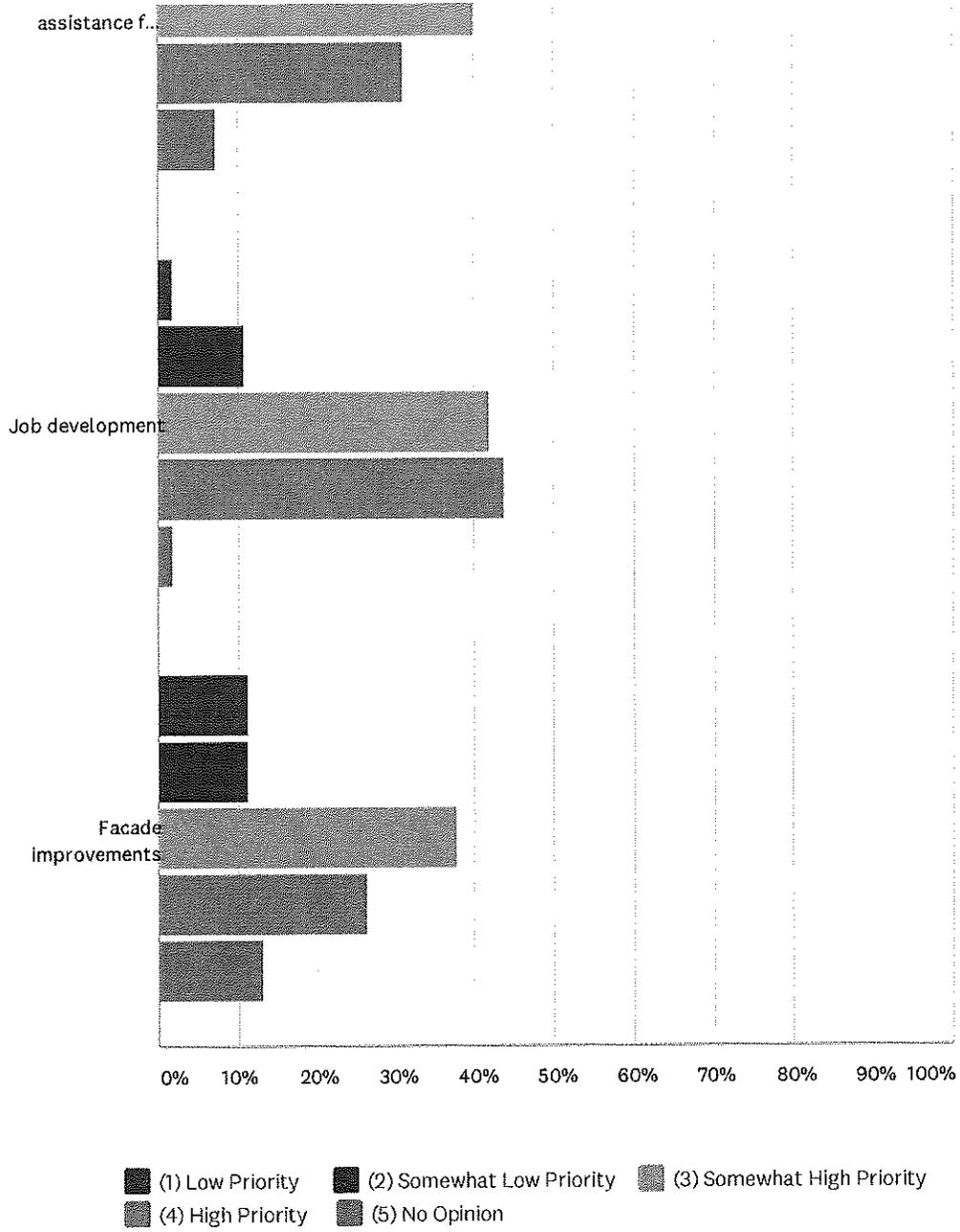
#	PLEASE WRITE IN ANY SPECIAL NEEDS SERVICES NOT LISTED	DATE
1	Recreational Programs for special Ed programs are needed like Groton has.	5/13/2020 9:23 PM

Q11 Businesses and Jobs - please rate the level of need the City of Norwich as for the following Business/Job programs, with 1 being the lowest and 4 being the highest.

Answered: 55 Skipped: 1



City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing



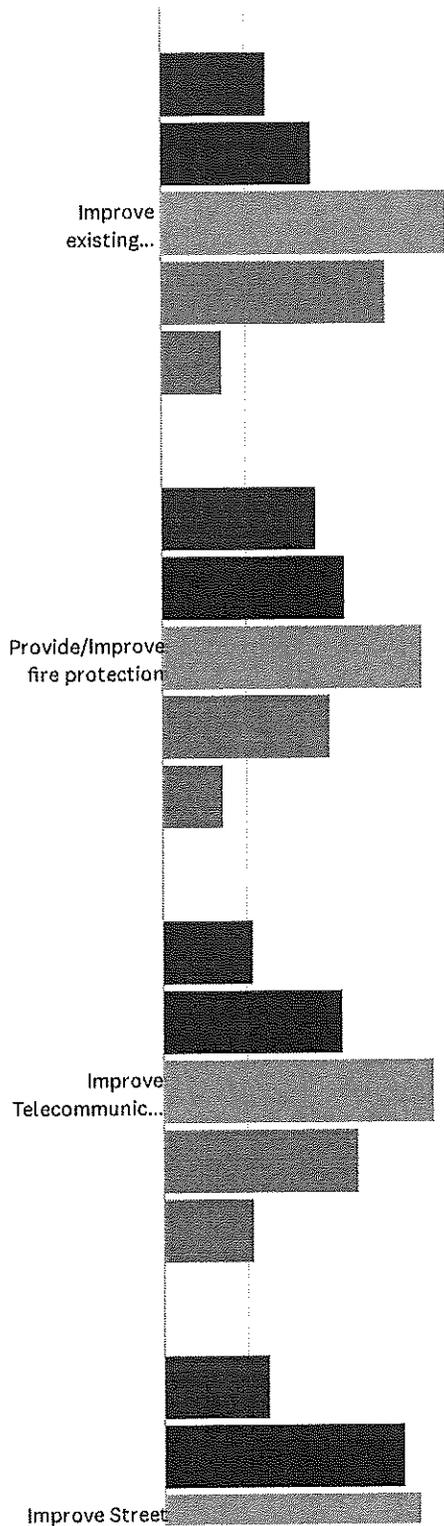
City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing

	(1) LOW PRIORITY	(2) SOMEWHAT LOW PRIORITY	(3) SOMEWHAT HIGH PRIORITY	(4) HIGH PRIORITY	(5) NO OPINION	TOTAL
Creating sites for business/industrial parks for business development	18.18% 10	18.18% 10	25.45% 14	34.55% 19	3.64% 2	55
Loan programs for business growth	5.45% 3	21.82% 12	30.91% 17	38.18% 21	3.64% 2	55
Job Training programs	1.82% 1	12.73% 7	32.73% 18	50.91% 28	1.82% 1	55
Technical assistance for small business	5.45% 3	16.36% 9	40.00% 22	30.91% 17	7.27% 4	55
Job development	1.82% 1	10.91% 6	41.82% 23	43.64% 24	1.82% 1	55
Facade improvements	11.32% 6	11.32% 6	37.74% 20	26.42% 14	13.21% 7	53

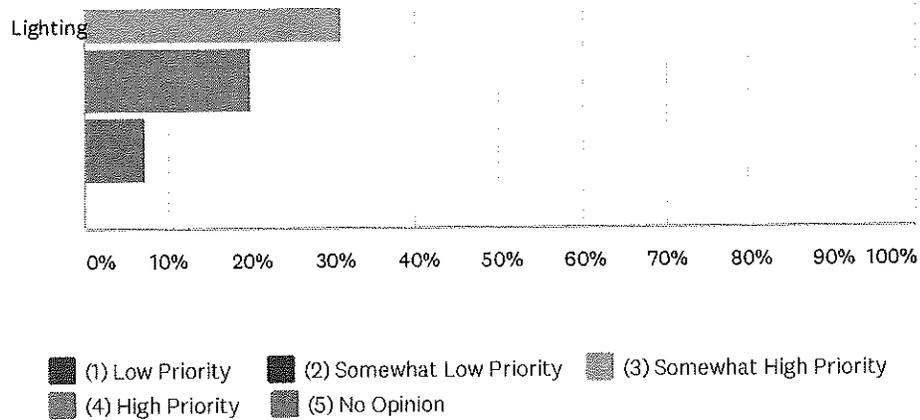
#	PLEASE COMMENT ON ANY OTHER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NOT LISTED	DATE
1	Better parks and trail improvements. Harbor park could be improved to help economic development.	5/13/2020 9:23 PM
2	Marketing and business development for the small / home-based business community - outside of bigger projects like what NCDC covers. Solopreneurs can make use of existing housing stock to house themselves and their businesses - need help to wade through zoning regs and make signage easier to acquire without ruining the fabric/culture of the area.	4/9/2020 9:30 AM
3	Do not tear down any more buildings. Rehab properly I.e. historic village district overlay zones. Need an overlay zone with plan for each area of Norwich. Norwich needs cohesive, aesthetically pleasing development not ramshackle and unattractive.	4/6/2020 2:11 PM
4	Heritage Tourism initiatives	4/6/2020 1:14 PM

Q12 Infrastructure - please rate the level of need the City of Norwich has for the following Infrastructure projects, 1 being the lowest level of need and 4 being the highest level of need.

Answered: 55 Skipped: 1



City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing

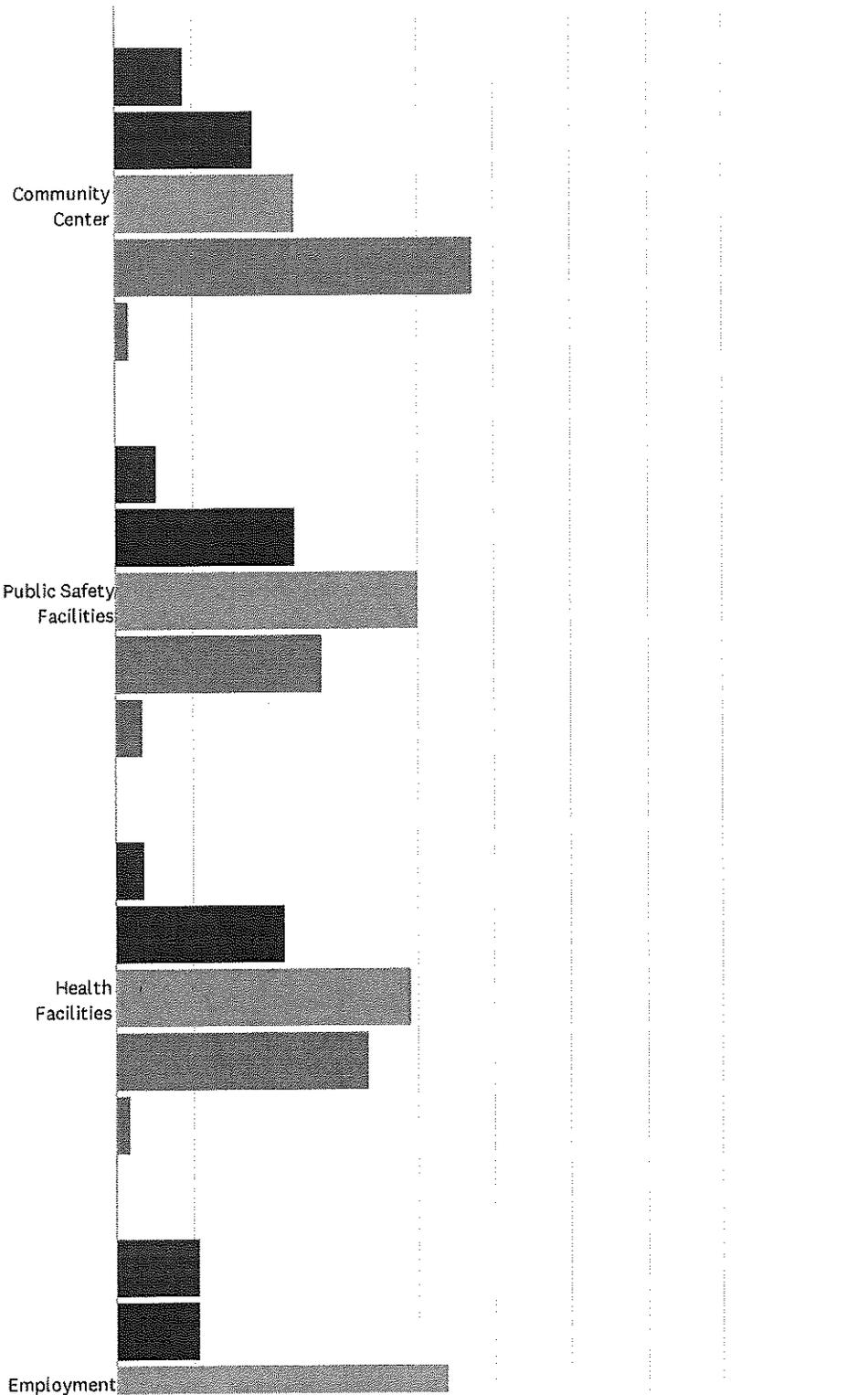


	(1) LOW PRIORITY	(2) SOMEWHAT LOW PRIORITY	(3) SOMEWHAT HIGH PRIORITY	(4) HIGH PRIORITY	(5) NO OPINION	TOTAL
Improve existing water/sewer lines	12.73% 7	18.18% 10	34.55% 19	27.27% 15	7.27% 4	55
Provide/Improve fire protection	18.52% 10	22.22% 12	31.48% 17	20.37% 11	7.41% 4	54
Improve Telecommunications for Business/Residents	10.91% 6	21.82% 12	32.73% 18	23.64% 13	10.91% 6	55
Improve Street Lighting	12.73% 7	29.09% 16	30.91% 17	20.00% 11	7.27% 4	55

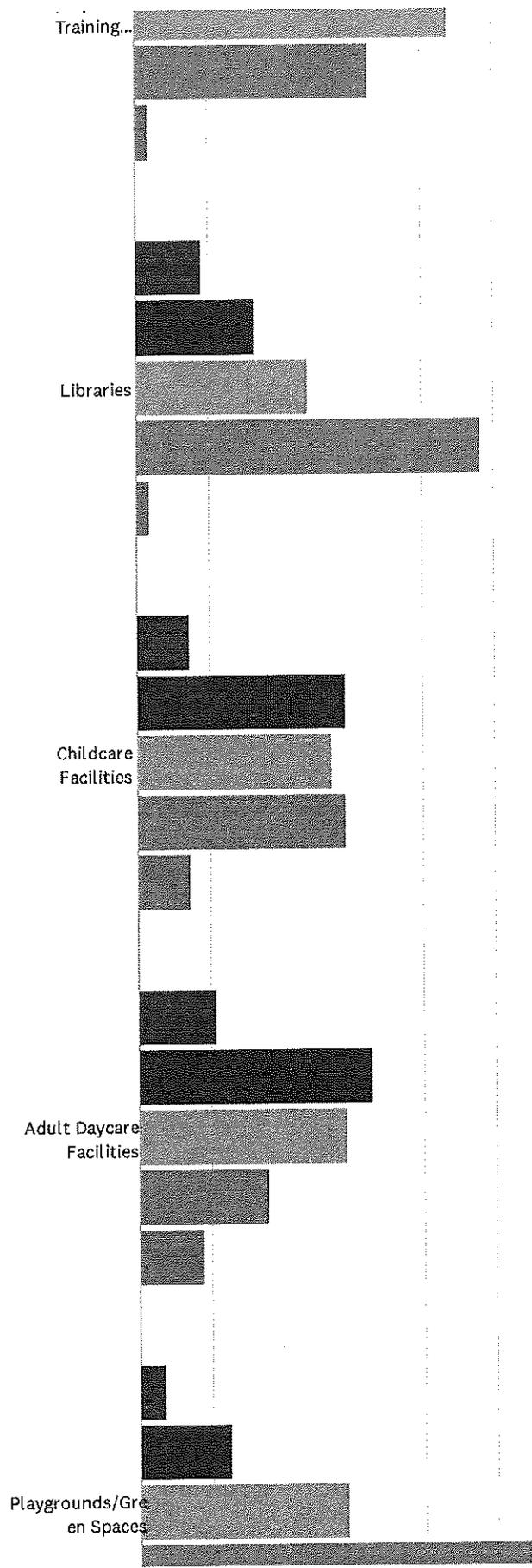
#	PLEASE COMMENT ON ANY INFRASTRUCTURE NOT LISTED.	DATE
1	More cameras	6/11/2020 2:07 AM
2	Better buildings and offices for town staff.	5/13/2020 9:23 PM
3	Neglected or non-existent sidewalks are a blight as well as a safety hazard.	4/20/2020 9:26 AM
4	Wider access to high-speed internet - end stranglehold on services.	4/9/2020 9:30 AM
5	Period lighting to match historic village district overlay zones. Need more sidewalks. Widen sidewalks, have benches and trees for shade. Trim overgrown grass and weeds around town and especially at entries to town, connector at Backus. Plant seasonal flowers, pick up trash. Make our entries attractive so we can be proud of our appearance.	4/6/2020 2:11 PM
6	Please install period lighting in historic areas.	4/6/2020 1:14 PM
7	Permanent overhead strong lighting downtown highlighting paths from business to business should be high priority	4/6/2020 10:31 AM
8	Downtown needs ambient/decorative cafe style lighting. Norwich needs to reduce its light pollution- less street lights.	4/6/2020 10:09 AM

Q13 Community Facilities - please rate the level of need the City of Norwich has for the following Community Facilities, with 1 being the lowest and 4 being the highest.

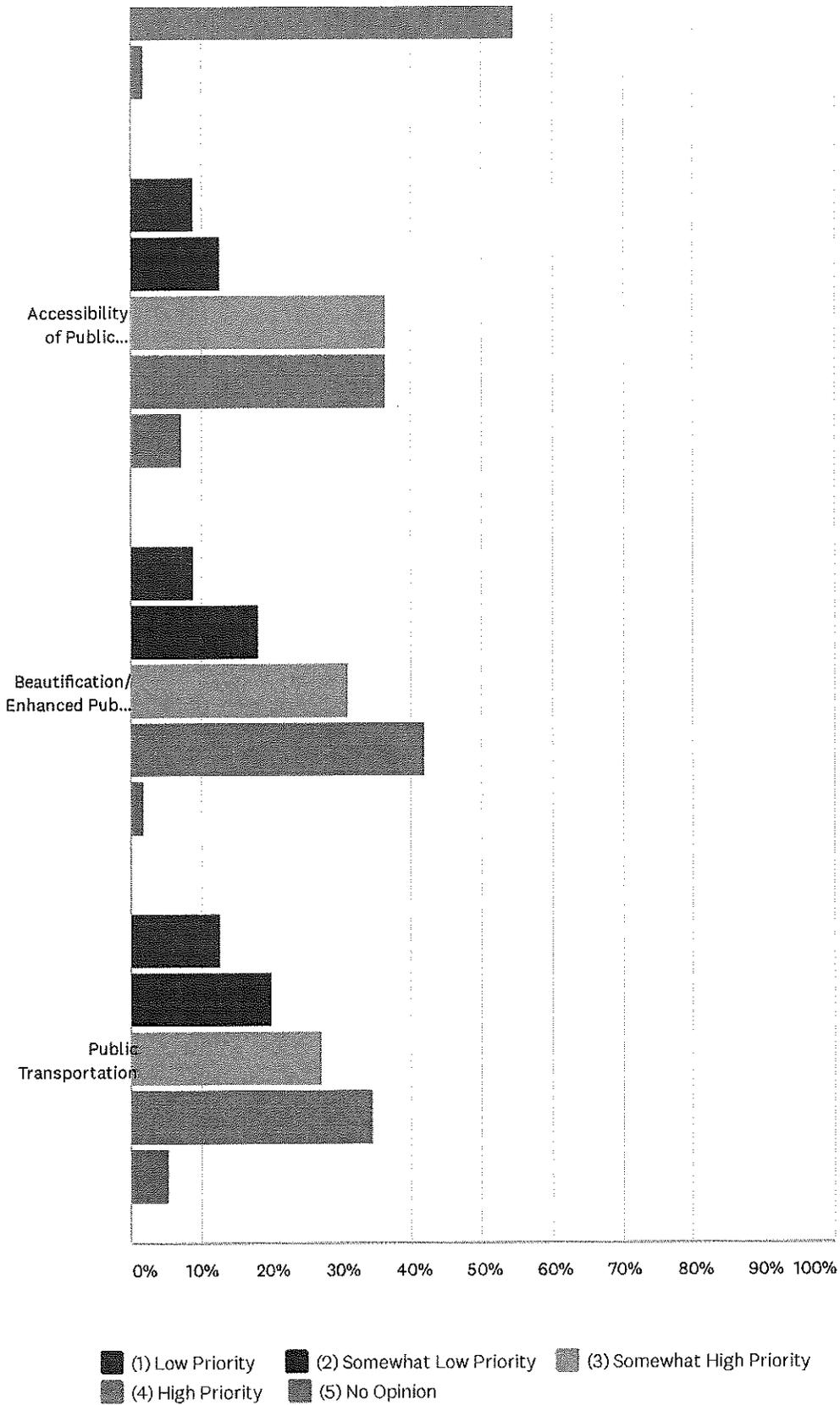
Answered: 55 Skipped: 1



City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing



City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing



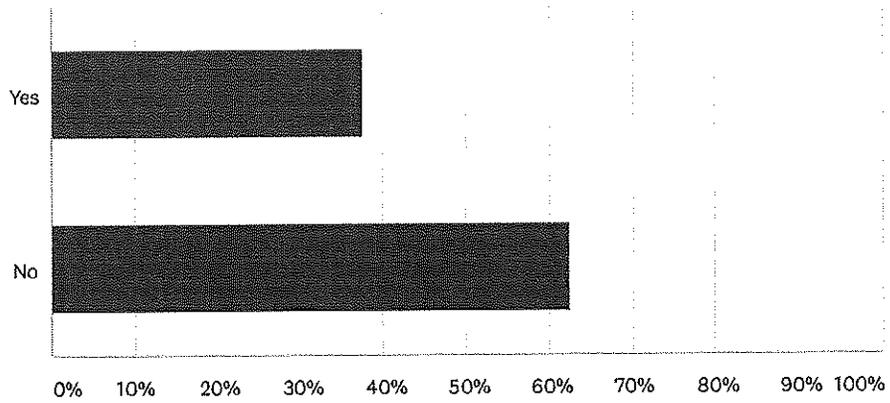
City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing

	(1) LOW PRIORITY	(2) SOMEWHAT LOW PRIORITY	(3) SOMEWHAT HIGH PRIORITY	(4) HIGH PRIORITY	(5) NO OPINION	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Community Center	9.09% 5	18.18% 10	23.64% 13	47.27% 26	1.82% 1	55
Public Safety Facilities	5.45% 3	23.64% 13	40.00% 22	27.27% 15	3.64% 2	55
Health Facilities	3.70% 2	22.22% 12	38.89% 21	33.33% 18	1.85% 1	54
Employment Training Facility	10.91% 6	10.91% 6	43.64% 24	32.73% 18	1.82% 1	55
Libraries	9.26% 5	16.67% 9	24.07% 13	48.15% 26	1.85% 1	54
Childcare Facilities	7.27% 4	29.09% 16	27.27% 15	29.09% 16	7.27% 4	55
Adult Daycare Facilities	10.91% 6	32.73% 18	29.09% 16	18.18% 10	9.09% 5	55
Playgrounds/Green Spaces	3.64% 2	12.73% 7	29.09% 16	54.55% 30	1.82% 1	55
Accessibility of Public Buildings to the Disabled	9.09% 5	12.73% 7	36.36% 20	36.36% 20	7.27% 4	55
Beautification/Enhanced Public Spaces	9.09% 5	18.18% 10	30.91% 17	41.82% 23	1.82% 1	55
Public Transportation	12.73% 7	20.00% 11	27.27% 15	34.55% 19	5.45% 3	55

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Accountability office	6/11/2020 2:07 AM
2	Employment / Business training could be combined with a business incubator - provide assistance to businesses and help them find the right people to employ.	4/9/2020 9:30 AM
3	Please see above. We attempted to sign up for beautification committee. Never were contacted.	4/6/2020 2:11 PM

Q14 Do you believe housing discrimination is an issue in Norwich?

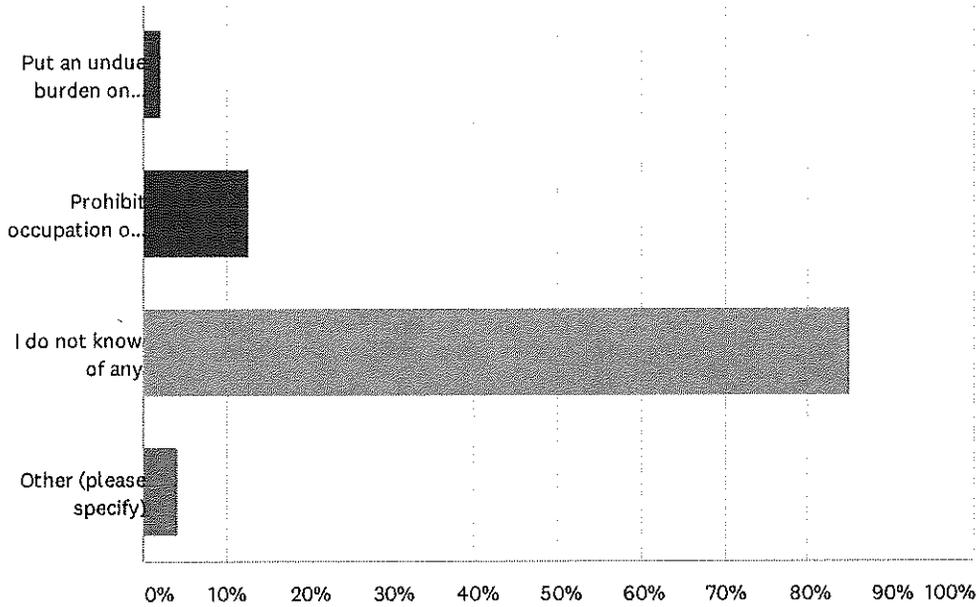
Answered: 48 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	37.50%	18
No	62.50%	30
TOTAL		48

Q15 Do you know of any City Ordinances or State Laws that (check all that apply)

Answered: 47 Skipped: 9

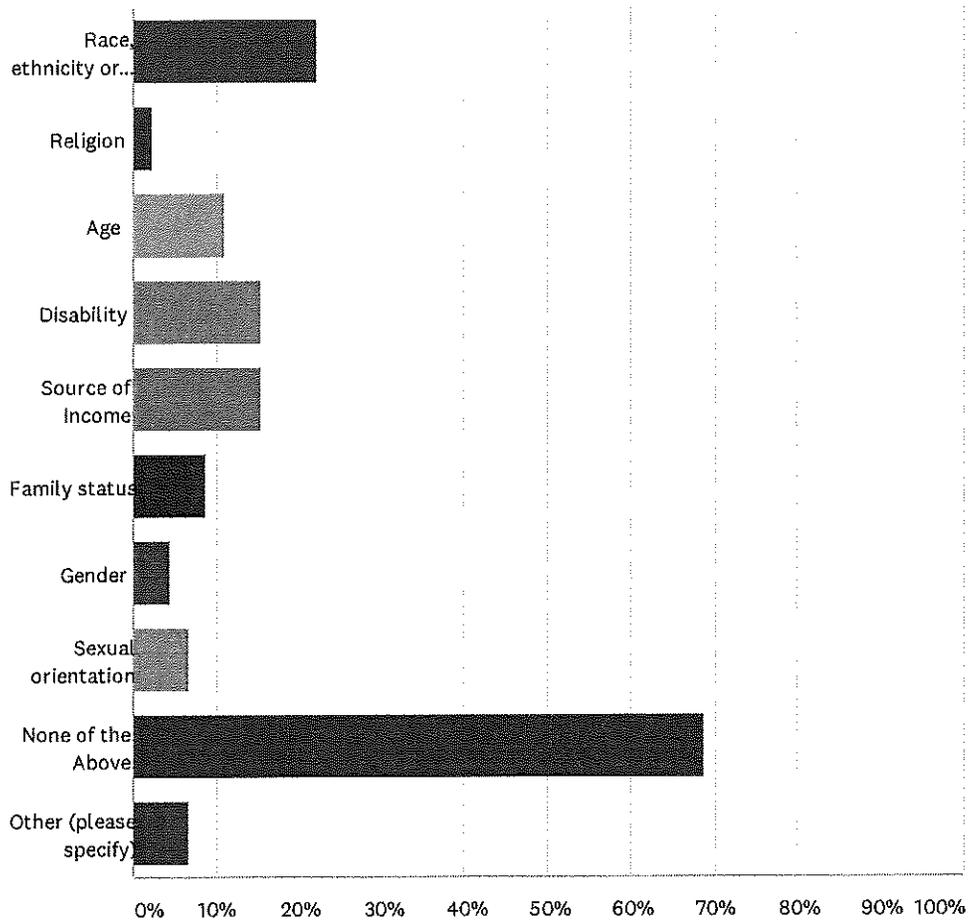


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Put an undue burden on protected classes (race, color, religion, sex, age, marital status, disability, national origin or gender identity)	2.13%	1
Prohibit occupation of single-family homes by multiple unrelated individuals	12.77%	6
I do not know of any	85.11%	40
Other (please specify)	4.26%	2
Total Respondents: 47		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Haven't needed to review ordinances	4/28/2020 2:19 PM
2	private sectors	4/9/2020 8:21 AM

Q16 Do you know of any instances where realtors, banks/lenders, insurance companies, apartment complexes and/or individual landlords have refused to work with or provide services to someone because of their (Select all that apply)

Answered: 45 Skipped: 11



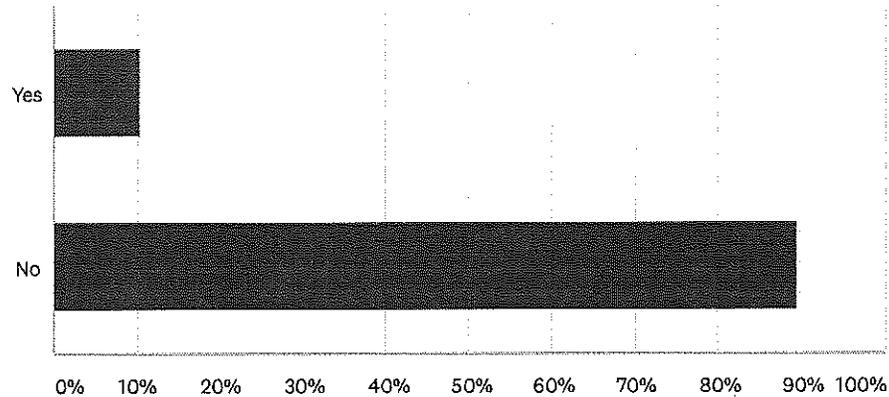
City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Race, ethnicity or national origin	22.22%	10
Religion	2.22%	1
Age	11.11%	5
Disability	15.56%	7
Source of Income	15.56%	7
Family status	8.89%	4
Gender	4.44%	2
Sexual orientation	6.67%	3
None of the Above	68.89%	31
Other (please specify)	6.67%	3
Total Respondents: 45		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Because they were not a minority	4/9/2020 4:02 PM
2	When someone is looking to rent but has no history of renting because in past all in a different person's name.embills due-and at times when not in the particular person's name but was in the household items	4/9/2020 1:50 PM
3	No direct information but based on overheard conversations it seems that landlords are not following fair housing guidelines	4/6/2020 10:33 AM

Q17 Do you know of any instances where realtors, banks/lenders, insurance companies, have refused to work with owners, sellers, buyers or renters because of the Neighborhood in which they live or propose to live?

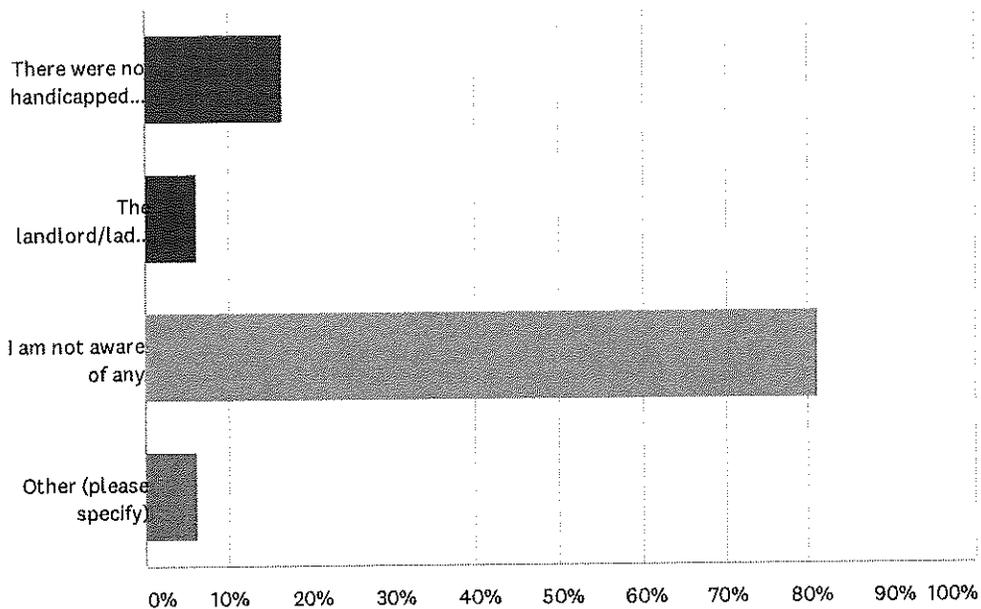
Answered: 48 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	10.42%	5
No	89.58%	43
TOTAL		48

Q18 Do you know of any instances where the elderly or disabled could not find housing because (check all that apply)

Answered: 48 Skipped: 8

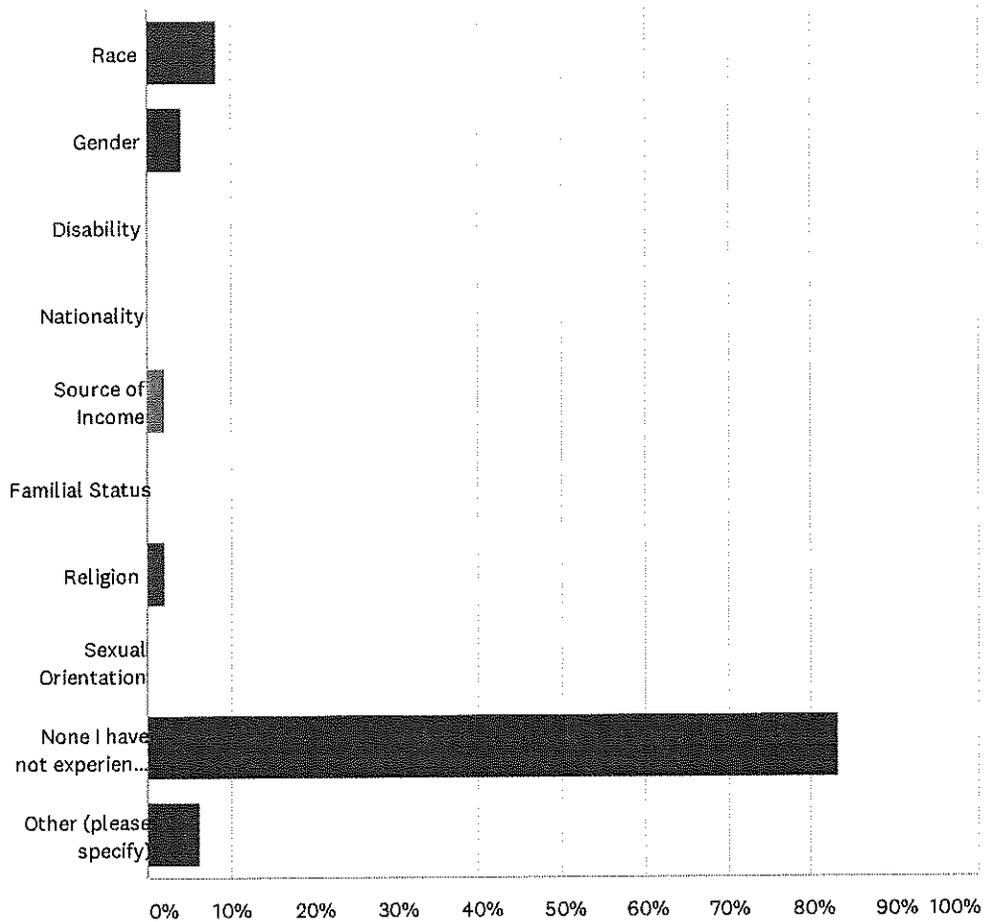


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
There were no handicapped accessible units	16.67%	8
The landlord/lady refused to make reasonable modifications inside the unit (door widening, grab bars etc)	6.25%	3
I am not aware of any	81.25%	39
Other (please specify)	6.25%	3
Total Respondents: 48		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	I don't have specific knowledge but assume it happens	4/28/2020 2:19 PM
2	Difficult to find affordable accessible units.	4/9/2020 1:50 PM
3	private sectors	4/9/2020 8:21 AM

Q19 Do you feel you have ever been discriminated against in the City of Norwich? If yes, on what basis do you believe you were discriminated against? Please select all that apply

Answered: 48 Skipped: 8



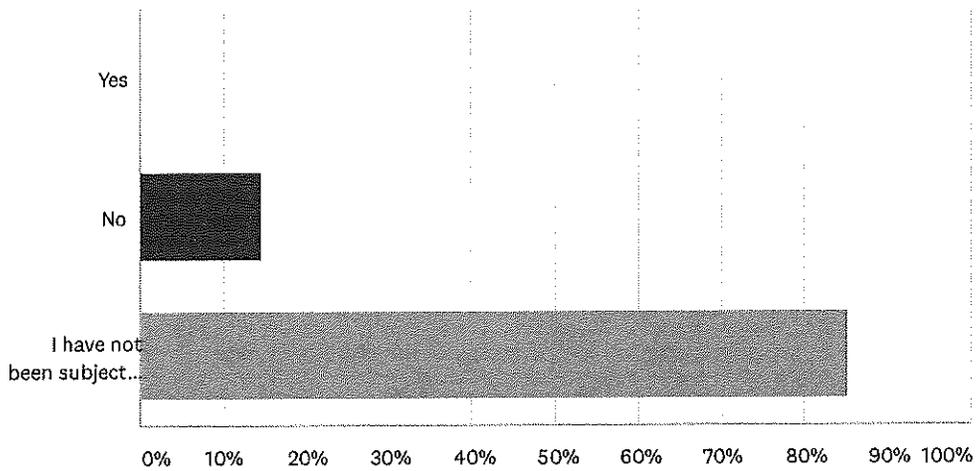
City of Norwich Five Year Consolidated Plan & Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Race	8.33%	4
Gender	4.17%	2
Disability	0.00%	0
Nationality	0.00%	0
Source of Income	2.08%	1
Familial Status	0.00%	0
Religion	2.08%	1
Sexual Orientation	0.00%	0
None I have not experienced housing discrimination in Norwich.	83.33%	40
Other (please specify)	6.25%	3
Total Respondents: 48		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Age discrimination	6/11/2020 2:18 AM
2	My home has been targeted for inspections and violations when other homes within the same block in worse condition have been left alone or given more time to correct deficiencies.	4/9/2020 9:35 AM
3	do not live in Norwich	4/9/2020 8:21 AM

Q20 If you believe you have been subjected to discrimination, have you reported the incident?

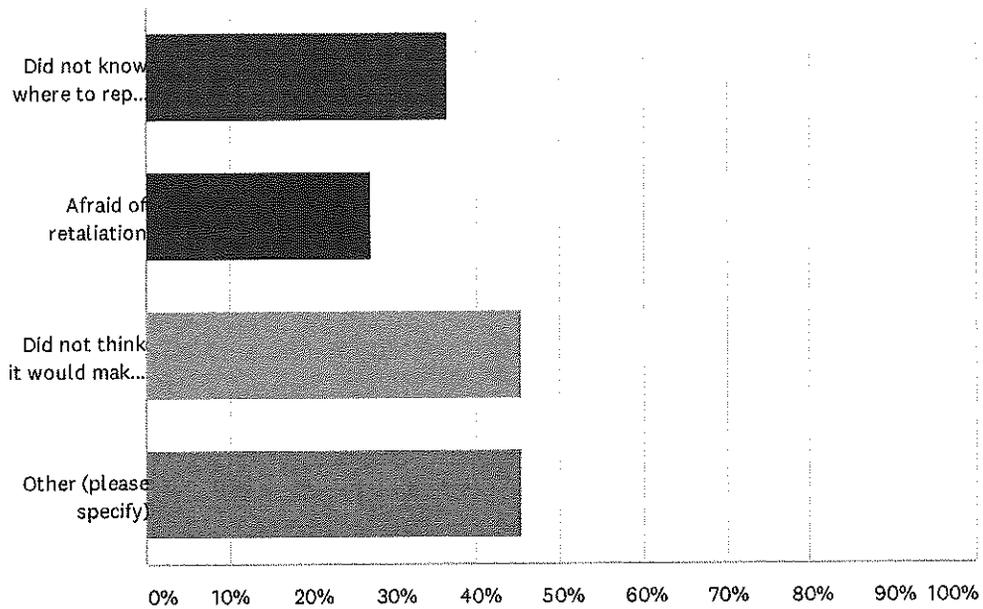
Answered: 48 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	0.00%	0
No	14.58%	7
I have not been subjected to discrimination	85.42%	41
TOTAL		48

Q21 If you did not report the incident, why not?

Answered: 11 Skipped: 45

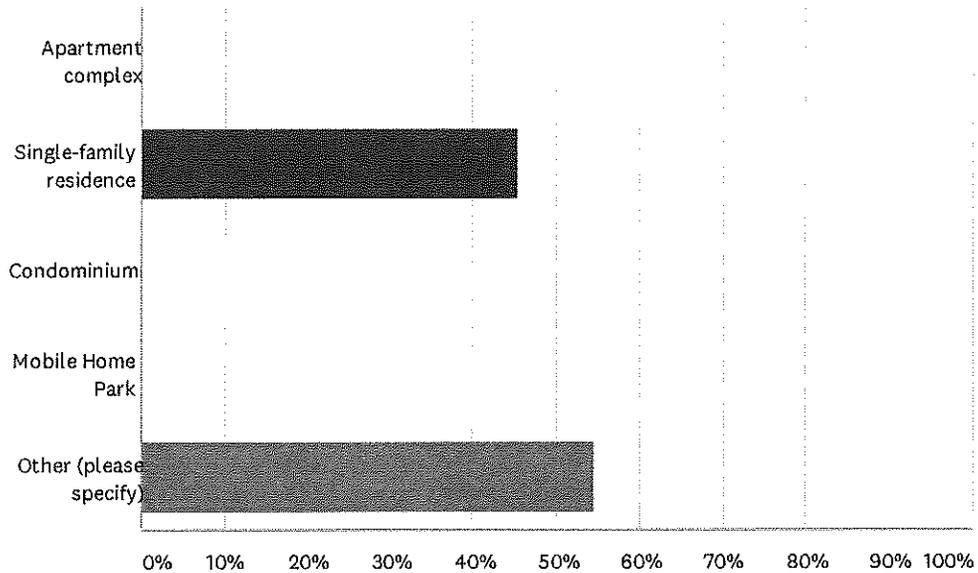


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Did not know where to report it	36.36% 4
Afraid of retaliation	27.27% 3
Did not think it would make a difference	45.45% 5
Other (please specify)	45.45% 5
Total Respondents: 11	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	A supervisor did it The owner lied about it to city official when I did report it and never heard from city official again	6/11/2020 2:18 AM
2	N/A	4/6/2020 12:43 PM
3	N/a	4/6/2020 11:58 AM
4	N/A	4/6/2020 10:41 AM
5	N/a	4/6/2020 10:33 AM

Q22 Where did the discrimination occur?

Answered: 11 Skipped: 45



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Apartment complex	0.00%	0
Single-family residence	45.45%	5
Condominium	0.00%	0
Mobile Home Park	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	54.55%	6
TOTAL		11

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	1. Grocery store-supervisor 2. Single family resident	6/11/2020 2:18 AM
2	none	4/9/2020 8:21 AM
3	N/A	4/6/2020 12:43 PM
4	N/A	4/6/2020 10:41 AM
5	N/a	4/6/2020 10:33 AM
6	NPU	4/6/2020 10:12 AM

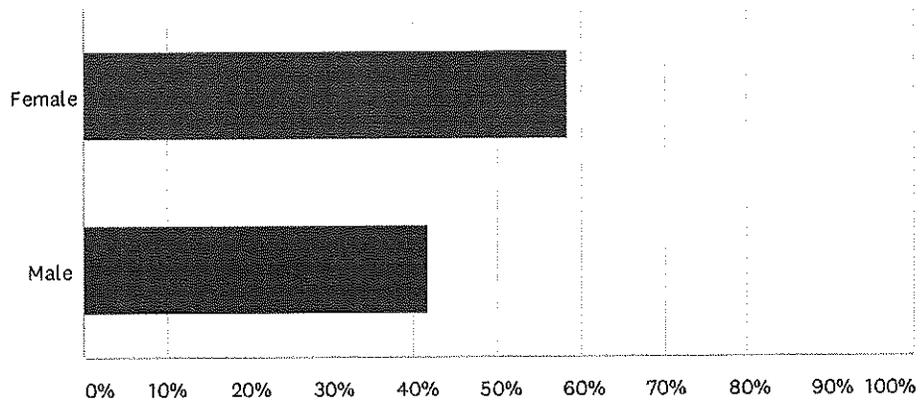
Q23 Are there any other concerns/experiences you wish to share that you believe may cause or have caused a barrier to housing? Please share your housing related experience with us, even if you are unsure if it is a barrier to fair housing choice. Your responses are confidential and are important to improve the quality of life in Norwich.

Answered: 9 Skipped: 47

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	When I was trying to hit a house in Norwich the realtor only showed houses that looked bad and when I did buy a house it was overpriced.	6/11/2020 2:18 AM
2	I was denied an apartment in Norwich because my monthly income was not 3x the rent. My monthly income was only 1.5x.	4/9/2020 4:02 PM
3	Arbitrary decisions on whether to forgive past taxes/fines for new ownership of a troubled building. Why should a new building owner be forced to pay back taxes on a building that was left in arrears by a former owner? If there is no connection (business or personal) between the current/delinquent owner and the new owner, why should the arrearages carry forward?	4/9/2020 9:35 AM
4	more affordable housing is needed along with affordable utilities/for the private landlords taxes are to high to meet these needs	4/9/2020 8:21 AM
5	Went to see an apartment that was listed in the paper. When I arrived the landlord said it was taken. I saw it several weeks later in the paper. I went back by and saw the same for rent sign	4/8/2020 2:36 PM
6	Property tax was our biggest issue. One year after we bought our house our taxes increased \$300 a month. Fortunately we were able to refinance the difference after 6 months but that could have cost us our home.	4/6/2020 4:52 PM
7	Fix the roads.	4/6/2020 12:43 PM
8	N/a	4/6/2020 10:41 AM
9	No	4/6/2020 10:23 AM

Q24 Are you:

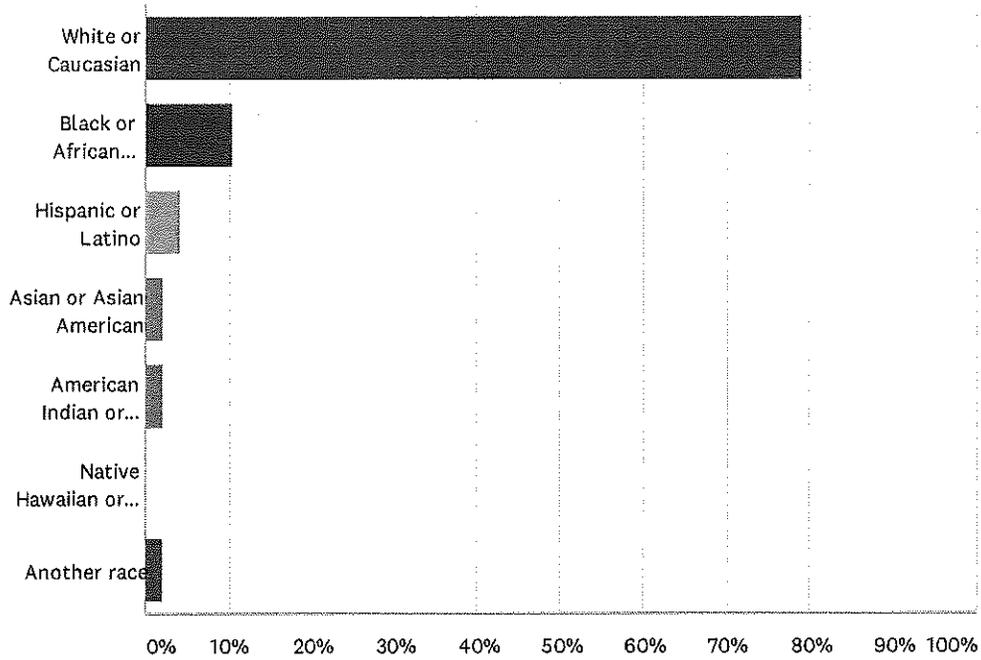
Answered: 48 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Female	58.33%	28
Male	41.67%	20
TOTAL		48

Q25 Are you:

Answered: 48 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
White or Caucasian	79.17%	38
Black or African American	10.42%	5
Hispanic or Latino	4.17%	2
Asian or Asian American	2.08%	1
American Indian or Alaska Native	2.08%	1
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.00%	0
Another race	2.08%	1
TOTAL		48

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF MYLES J. LAFLEY (D-00197)

The Hon. Charles K. Norris, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Norwich, Probate Court, do hereby decree dated June 26, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Elson M. Robbins, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is: Nancy J. Bova-Wozniak, Deborah J. Jofford, Torford Law Firm PC, 1 Adams Village Pl., Middletown, CT 06457

LEGAL NOTICE
Town of Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, July 22, 2020 via Zoom's online meeting portal which can be accessed via our website www.thompsonct.org regarding the Revised Zoning Regulations for the Town of Thompson which are available for public review on the Planning and Zoning Commission page of the Town's website, or in person by appointment during business hours in the Office of Planning & Development, 816 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, CT in accordance with CGS Section 8-7d. Dated at Thompson, CT this 9th day of July 2020.

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT BY HIS EXCELLENCY NED LAMONT EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 7FF7 - PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND RESPONSE - PAYMENTS TO PRIVATE NON-MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS FOR ADULTS

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I issued a declaration of public health and civil preparedness emergencies, proclaiming a state of emergency throughout the State of Connecticut as a result of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak in the United States and Connecticut; and WHEREAS, pursuant to such declaration, I have issued fifty-eight (58) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; and WHEREAS, the CDC and the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) recommend implementation of community mitigation strategies to slow transmission of COVID-19, including cancellation of gatherings of ten people or more and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and WHEREAS, the risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19 is higher for individuals who are 60 or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and WHEREAS, public health experts have determined that it is possible to transmit COVID-19 even before a person shows symptoms and through aerosol transmission; and WHEREAS, public health experts have indicated that COVID-19 may be most virulent before a person shows any symptoms; and WHEREAS, the CDC has recommended that people with mild symptoms consistent with COVID-19 be assumed to be infected with COVID-19 and to isolate themselves from others; and WHEREAS, the requirement for Medicaid rates to be set based on semi-annual studies, and (3) waiving or modifying any other requirement for Medicaid payment of PNMs for adults that the Commissioner deems necessary as a result of staffing and other constraints caused by or related to the COVID-19 public health emergency; and WHEREAS, the Commissioner may issue any order or take other action that the deems necessary to implement this order. Unless otherwise specified herein, this order shall take effect immediately and remain in effect for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, unless and/or modified, extended or terminated. Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 6th day of July, 2020. NED LAMONT, GOVERNOR.

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Horoscope
ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't get bogged down with trivial matters. Unnecessary arguments or other people's problems. Go about your business, and keep people at a distance. It's time to help you and associate with those who bring out the best in you. 3 stars
TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Stick to your plan, and finish what you start. A positive change is heading your direction; all you have to do is recognize and use what transpires to your benefit. If you snooze, you lose. Stay alert. 4 stars
GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't overreact or take on something that will make you look bad. Set your sights on what's doable and you'll inevitably find you present what you do best. Hone your skills, and you'll put an end to negative critics. 2 stars
CANCER (June 21-July 22): A heart-to-heart talk will lead to workable solutions. Be reasonable and willing to compromise, and you will avoid getting into an unnecessary argument that will lead to an irreversible change. Look for the good in others, and offer your very best. 5 stars
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take a virtual tour of a place you'd like to explore. Join a social media group or master class to put you in touch with people who share your interests. Distance yourself from negative people. Arguing is a waste of time. 3 stars
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Your suggestions will be well-received. Before negotiating, go over every detail to ensure you are getting what you want. Don't let an emotional issue cloud your vision. Be sensitive to other needs, but be sure to get a fair deal. 3 stars
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't get angry; get moving. If something doesn't go the way you want, pick yourself up and start over. Refuse to let other people's opinions or criticism get you down. Trust and believe in your abilities, and keep moving forward. 3 stars
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Look into new possibilities. A change of pace or direction will be good for your energy. Try to inspire you; revise some of the attributes you enjoy using to fit current economic trends. A unique idea you dream up will attract interest. 5 stars
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Walk your own path, and put a distance yourself from associates who don't give enough in return for the help and things you offer out of generosity. Shake things up, and concentrate on positive influences, people and the things you enjoy doing most. 2 stars
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll take a greater interest in the unknown. Science and the unfamiliar will pique your interest and lead you to something that brings you joy. 3 stars
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't make a drastic or hasty change because someone else does. Pay closer attention to the things that make you happy, and adapt your daily routine to allow you more time to do something that brings you joy. 3 stars
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Enjoy the people who offer the most in return. Set aside time to enrich your mind and to ease your own discipline to reach your goals. Let your intuition guide you, and you will be happy with the results. 3 stars

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XCV QVWY MD CT IFLIDO
LOCVTU. — ONABI ZNAUC
DQDQWCT
Yesterday's Cryptquote: A TORN JACKET IS SOON MENDED; BUT HARD WORDS BRUISE THE HEART OF A CHILD. — I.H.W. LONGFELLOW



CITY OF NORWICH
Office of Community Development

Public Meeting Notice

For the public review and comment of:

DRAFT Five Year Consolidated Plan for program years September 1, 2020 - August 31, 2024;
DRAFT Annual Action Plan for program year September 1, 2020 - August 31, 2021.

The City of Norwich, through the Office of Community Development, has prepared its DRAFT Five Year Consolidated Plan for the program years September 1, 2020-August 31, 2024 and its DRAFT Annual Action Plan for program year September 1, 2020-August 31, 2021. The DRAFT Plans outline the strategy and planned expenditures of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) formula grant program received by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Plans will be available for a 30-day public review period beginning July 10, 2020 through August 11, 2020. Copies will be available for public review online at <https://www.norwichct.org/216/Community-Development> and interested parties can request a copy by calling 860-823-3770.

Due to COVID-19, the City of Norwich will also be holding a ZOOM call Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at 2:00 PM to receive live comments on the plans.

Topic: Public Hearing for 5 Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Plan
Time: Aug 4, 2020 02:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81709321105>

Meeting ID: 817 0932 1105 Passcode: 749558

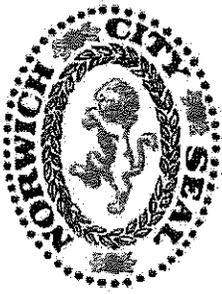
One tap mobile
+16468769923,,81709321105# US (New York)
+13017158592,,81709321105# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location
+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Interested parties are also invited to submit written comments concerning these documents by 4:00 PM on August 10, 2020. Questions or comments can be directed to:

Kathryn Crees
Office of Community Development
23 Union Street
Norwich, CT 06360 or to kcrees@cityofnorwich.com

Please contact the Office of Community Development at 860-823-3770 for additional information.



CITY OF NORWICH
Office of Community Development

Minutes of Public Meeting via ZOOM
August 4, 2020 2:00 PM

Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81709321105> ID: 817-0932-1105 / Passcode:
749558

1. The Public Hearing was opened at 4:04 PM for the Five Year Consolidated Plan for program years September 1, 2020 - August 31, 2024 and Annual Action Plan for program year September 1, 2020 - August 31, 2021
2. Present were Community Development Director Kathryn Crees and Program Assistant Tianne Curtis.
3. The floor was opened for public comment. There were none present wishing to speak. Kathryn Crees stated the meeting would be held open for a five (5) minute period to allow time for the public to join. None were present. At 2:12 PM an additional five (5) minutes were given.
4. As there were no comments by the public, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tianne Curtis

Executive Summary

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

1. Introduction

Based on 24 CFR 91.200(c) and 91.220(b), the Executive Summary is provided to assist in the facilitation of the citizen review and comment. This concise executive summary includes the objectives and outcomes identified in the plan as well as an evaluation of past performance. The plan shall also include a concise summary of the citizen participation process, public comments, and efforts made to broaden public participation in the development of the consolidated plan.

The purpose of the City of Norwich's Five Year 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Plan is to develop a viable community by 1) providing decent, affordable and safe housing; 2) creating a suitable living environment; and 3) expanding economic opportunities, principally for low and moderate-income persons. The plan sets forth how HUD Community Development Block Grant funding, will be used with investment priorities to achieve specific HUD objectives and outcomes performance measures. Norwich does not receive HOME Investment Partnership and Emergency Solution Grant funding.

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

The City will focus on three main priorities that have multiple objectives and outcomes:

1.) Providing Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing: includes conserving & improving existing housing; assist in providing homeownership; assisting in the development of affordable housing; removing barriers related to accessibility; improving housing specific to shelters, homelessness prevention and/or rapid rehousing and/or permanent supportive housing.

2.) Create a Suitable Living Environment: includes programs that focus on self-sufficiency, health and safety. These objectives and outcomes include providing funding for financial education, outreach, access to benefits, removing barriers around transportation related to medical/health, reducing domestic violence; providing funding for education and/or training related to residents under the age of 18, that may lead to improved employment opportunities; providing funding for projects that create neighborhood or infrastructure improvements, including community facilities/infrastructure in income qualified census tract/block groups.

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3.) Expanding Opportunities for Low-to-Moderate Income Persons: includes services associated with job creation, job training and increasing employment opportunities for Norwich residents.

3. Evaluation of past performance

The City has made a great effort to ensure that we meet our timeliness goals. In order to do this we are clear with our subrecipients on timely expenditures and have not hesitated to recapture funding that cannot be spent in a timely manner. We have revised our CDBG funded Property Rehabilitation Program to increase funding for eligible units to ensure that residents are getting all the services they need. In doing this we have spent down our Return of Loan funds and successfully expended past years funds.

The goals that have been established by the community are still relevant and the projects that are funded help meet those goals.

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The City has worked hard to remain timely over the past few years and has worked diligently with subrecipients to ensure that their projects can be completed within a reasonable time period. Additionally the policies and procedures of the CDBG funded Property Rehabilitation program have been amended to allow more per unit funding in an effort to truly meet the needs of the residents as well as to expend our return of loan and past CDBG program years funding.

Due to the historic nature of the building and additional code issues, SCADD required access to additional funding in order to complete the project. The City provided opportunity for SCADD to complete the project, however, the amount necessary was not raised from other sources. As stated in the 2012 CAPER, the City provided until March 2014 for the funding to be secured and work to begin on the project. This deadline was not met and the CD Office will be sending a certified letter recapture funding for re-allocation as part of the PY 2015 process.

The economic downturn forced many organizations to scale back on funding over the last few years. This led to the closing of Big Brothers/Big Sisters (BBBS) of Southeastern Connecticut in PY 2013. BBBS was a long-time recipient of CDBG funds and an ally for helping Norwich youth. Their assistance in benefiting LMI individuals and families will be missed.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

The City of Norwich's citizen participation process followed the City of Norwich's Citizen Participation Plan and included community forums and public outreach hearings for the public, surveys designed to encourage input from PHA residents, neighborhood associations, minorities, non-English speaking, predominantly low and moderate income neighborhoods, the disabled, and the continuum of care, and mailings to gain input from entities with specific expertise in the areas of housing, non-housing, community development, homelessness and the near homeless. This effort met and exceeded the requirements of the Citizen Participation Plan and provided meaningful input in establishing goals and strategies for the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and activities for the 2020 Annual Action Plan.

Demo

The citizen participation process included a public hearing held on August 4th via Zoom to obtain citizen comments on issues related to the housing, non-housing and community development needs in the City of Norwich. A public notice for the hearing was published in the Norwich Bulletin. The public hearing also allowed the public to comment on the development of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Action Plan.

The City of Norwich's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan was made available for public review and comment from July 10, 2020 to August 11, 2020. Notice of the 30 day comment period was published in the Norwich Bulletin. Copies of both the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan were available for review. See the Citizen Participation Section PR-15 for more information.

5. Summary of public comments

Public comments included expressed concerns in general areas such as housings quality and affordability, community development and services, public infrastructure and homeless issues.

Specific issues consisted of Housing Needs/Concerns: Targeted housing revitalization, homeowner occupied rehabilitation, rental housing rehabilitation, absentee landlords, poor tenants, down payment or utility assistance, quality of the affordable housing stock/supply, and the need for permanent housing capacity building for the homeless population. Community Development Issues: sidewalk improvements, curbs and gutters, drainage, lighting in neighborhood (specifically alleys), blighted and unsafe buildings. Homelessness (Continuum of Care): more transitional housing units and capacity building opportunities within that cohort to coordinate access to financial self-sufficiency opportunities, loss/decrease of federal funding, need for case workers and keep existing, client/rental assistance funds, long term case management, units for single men, lack of units/beds for disabled. Issues around overall transportation barriers. This included transportation to and from work as well as medical/health appointments.

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

No comments received.

7. Summary

Developing the City of Norwich's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Plan has been an inclusive process in an effort to help further the goals and outcomes. The overall goal was to develop a viable city community by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment, and economic

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opportunities principally for low and moderate-income persons, comprehensive neighborhood revitalization and programs that will address the needs of homeless and near homeless persons. An approved Citizen Participation Plan was used to gather public comments through public meetings and the consultation process provided additional input. Information gathered from the public, a market analysis, and data provided by HUD.

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		Office of Community Development

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The lead agency responsible for overseeing the development of the Consolidated Plan and administering programs covered by the Plan is the City of Norwich, a State of Connecticut municipality. The City of Norwich's Community Development Department is responsible for administering the Consolidated Plan.

The primary public and private agencies that may be utilized in implementing Consolidated Plan programs include, but are not limited to, the City of Norwich, Continuum of Care agencies, the Norwich Housing Authority, neighborhood associations, faith-based organizations, governmental entities, and non-profit service and housing providers.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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

1. Introduction

The City of Norwich realizes the importance of collaboration and coordination between public and private housing as well as health and social service agencies. The city has adopted a Citizen Participation Plan for its Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan that identifies when public hearings and other consultations are to take place. This Plan was used in preparing this 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan. The City of Norwich's Consolidated Plan and Action Plan were also prepared to comply with the consultation requirements of the CDBG, including consultation with the local Continuum of Care agencies.

Consultation on the development of the plan began in January 2015 and was accomplished through a variety of strategies, including public notices, public and community meetings, direct correspondence and surveys. All efforts were made to contact appropriate parties and obtain their input for the content of this plan. These consultations, coupled with citizen participation, provided the direction for the plan development.

HOME, HOPWA and ESG programs consultations are not a component since the city does not receive said funding.

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

Coordination will continue to be strengthened through regular interaction and meetings. Local networks address several priorities outlined in the CDBG plan. The CD staff and key municipal leaders participate on boards and commissions that represent these agencies. Connectivity to the subject matter provides for access to data and organizational trends. The Director of Norwich Human Services, another city department, is past chairperson of the CT Coalition to End Homelessness (CCEH). CCEH is a statewide advocacy group that focuses on the most at-risk population and provides the Point-in-Time count for homelessness. Several employees and team members are associated with Continuum of Care (CoC) organizations. The CoC is a group of public and private agencies who meet monthly to coordinate and discuss services to address and prevent homelessness in New London County. - includes representatives from mental health/social service agencies. The City participates in a Coordinated Access Network (CAN) plan to increase preventative measures around homelessness, mental health and human service needs. This provides for a streamlined process to ensure fewer people "slip through the cracks" – higher level of attention ensures greater outcome. The City met with service providers, the

Norwich Housing Authority and other assisted housing providers several times during the creation of this document. The City identified needs, conditions, programs, and activities. The discussion and data provided during the meeting is detailed in the Market Analysis section, MA-25, under Public and Assisted Housing. From 2015-2019, the City partnered with the PHA in updating PHA facilities by providing CDBG funds for renovations and improvements. Other assisted housing providers include Thames Valley Council for Community Action (TVCCA). Among other things, these agencies received CDBG funds in order to provide rapid rehousing, shelter diversion and temporary housing subsidies.

Coordination between the City and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies is primarily accomplished through the Norwich Human Services (NHS) department.

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 coordination between the City and homeless service providers, agencies and shelters is primarily accomplished through the Norwich Human Services (NHS) department. The city does not receive or allocate ESG funds, but the draft City of Norwich 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and the PY 2020 Action Plan is available to all Continuum of Care (CoC) providers within the city's jurisdiction. The CD Office held 3 public hearings/meetings to discuss the 5 Year Plan. One of these meetings focused on human services and the CoC was represented at these meetings. The CoC meets regularly and provides an annual update to the city. The NHS Director participates in the CoC meetings and is a lead partner in the Coordinated Access Network (CAN) which focuses on high level process to provide holistic services to CoC related participants. The CDBG office reviews meeting minutes and attends partner agency meetings as schedules allow in order to better determine if any additional collaborations need to be encouraged. This process is on-going and will continue.

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

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	NORWICH HOUSING AUTHORITY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	A public forum/consultation was held on February 25, March 2nd and March 9th. Additionally the City requested information from the Housing Authority Executive Director directly. The City received considerable input on the public housing needs, plans, goals and programs of the PHA. This information will be considered to improve programming and outcomes of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan and coordination between the City of Norwich and the PHA.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	ALLIANCE FOR LIVING, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-homeless Service-Fair Housing Continuum of Care Lead Agency
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy

	<p>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The City Human Services Director works closely with this group and she was present at the meetings held on February 25th, March 2nd and March 9th. As a result, the City received input on the housing and community development needs, plans, goals and programs associated with this organization. Improved coordination and need focused on the need for counselor training in order to better impact behavior and circumstances of those affected/effectuated by HIV/AIDS and the general population as a whole. Additional outreach and education opportunities would also work to decrease risk as treatments are available that will increase prevention. Additional dollars are required in order to improve outcomes. This information will be considered to improve programming and outcomes of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan and coordination between the City of Norwich and the needs of Norwich residents.</p>
3	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Southeastern Mental Health Authority</p>
	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Regional organization</p>

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	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy</p>
	<p>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The Director of Human Services who works closely with the Community Development Office and with other Social Service providers attended the March 2nd meeting and provided information for local service providers. As a result, the City received considerable input on the public housing and community development needs, plans, goals and programs. Discussed in detail use of Housing First Model and use of CAN (single point of entry) in order to improve coordination and outcomes. It was stressed that case management is necessary in order to change behavior and circumstances - and funding is needed for case management. This information will be considered to improve programming and outcomes of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan and coordination between the City of Norwich, neighborhoods, residents and at-risk populations.</p>
4	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>Norwich Community Development Corporation</p>
	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Regional organization Planning organization Business and Civic Leaders</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Economic Development Market Analysis</p>

	<p>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>A public forum/consultation was held on February 25 2015, March 2 and March 9th. The City received considerable input on the non-homeless needs of community. This information will be considered to improve programming and outcomes of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan and coordination between the City of Norwich, the business community, residents and neighborhoods.</p>
5	<p>Agency/Group/Organization</p>	<p>United Community Family Services</p>
	<p>Agency/Group/Organization Type</p>	<p>Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-Health Services - Victims Regional organization Medical Service Provider</p>
	<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy</p>
	<p>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>The Human Services Director works closely with all service providers and provided information on need at the March 2nd community public hearing. As a result, the City received considerable input on basic as well as medical needs of Norwich residents. Improved coordination includes connectivity to regional council of governments to address transportation issues related to health/medical professions. This information will be considered to improve programming and outcomes of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan and coordination between the City of Norwich and its residents.</p>

6	Agency/Group/Organization	NORWICH HUMAN SERVICES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs HOPWA Strategy Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	A public forum/consultation was held on February 25, March 2 and March 9th, 2020. The City received considerable input on the non-homeless and homeless needs of community. Outcomes include reduction in homelessness and increase in income. Additional outcomes/outputs are improved graduation rates, improved health and increase in employment. This information will be considered to improve programming and outcomes of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan and coordination between the City of Norwich, the business community, residents and neighborhoods.

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7	Agency/Group/Organization	Norwich Planning and Neighborhood Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Other government - Local Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	An in-person interview with staff took place on March 9, 2020. As a result, the City received considerable input on market needs and general zoning/planning regulations that impact development decisions as well as an anti-blight strategy. This information will be considered to improve programming and outcomes of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan and coordination between the City of Norwich, future developments and Norwich residents
8	Agency/Group/Organization	NORWICH RECREATION DEPARTMENT
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Health Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	An in-person interview with staff took place on March 2nd. As a result, the City received considerable input on quality of life issues related to suitable living environments and impacting youth, adults and seniors living in Norwich. This information will be considered to improve programming and outcomes of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan and coordination between the City of Norwich and future quality of life program for Norwich residents.

9	Agency/Group/Organization	THAMES VALLEY COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY ACTION, INC.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Services - Victims Health Agency Child Welfare Agency Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	TVCCA attended the March 2nd public hearing and provided comment. As a result, the City received considerable input on quality of life issues related to suitable living environments and impacting housing, homeless needs, workforce development programming, needs of seniors, adults and children living in Norwich. This information will be considered to improve programming and outcomes of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Annual Action Plan and coordination between the City of Norwich and future quality of life program for Norwich residents.

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

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	Continuum of Care	The goals of the Strategic Plan have been coordinated with those of the Continuum of Care to make sure that areas of need such as homelessness, housing, case management and programming are addressed.
Plan of Conservation and Development	City of Norwich Department of Planning and Neighborhood Services	The goals of the Strategic Plan have been coordinated with those of the POCD. The POCD and the Comprehensive plan are the housing/business development regulations for the City as they relate to land use as well as the protection/advancement of neighborhoods. Overlapping these plans allows for positive, fair and measured growth for our community in a way that benefits the population as a whole.
City of Norwich Housing Needs Assessment	City of Norwich Community Development Department	The goals of the Strategic Plan have been developed in concert with those contained in the Needs Assessment.
City of Norwich Economic Development Strategic Pla	Mayor of Norwich	The goals of the Strategic Plan have been developed in concert with those contained in the Mayor's Economic Development Strategic Plan in order to ensure priorities of both plans are addressed. Both plans have been created based on review of Economic Development Market Analysis and an understanding of growth capacity.
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy	Southeastern CT Enterprise Region	The goals of the Strategic Plan have been developed in concert with the regional CEDS in order to ensure priorities of job creation and economic stabilization are addressed.

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 works closely with a number of state and regional organizations in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan. These entities include the State Departments of Housing and Economic &

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Community Development, Mental Health and Addiction Services, and Veterans Affairs. These organizations coordinate with us on anti-poverty strategies, homelessness prevention, protection of youth and adults and programs that benefit special needs populations. Regionally we participate with multiple municipalities through our Southeastern Connecticut Regional Council of Government (SCCOG) and Southeastern Connecticut Enterprise Region (seCTer). These organizations allow us to coordinate regional planning and economic development initiatives that help benefit the region. This includes increasing employment opportunities for low-to-moderate income people, development of affordable housing projects, and regional transportation initiatives.

Narrative (optional):

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

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
1	Public Meeting	Minorities Persons with disabilities Non-targeted/broad community Residents of Public and Assisted Housing	Three meetings inviting a cross-section of representatives from local cultural organizations, neighborhood residents, business associations/organizations, social service agencies and non-profits. This resulted in 12 residents or organization representatives attending. Four organizations were represented.	Expressed concerns in following general areas: housing quality and affordability, community development and services, public infrastructure, homeless and transportation issues were key discussion points.	All comments were accepted	

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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
2	Public Survey	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Haitian-Creole, Spanish, Chinese</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	<p>20 question survey was made available online and distributed at key locations: Otis Library, Norwich Housing Authority, Norwich Human Services, Norwich Community Development Office, Norwich City Manager's Office. The survey was translated into the four most prominent languages: English, Spanish, Haitian-Creole and Chinese.</p>	<p>Survey expressed that programs focusing on businesses and jobs (job creation/retention and employment) had the highest priority. The remaining categories were ranked, from next highest priority to least, as follows: Community Facilities, Community Services, Infrastructure, Neighborhood Services (blight, property maintenance, clean-up of abandoned properties), and Special Needs Services.</p>	<p>All comments were accepted.</p>	

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Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
3	Public Hearing	<p>Minorities</p> <p>Non-English Speaking - Specify other language: Haitian-Creole, Spanish, Chinese</p> <p>Persons with disabilities</p> <p>Non-targeted/broad community</p> <p>Residents of Public and Assisted Housing</p>	<p>Attendance included elected officials, residents, administrative personnel.</p> <p>Meeting was broadcast on local cable access television.</p>	No Comments Received	N/A	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Needs Assessment

NA-05 Overview

Needs Assessment Overview

The City of Norwich used the 2000 Census, 2007-2011 CHAS default needs assessment data, 2013 ACS data, and comments received during the citizen participation and consultation process to identify the following affordable housing, community development and homeless needs for the next five years, as indicated on the attached Priority Housing Needs/Investment Plan Goals Tables 2A and 2B.

Using the overall needs listed on the above mentioned tables, the City obtained additional input from the Norwich Public Housing Authority, Norwich Human Services, Alliance for Living (the Living Center), Southeastern Mental Health Associates (SMHA), and other organizations previously listed, City staff, and comments from the citizen participation and consultation processes to further refine these overall needs into priority needs consistent with a recent housing needs assessment.

Housing cost burden of renters and owners with incomes of less than 30% of area median income is the largest housing problem in the City of Norwich. While the cost of housing is generally affordable in the City of Norwich, the problem is household income, as it relates to cost burdens. Additional rental assistance, education around financial self-sufficiency and capacity building around case management is needed. At the same time, at risk populations have improved success when crisis associated with lack of housing is addressed first. Therefore, available funding needs to focus on increasing the quality of the existing housing stock, decreasing housing cost burden for residents and finding creative ways to house at-risk populations.

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

Summary of Housing Needs

The housing needs in the City of Norwich are clearly identified with the information provided by the 2005-2009 ACS (Base Year) Census, ACS 2011 - 2015 estimates and 2011-2011 CHAS data. The largest housing problem is the housing cost burden of renters and owners with incomes of less than 30% of area median income. In addition, most of the owners and renters noted in the Housing Problems 2 table with less than 30% AMI have at least one or more of four housing problems. Other housing needs by family type, income level, tenure type and household type are summarized as crowding (more than one person per room) below.

Demographics	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2015	% Change
Population	40,493	40,255	-1%
Households	15,098	16,080	7%
Median Income	\$50,381.00	\$50,078.00	-1%

Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics

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

Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households	3,120	2,830	3,310	1,825	4,995
Small Family Households	955	1,275	1,105	750	2,290
Large Family Households	225	95	265	190	580
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	530	395	790	390	855
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	410	580	335	175	390
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger	755	435	520	240	430

Table 6 - Total Households Table

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

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	120	0	40	0	160	0	4	4	0	8
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	50	4	60	0	114	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	45	15	20	85	165	0	0	0	4	4
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	1,105	340	0	0	1,445	350	400	210	55	1,015
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	650	900	500	0	2,050	115	325	640	225	1,305

Demo

	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
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	15	0	0	0	15	45	0	0	0	45

Table 7 – Housing Problems Table

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

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

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	1,325	365	125	85	1,900	350	405	215	55	1,025
Having none of four housing problems	1,250	1,360	1,525	670	4,805	135	705	1,445	1,015	3,300
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	15	0	0	0	15	45	0	0	0	45

Table 8 – Housing Problems 2

Data 2011-2015 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	630	710	160	1,500	50	320	375	745
Large Related	180	70	0	250	50	20	95	165
Elderly	470	155	40	665	184	285	179	648

Demo

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Other	660	315	300	1,275	180	100	200	480
Total need by income	1,940	1,250	500	3,690	464	725	849	2,038

Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

4. Cost Burden > 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	365	190	0	555	40	240	80	360
Large Related	105	0	0	105	40	10	15	65
Elderly	215	65	0	280	135	100	59	294
Other	555	85	0	640	135	50	55	240
Total need by income	1,240	340	0	1,580	350	400	209	959

Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	75	15	24	80	194	0	0	0	0	0
Multiple, unrelated family households	20	0	55	4	79	0	0	0	4	4
Other, non-family households	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	95	19	79	84	277	0	0	0	4	4

Table 11 – Crowding Information – 1/2

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

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

The largest number and type of single person household needing assistance is renters at or below 50% AMI. Based on data provided above by CHAS, approximately 2700 households experience one or more housing problem, including lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities, having a housing cost burden greater than 30 and/or 50% of income and overcrowding. The greatest need is for reduction in housing cost burden, especially for persons earning less than 50% of AMI.

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.

The City works with multiple organizations to complete these questions. This included housing associated organizations, such as Norwich Human Services, Norwich Public Housing Authority, and TVCCA. The City met with Disabilities Network of Eastern Connecticut (DNEC), who helps people with overcoming barriers related to housing accessible due to disabilities and Safe Futures, who works with victims of domestic violence issues. Safe Futures provides victim serves that include a 24 hour crisis line, legal assistance, court advocates and temporary housing in undefined locations. Safe Futures services averages more than 1700 clients a year.

According to the 2014-18 Census.gov (5-Year), 10.2% of the population has some level of disability. Norwich has more than 6,000 residents over the age of 65. Forty percent of those over the age of 65 are deemed disabled, which equates to approximately 7% of the total population. Service providers and agencies state that although new units are coming online or have been recently built, there is no documented set-aside for the elderly and/or disabled; there is concern that there is not enough to meet the demand of this growing population.

What are the most common housing problems?

Demo

According to HUD, there are four priority housing problems: 1) overcrowding, 2) lack of complete kitchen, 3) lack of complete plumbing and 4) housing cost burden. The most common is housing cost burden. The charts indicate 464 owners and 1940 renters, with incomes of less than 30% AMI, are paying in excess of 50% of their income on housing costs. Another 340 renters and 400 owners with incomes between 30% and 50% AMI are paying at least 50% of their income on housing costs.

Renters seem to bear the greatest of housing burdens, specifically the *small related*, followed by *other*, then the *elderly*. The Cost Burden table notes that the less than 30% AMI renter segment has 630 *small related* renting households and 660 other renting households, with the most being at a housing cost burdened of 0-30%. Within that same housing cost burden category are 470 *elderly* renters and 180 *large related* households at or below 30% AMI. For renters, there are 1500 *small related*, 250 *large related*, 665 *elderly*, 1275 *other* residents with greater than 30% housing cost burden who are at 80% AMI.

Owners that have a greater than 30% housing cost burden are also impacted. The *small related* category is a concern at both the 30-50% and 50-80% AMI categories with 320 and 475 households, respectively, at this level. *Elderly* are at the next at-risk with 184 owners being below 30% AMI and 285 owners being 30-50% AMI.

In addition, 1325 of the renters who are at or below 30% AMI have 1 or more of the four previously mentioned housing problems. This translates to mean almost 26% of renter households at or below 80% AMI have 1 or more housing problem. At the same time, almost 24% of owners noted in the Housing Problems 2 table have at least 1 or more of four housing problems.

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

Residents at or below 80% AMI are affected with those at or below 30% AMI (extremely low) being the most affected. As previously mentioned, *small related* as well as *elderly* renter and owner households combined represent the highest concern. Additional concerns are:

- *Small related*, renter households at or below 30% AMI with a housing cost burden greater than 30%
- Single family, renter households, at or below 50% AMI
- Housing cost burden greater than 50% and at or below 30% AMI
- Housing cost burden greater than 30% for renters and owners, combined (42% of category households)
- Housing cost burden greater than 30% for renters and owners, *elderly* (50% of category households)

It is important to note other populations that may not be accurately reflected in housing problems, specifically people living at or below the federal poverty level or line. There are approximately 5,466 people living below the poverty line in Norwich according to the ACS 2019 data. According to the 2018 data there are 23.6% of female headed household with a child/children under the age of 5 living below the poverty line.

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

Individuals and families within this category share a common characteristic – negative financial factors present in their lives. Of these financial factors, lack of full-time, good paying employment (unemployment/ underemployment) and inability to pay rent/mortgage were the most common factors that contribute to becoming or being at risk for homelessness. We are seeing the effects of the "gig economy" here in Southeastern CT, where workers have temporary and multiple part-time jobs that are still insufficient to be able to afford the high rents in Norwich. Other factors included high child care costs, limited access to affordable medical/health services and lack of adequate transportation. Some require additional assistance with domestic violence, mental health issues, chemical dependency, and/or difficulty accessing services.

Many service providers separately commented on the same needs – a need to increase financial self-sufficiency. In Southeastern CT the sub-CoC has worked to rapidly rehouse people and were trend setters in doing this. Crisis intervention is a critical need to keep people housed. The Norwich area providers "Housing First" model provides housing stabilization to individuals through the provision of safe, permanent housing. The belief is that once individuals are housed, case management and education around removing barriers to long term stability can be addressed.

Small related, single-parent households at or below 30% AMI are at imminent risk of becoming unsheltered. A high percentage of individuals in poverty are single-parent, female head of household with a child/children 5 years old or younger. The 2016 ALICE report, released by the United Way, reports that 57% of people living in Norwich do not earn enough to be able to afford to live in Norwich. Based on previously described characteristics, service providers are closely monitoring changes or needs related to this at-risk population.

Those nearing the termination of that assistance have had a reasonable amount of success in becoming more financially sufficient. The HEARTH ACT helped create a paradigm shift. As a result, Norwich and local providers now use a collaborative system called the Coordinated Access Network (CAN) allowing for an holistic approach to reducing homelessness of at-risk populations. Shelter beds have decreased as data shows that shelter should be the option of last resort and that shelter stays should be brief, rare and non-recurring for families and individuals. Providing shelter diversion funds and access to rapid

rehousing funds has gone a long way to stabilize housing or at risk populations. Identified needs for this population are: Subsidies and vouchers to improve access to stable, permanent and affordable housing; Affordable and accessible child care; Improved public transportation; Job training and temporary opportunities for building employment experience.

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:

HUD defines a family as “a household composed of two or more related persons, at least one of whom is a child accompanied by an adult or a juvenile parent.” According to the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness’ (CCEH) 2019 Point-in-Time data, 42% of homeless counted during the Point in Time (PIT) count were families. Therefore, have a large population of small related households at or below 30% AMI poses a high level of concern as it relates to being at-risk.

CCEH was founded in 1982 as a membership organization by staff and volunteers of homeless shelters in response to increasing homelessness. The organizations works with members and colleague organizations and has developed a strong grassroots base and mobilized supporters to achieve policy gains over the years. These include:

- Lead, implement and manage the statewide Homeless Management Information System, a database of more than 45,000 individuals;
- Co-sponsor of the statewide Point in Time Count which provides a snapshot of homelessness each year;
- Support shelters, housing and services programs via education, training and networking opportunities, including the organization of Annual Training Institute attended by more than 200 community leaders, providers and activists since 2000;
- Design, advocate and coordinate Beyond Shelter in 2000, a state-funded program which supports the rapid exit of homeless families from shelters to housing in twelve communities;
- Collaborate with community and statewide partners including the Partnership for Strong Communities (Reaching Home Campaign) beginning in 1995; the Corporation for Supportive Housing (FUSE); the Welfare Working Group and the Family Economic Success Network.
- Work with the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority and Opening Doors Connecticut to establish a Connecticut funded Rapid Re-housing Program.
- Ending Youth Homelessness

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

The needs assessment and consultations found clients faced issues in accessing safe, affordable housing; handicap accessible housing; and housing assistance. In addition, insufficient property/housing maintenance has resulted in inhabitable living conditions. In turn, building code violations has increased displacement of tenants and may lead to an increased risk of homelessness. These tenants typically have income instability, coupled with issues around bad credit histories, previous evictions, and lack of money for deposit. These all present barriers to accessing housing. Many also agreed that people with a criminal history and the long waiting list of housing assistance result in an increased risk of homelessness.

Discussion

The largest housing problem in the City of Norwich is the housing cost burden of renters and owners with incomes of less than 30% of area median income. Housing costs are generally affordable in the City of Norwich. The problem is household income, as it relates to cost burdens. Additional rental assistance is needed. However, the service providers in the region who focus on providing housing and case management related to this at-risk population understand that rental assistance alone is not the answer. It requires a coordinated effort focusing on financial self-sufficiency and it begins by removing the crisis associated with lack of suitable housing. It is recommended that funding focusing on increasing the quality of the existing housing stock and decreasing housing cost burden for residents continues. This includes property rehabilitation, code compliance, and energy efficiency improvements for both renter and owner housing stock. In addition, investing in projects that address accessibility in private as well as public housing is necessary in order to meet the gap associated with the lack of disabled and elderly related units. Investing in the public housing authority would also help address the renter housing cost burden problem. Norwich has re-invigorated it's Blight Office in an effort to stem the need to shut down a property and displace tenants. The Blight Officer actually markets the Property Rehabilitation Program to owners of property in need of repairs.

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

A "disproportionate greater number of housing problems is defined as when a member of a racial or ethnic group at an income level experience housing problems at a greater rate (10% or more) than the income level as a whole". The City of Norwich's population is 40,424 with 70.5% White, 11.9% Black/African American, 7.4% Asian, and 10.7% Hispanic according to the 2013 American Community Survey (ACS). It is important to note that almost 5% of the population designates themselves as being of two or more races. Other race categories represent a smaller proportion of the population and do not show as having a disproportionate greater need housing problem.

The data reflects that in the 0%-30% of Area Median Income chart below, a disproportionate greater need exists only for Asian 100% have one or more of four housing problems. This represents a disproportionate need of more than 18% as compared to the jurisdiction as a whole. In addition, the Hispanic population makes up 14% of the jurisdiction as a whole who has one or more of four housing problems.

The data shown in the 30%-50% of Area Median Income chart below notes that a disproportionate greater need also exists for Hispanic, where 92% have one or more of four housing problems and Asians where 91% have one of four or more housing problems.. This reflects a disproportionate need of more than 20%. Similar to the 0-30% AMI category, Hispanic makes up 14% of the jurisdiction as a whole.

The data shown in the 50%-80% of Area Median Income chart below notes that a disproportionate greater need exists, as compared to the jurisdiction as a whole, as follows: housing problems exist for Black/African American (occurs at a 67% greater rate), Asian (occurs at a 37% greater rate), and Hispanic (occurs at a 67% greater rate). This income category reflects a significant issue in terms of housing concerns and should be addressed in Annual Action Plans and future strategic plans of the City.

Lastly, the data shown in 80%-100% AMI suggests that Black/African Americans experience a greater rate of housing problems, where issues occur at approximately a 20% greater rate than the jurisdiction 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	2,440	620	60
White	1,455	350	35
Black / African American	365	80	0
Asian	100	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	400	90	25

Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:

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

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	1,995	840	0
White	1,225	540	0
Black / African American	190	130	0
Asian	155	15	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	345	95	0

Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:

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

50%-80% of Area Median Income

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	1,480	1,830	0
White	825	1,295	0
Black / African American	185	90	0
Asian	115	195	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	15	0	0
Hispanic	255	125	0

Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:

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

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	365	1,460	0
White	245	955	0
Black / African American	70	70	0
Asian	14	65	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	4	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	15	225	0

Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:

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

Discussion

Demo

When reviewing housing problems for households at or below 80% AMI, the racial and/or ethnic grouping with a disproportionate greater housing problem appears to be consistently Hispanic and Asian. However, both Hispanic and Asian households that fall between 30-50% AMI experience a disproportionately greater need as each has a high percentage of one or more of four housing problems. These housing problems and low to no/negative income can be compounded with other expenses, such as child care, medical costs, and transportation. Additional rental assistance, housing rehabilitation assistance, funding for safety-net programming and the ability to increase household income would have a positive effect on reducing these housing problems.

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 "disproportionate greater number of housing problems is defined as when a member of a racial or ethnic group at an income level experience housing problems at a greater rate (10% or more) than the income level as a whole". The City of Norwich's population is 38,768 with 67.5% White, 11.4% Black/African American, 8.6% Asian, and 14.3% Hispanic according to the 2019 census.gov . It is important to note that almost 10% of the population designates themselves as being of two or more races. Other race categories represent a smaller proportion of the population and do not show as having a disproportionate greater need housing problem.

The data shown in the 0%-30% of Area Median Income chart below notes that a disproportionate greater need regarding severe housing problem exists only for Asians. This represents a disproportionate need greater than 32%, where 90% of households has one or more of four housing problems.

The data shown in the 30%-50% of Area Median Income chart below notes that a disproportionate greater need exists as follows: housing problems exist only for Asian households, with the derivation being more than 41% higher than the jurisdiction as a whole.

The data shown in the 50%-80% of Area Median Income chart below notes that a disproportionate greater need exists, as compared to the jurisdiction as a whole, for severe housing problem Asian at 211%.

The data shown in the 80%-100% of Area Median Income chart below notes that a disproportionate greater need exists for Black/African American households, with a rate greater than 29%.

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	1,675	1,385	60
White	1,050	755	35
Black / African American	240	210	0

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
Asian	90	10	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	210	275	25

Table 17 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	770	2,065	0
White	405	1,360	0
Black / African American	70	245	0
Asian	125	45	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	140	295	0

Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

50%-80% of Area Median Income

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	340	2,970	0
White	150	1,975	0
Black / African American	29	245	0
Asian	65	250	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	15	0	0
Hispanic	20	360	0

Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

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	140	1,685	0
White	70	1,130	0
Black / African American	40	100	0
Asian	8	70	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	4	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	15	225	0

Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:

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

Discussion

Demo

The racial grouping with a disproportionate greater need, severe housing problem, are Asians at 0-30% AMI; Asians with income at 30%-50% AMI; Asians at 50-80%AMI; and Black/African Americans at 80-100% AMI. The housing problem of having one or more of four housing problems and low to no/negative income can be compounded with other costs such a child care, medical costs, and transportation. Severe housing problems can be more expensive to correct and can move a household closer to homelessness.

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:

A "disproportionate greater number of housing problems is defined as when a member of a racial or ethnic group at an income level experience housing problems at a greater rate (10% or more) than the income level as a whole". The City of Norwich's population is 38,768 with 67.5% White, 11.4% Black/African American, 8.6% Asian, and 14.3% Hispanic according to the 2019 census.gov . It is important to note that almost 10% of the population designates themselves as being of two or more races. Other race categories represent a smaller proportion of the population and do not show as having a disproportionate greater need housing problem.

The data shown in the 0%-30% of Area Median Income chart below notes that a disproportionate greater need exists as follows: housing problem exists for White (62% greater rate than the jurisdiction as a whole);

The data shown in the 30%-50% of Area Median Income chart below notes that a disproportionate greater need exists for White (51% as it relates to housing cost burdens. It is important to note that this does not indicate whether or not a housing cost burden exists, as indicated under NA-05.

The data shown in the 50% and greater Area Median Income chart below notes that a disproportionate greater need exists for White (63 % as it relates to housing cost burdens). It is important to note that this does not indicate whether or not a housing cost burden exists, as indicated under NA-05.

Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	9,795	3,555	2,655	85
White	6,895	2,250	1,590	35
Black / African American	745	435	315	25
Asian	605	100	220	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	30	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	15	0

Demo

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Hispanic	820	630	365	25

Table 21 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Discussion:

The racial grouping with a disproportionate greater housing cost burden problem are White at or below 0- 30%AMI. The racial grouping with a disproportionate greater housing cost burden problem are White at or below 30- 50%AMI. Again, it is important to note that this does not indicate whether or not a housing cost burden exists. The housing cost burden and low to no/negative income can be compounded with other costs such a child care, medical costs, and transportation. Severe housing problems can be more expensive to correct and can move a household closer to homelessness.

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?

According to the data provided, the following concerns represent income categories in which a racial or ethnic group has disproportionately greater need than the needs of that income category as a whole.

Housing Problems: Asian households have a disproportionately greater need at incomes at or below 30%, 30-50% and 50-80% AMI. Hispanic Households have a disproportionately greater need in the 30-50% and 50-80% category. Black/African American households have a disproportionately greater need at incomes at 50-80% and 80-100%AMI.

Severe Housing Problems: Asian households have a disproportionately greater need at incomes at or below 30-50% and at 50-80% AMI, but not at 80-100% AMI. White households have a disproportionately greater need at 30-50%; Black/African American households have a disproportionately greater need at incomes 0-30, 50-80% and 80-100% AMI. Hispanic households have a disproportionately greater need at 30%-50%.

Housing Cost Burden: White households have a disproportionately greater need at incomes at or below 30% AMI, 30%-50% and 50% AMI. Black/African American households have a disproportionately greater need at incomes at or below 30-50% AMI, but not at other income levels. Hispanics have a disproportionately greater need at 50% AMI.

It is important to note that this summary addresses disproportionately greater need specific to racial and ethnic grouping. As mentioned in NA-05, housing problems, severe housing problems and housing cost burden issues exist across the jurisdiction as a whole and within each of the aforementioned racial and/or ethnic groups. Different from section NA-05, the data used to complete this section suggests that certain racial and/or ethnic groups may have a higher concentration (disproportionate) of one or more of four housing problems. In addition, having households with no/negative income but none of the other housing problems creates an added problem as lack of income suggests a greater propensity towards homelessness.

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

The needs not identified above are improved incomes, housing rehabilitation assistance, homebuyer education, asset building (education around financial self-sufficiency), demolition of deteriorated structures, access to decent, affordable housing, additional Section 8 funding, and public services identified in the citizen participation section, including job training, medical/healthcare assistance, and transportation.

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

When reviewing the data, there are statistical deviations between two ethnic groups. Most Black/African American residents reside predominantly in Census tracts 6968 (14.4%), 6964 (18.8%), and 6967 (15.4%). Asian residents reside predominantly in Census tracts 6966 (13.7%), 6967 (13.9%) and 6968 (17.9%). Hispanic residents reside predominantly in 6968 (14.6%), 6964 (16.8%), 6967 (18.4%) 6970 (23.4%). Census tracts 6968, 6967, 6964 and 6961 are identified as having the lowest income in the City. As the data presents, these Census tracts represent areas of minority concentration, with the exception of Asian households, who predominantly reside in the higher income tracts. This suggests that Norwich's ethnic groups reside in low-to-moderate as well as mid-to-high income Census tracts that have disproportionate greater needs.

NA-35 Public Housing – 91.205(b)

Introduction

Low-income residents largely depend on local housing authorities for access to affordable housing and related services. The purpose of public housing authorities (PHA) is to ensure safe, decent, affordable housing and to create opportunities for resident's self-sufficiency and economic independence. There are currently 686 public housing units and over 782 housing choice vouchers throughout Norwich. In consultation with Norwich Public Housing Authority, data has determined the needs of residents to include access to transportation, job training, employment opportunities, access to specialized medical/health care and affordable child care.

The Norwich Housing Authority's needs are identified in its 5-Year and Annual Plan. There are a total of 686 public housing units and 514 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers under the jurisdiction of the housing authority, with 268 vouchers available from other agencies. Of those 686 units, 177 units are federal and the remaining 509 units are state sponsored..

The PHA's capital improvement needs/plans are reviewed and updated annually. The existing plans indicate there are the following federal public housing unit restoration and revitalization needs: funds to renovate/rehab units that may need general repairs such as new flooring in order; security camera installation; hallway flooring replacement at the Dorsey Building; expansion of the administrative office building; Dorsey Building siding replacement - soffit and trim; window replacement at Westwood Park; and repair/replace porches at Dorsey Building.

Totals in Use

	Program Type						
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher
					Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers in use	0	0	174	450	0	450	0

Table 22 - Public Housing by Program Type

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

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Characteristics of Residents

	Program Type							
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Special Purpose Voucher	
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
Average Annual Income	0	0	14,775	15,458	0	15,458	0	0
Average length of stay	0	0	5	5	0	5	0	0
Average Household size	0	0	1	2	0	2	0	0
# Homeless at admission	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	0	0	71	61	0	61	0	0
# of Disabled Families	0	0	39	113	0	113	0	0
# of Families requesting accessibility features	0	0	174	450	0	450	0	0
# of HIV/AIDS program participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of DV victims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 23 -- Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Race of Residents

Race	Program Type						
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher
					Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
White	0	0	141	313	0	313	0
Black/African American	0	0	29	128	0	128	0
Asian	0	0	1	1	0	1	0
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	1	8	0	8	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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

Table 24 – Race of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Ethnicity of Residents

Ethnicity	Program Type						
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher
					Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	0	0	31	126	0	126	0
Not Hispanic	0	0	143	324	0	324	0

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

Table 25 – Ethnicity of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Demo

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:

There are applicants on the Public Housing and on the Housing Choice Voucher waiting lists that need handicapped accessible units. The Authority has 17 such units. Needs of existing tenants are addressed on a case by case basis, including, but not limited to, audio/visual modifications. The Section 8 office assists people on the waiting list to find an apartment that addresses their particular situation.

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

The PHA found the most immediate needs included handicap accessible units. The increasing number of elderly and even younger disabled persons creates additional need for this type of units. Other immediate needs are jobs that pay a living wage; help with utilities costs; rent and utility deposits; and transportation. Service providers assisting this clientele ranked what options they felt were most needed by their clients. They ranked financial assistance and permanent, supportive housing as the top priorities.

1. Emergency/short term financial assistance for rent and utilities
2. Long term housing payment support to keep people in their homes
3. Housing with on-site support
4. Shared houses/apartments with no on-site support
5. Subsidized independent living in an apartment with no on-site support
6. Renter Counseling (Renter rights, lease assistance, expense planning)
7. Clean and sober housing program

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

The public housing needs noted above are slightly different than those of the population at large. The housing needs of Non-Public Housing residents are primarily for general maintenance/improvements such as: roofs, furnaces, water heaters, plumbing, windows, siding and sewer work. The PHA's capital improvement needs/plan, indicates there are the following public housing unit restoration and revitalization needs: Funds to renovate/rehab state units that may need general repairs such as new roofing, gutters, chimneys, flooring, and ADA accessibility improvements. ADA improvement needs consist of ramps, bathrooms with support bars in the tub, bath area, and stools. The major difference relates to housing cost burden, where the burden seems to be higher in the non-PHA, private market units.

Discussion

While writing the five year plan we have been impacted by COVID-19 and as a result we have one of the highest unemployment rates in Connecticut. At the beginning of 2019 Norwich was on the uprise for employment and jobs in the region were on the upswing. However, at this time there are businesses closing, unable to withstand the current COVID environment. Additionally, there is great uncertainty regarding how many of those currently laid off will return to their jobs. We anticipate that as a result, the number of individuals seeking affordable housing (rental and homeownership) in Norwich and throughout the region will grow. Having a total of 686 dwelling units and 514 Section 8 certificates leaves a serious gap in available affordable housing for an at-risk population . There is generally a lack of funding to meet the public housing needs within the city. Therefore, the PHA units work to protect the most at-risk of populations by providing housing that benefits their needs.

NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)

Introduction:

Throughout the country and in the Norwich area, homelessness has become an increasing problem. Factors contributing to the rise in homelessness include a lack of affordable housing; increases in the number of persons whose income fall below the poverty level; reductions in subsidies to the low to moderate income households; high unemployment and under-employment; drug/alcohol abuse; delays in social security grants; lack of inpatient mental health and detox beds; and the reduction in care facilities that focused on the mentally challenged.

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)	97	2	136	0	0	30
Persons in Households with Only Children	58	0	0	0	0	0
Persons in Households with Only Adults	39	16	127	0	0	30
Chronically Homeless Individuals	136	4	33	0	0	365
Chronically Homeless Families	0	0	0	0	0	0
Veterans	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unaccompanied Child	3	0	0	0	0	0
Persons with HIV	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 26 - Homeless Needs Assessment

Data Source Comments: 2019 Point-in-Time Count. Numbers reflect New London County.

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):

Following is the available information:

In emergency shelter, the number of persons living in Norwich becoming/entering homelessness is estimated at 71 families with children. Number of days/nights that persons experience homelessness is an average length of 14 days. There are approximately 17 Veterans and their families who are deemed homeless and/or requiring the need for shelter.

Nature and Extent of Homelessness: (Optional)

Race:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
White	162	14
Black or African American	69	2
Asian	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	0
Pacific Islander	2	0
Ethnicity:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
Hispanic	49	2
Not Hispanic	186	14

Data Source
Comments:

2015 Point-in-Time Count. Numbers reflect New London County.

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

The data reports that there are 71 Norwich families with children and 17 Veterans and their families

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

The largest documented race experiencing homelessness is White (65%) with approximately 8% of that race being categorized as “unsheltered”. Black/African American is also a considerably larger percentage of the total (28%) considering the city-wide demographic percentage of approximately 12%. Approximately 3% of that race is categorized as “unsheltered”. Almost 20% of the homeless population is Hispanic.

Describe the Nature and Extent of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness.

59 of the listed homeless and/or sheltered in the Norwich area are as a result of domestic violence issues, 11 have substance abuse issues, and 4 are chronically homeless individuals.

Discussion:

Homelessness affects and effects individuals regardless of age, race and/or ethnicity. Issues around alcohol/drug dependency, domestic violence and high unemployment/underemployment leading to lack of income are cause for concern in Norwich. Without adequate affordable housing and case management to triage concerns that reduce opportunities for change, homelessness may remain a high concern in the region.

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

Introduction:

Certain households, because of their special characteristics and needs, may require special accommodations and may have difficulty finding housing due to special needs. Special needs groups may include the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, female-headed households, large households, and homeless persons and persons at-risk of homelessness.

Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:

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

Discussions with service providers during the Consolidated Plan consultation process indicated that there is need for additional supportive services in the City. Overall, the City has extensive needs for supportive services, including affordable housing, rapid rehousing assistance, youth and childcare services, recreational activities, senior services, immigrant support services (including providing education to those with limited English proficiency), health/medical care, counseling, employment, case management, transportation, and coordination and information/referral services.

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

The most recent documentable statistic by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health in their Epidemiological Profile of HIV Connecticut -2016- indicates that 27 identifiable cases exist. Norwich does not receive HOPWA funding and does not track population data with HIV/AIDS.

Discussion:

Certain households, because of their special characteristics and needs, may require special accommodations and may have difficulty finding housing due to special needs. Special needs groups

may include the elderly, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV/AIDS, female-headed households, large households, and homeless persons and persons at-risk of homelessness.

It has been indicated there is a need for additional supportive services for the special needs population including housing, emergency shelter services, youth and childcare services, recreational activities, senior services, immigrant support services, health/medical care, counseling, employment, case management, transportation, and coordination and information/referral services.

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

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities:

Public facilities needs in the City of Norwich include improvements to buildings, parks, senior centers, handicapped accessibility improvements to buildings and to increase participation in recreation activities, recreation/youth centers, neighborhood facilities, and facilities for special needs. CDBG funds may be used for such facilities when they are used for eligible populations or located within and serving income eligible neighborhoods.

How were these needs determined?

Non-housing community development needs and priorities were identified through surveys, public meetings, attendance at meetings, and department level discussions regarding usage (i.e. Planning, City Manager, Police and Fire, Recreation Department, Public Works, Norwich Public Utilities, Harbor Management Commission, etc...)

Improvements can include work on City owned property as well as property owned by others. Future projects will be rated by a team of City staff with an emphasis on need, budget, and how well each addresses the City's Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD), the Mayor's Economic Development Strategic Plan, the City's Capital Projects plan and the City's Comprehensive Plan. Projects will then receive City Manager approval prior to applying for CDBG funds to the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC).

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Improvements:

The City of Norwich's public improvement needs include street improvements, street right-of-way repair and replacement, new streets, and all associated improvements including sewer, streets lighting, parking facilities, street signals, street trees and other landscaping, flood drainage, water hydrants, sidewalks, curb and gutter, street pavement, and stripping. CDBG funds may be used for sidewalks and other public facility improvements in the road right of way in low and moderate income areas.

How were these needs determined?

Needed public improvements in the City of Norwich are identified through the community improvement planning process used for public facilities. Based on statistical review of need, sidewalk installation is based on safety and an analysis of the areas walking capacity. In some target areas, greater than 25% of employed residents utilize walking and/or public transportation to commute to work. These areas typically have congested and dangerous pedestrian routes as well as local shopping requiring safe walkways. These improvements can include work on City owned property as well as property owned by others. Projects will be rated by a City staff team with an emphasis on need, budget, and how well each addresses the City's Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD), the Mayor's Economic Development Strategic Plan, the City's Capital Projects plan and the City's Comprehensive Plan. Projects will then receive City Manager approval prior to applying for CDBG funds to the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC).

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:

The city has found there is a need for the following public services: employment services (e.g., job training); education around financial self-sufficiency and financial decision making; crime prevention and public safety; medical/health services (including access to specialized medical care); substance abuse services (e.g., counseling and treatment); fair housing counseling; services for senior citizens; services for youth that increase opportunities and reduce barriers to becoming sufficient adults; services for homeless persons; provisions to reduce/remove transportation barriers; and provisions for childcare assistance.

How were these needs determined?

The need for public services in the City of Norwich was one of the many topics discussed during the public forums/consultation with service providers and survey. The needs are also identified through a Grant Application process used for community development grant solicitation of public service and other related projects when applicable.

Housing Market Analysis

MA-05 Overview

Housing Market Analysis Overview:

The City of Norwich has a diverse and changing housing supply. There are an estimated 19,076 (2018 ACS) housing units, including single family homes, apartments, duplexes, condominiums, townhouses and mobile homes. The foundation of that estimate is the 2010 Census count and the 2018 American Community Survey (ACS) estimates.

The market remains reflects an increase in units since 2010 in terms of total available housing stock, percent of occupied housing units versus vacant units, percent of owner-occupied units versus investor/rental units, and number of Building permits issued.

Eastern CT Realtors Association indicates home prices have risen 7.6% (2018-19). The projected increase is tied to improved market conditions including national government spending on projects such as the multi-year railroad improvements, military product development, and the ensuing manufacturing associated with these investments.

Norwich's median home sales prices are equal to about 2.8 times resident income, compared to the statewide and national averages of approximately 3.3 times resident income. This translates to a more affordable housing stock. At the same time, Norwich's rental cost average remains 22% lower than the national rental cost average. In addition, the rental vacancy rate is currently at 2,805 units with a homeowner vacancy rate of 5.5% and rental vacancy rate of 4.6% (2018 ACS). A number of new, higher-end rental unit developments have appeared in the market over the last few years, diversifying Norwich's housing stock and the rental market. These units are priced above HUD Fair Market Rent rates yet lease agreements are being executed prior to completion. There are more rental housing units currently anticipated in Norwich as they are clearing the final hurdles to development.

Population growth is associated with job growth. Housing demand and housing type is directly related to the availability of employment, the job category and the ultimate income level provided by employment. Affordable housing is based upon local wages and salaries. In order to meet the demand of a variety of occupations, multiple types of housing and various pricing levels must be maintained in order to balance the housing market.

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

Introduction

The most recent estimate of housing units is 19,076 unit. As of the 2018 Census, (9,734) of the units were single family, which includes single-unit attached or detached and mobile homes. The vacancy rate in Norwich is 14.7% percent, which includes owner-occupied and renter units, according to the ACS 2018

There are six categories of “vacant”: 1) for rent; 2) rented not occupied; 3) for sale only; 4) sold, not occupied; 5) for seasonal/recreational/occasional use; and 6) other. While “other” is undefined, it is suggested that this type of housing unit may not be eligible for occupancy and/or otherwise a blighted structure. This may mean that there is excess inventory. Excess inventory is not the same as vacant; it is the amount of housing units in excess of what can be considered a healthy level of vacancies.

It is anticipated that additional units will be coming on board in Norwich within the next few years as developers are filing plans with the City.

All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	7,680	42%
1-unit, attached structure	1,160	6%
2-4 units	4,700	26%
5-19 units	2,690	15%
20 or more units	1,370	7%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc	710	4%
Total	18,310	100%

Table 27 – Residential Properties by Unit Number

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	40	0%	300	4%
1 bedroom	450	5%	2,085	27%
2 bedrooms	2,215	26%	3,090	41%
3 or more bedrooms	5,765	68%	2,135	28%

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total	8,470	99%	7,610	100%

Table 28 – Unit Size by Tenure

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

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

The State of Connecticut maintains a list of affordable housing units in Connecticut. This is to ensure affordable housing levels maintain an equalized affordability among municipalities. According to the most recent list, Norwich has the following units assisted with federal, state and local programs: 1) 2,225 governmentally assisted units; 2) 784 units receiving temporary rental assistance; and 3) 484 single family, CHFA/USDA backed units. This totals 3,493 units focusing on low-moderate income individuals.

Low-income residents largely depend on local housing authorities for access to affordable housing and related services. The purpose of public housing authorities (PHA) is to ensure safe, decent, affordable housing and to create opportunities for resident’s self-sufficiency and economic independence. There are currently 686 public housing units (177 are federal with the remainder being state) and over 782 housing choice vouchers throughout Norwich.

The city needs to review existing housing conditions to determine what percentage of the vacant market is serving the needs of the community. As part of that analysis, the City should target veterans, senior and disabled housing units, owner occupied rehabilitation and consider development of more affordable rental units only to the extent that replacing the vacant, condemned/abandoned and dilapidated units is necessary.

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

No reduction in the number of public housing units or the Section 8 Voucher portfolio is anticipated

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

According to the Southeastern CT Housing Needs Assessment 2018 the number of household in the region is projected to increase by 7,200 between 2015 and 2030 (6.3%). Household growth for those over the age of 65 is anticipated to be the majority of need. It is also anticipated that adults aged 25-

44 will represent a large segment of housing need. Single floor housing will be needed for elderly aging out of multi-story homes and households formed by younger residents

Current housing stock indicates there are a considerable number of rental units that are currently not rentable due to a variety of issues that include: blight, condemnation, code violation, and incomplete utilities. These units work to suppress market demand and work to inflate supply. It is necessary to evaluate these units and either return them to the market, or remove them from the supply-side. If employment expands, the 200 plus units may be absorbed leaving a deficit in available rental units. That being the case, there may be small capacity in the rental market if the economy begins to show signs of recovery. Having a short supply will increase demand, driving rental prices upward, potentially stimulating the market. Unfortunately, much of the success in the housing market is driven by timing. There is a limited window of opportunity to build supply in order to capture market growth demand that is anticipated in the region.

Describe the need for specific types of housing:

Norwich needs more affordable housing for low and moderate income residents, both rental and homeownership options. Based on the Needs Assessment in the previous section of this plan, there is an overwhelming need for affordable housing to eliminate housing cost burden for households earning less than 80 percent AMI. Housing cost burden of renters and owners with incomes of less than 30% of area median income is the largest housing problem in the City of Norwich. While the cost of housing is generally affordable in the City of Norwich, the problem is household income as it relates to cost burdens. Those households with incomes of less than 50% AMI are the second largest housing problem.

Discussion

Population growth is associated with job growth. Housing demand and housing type is directly related to the availability of employment, the job category and the ultimate income level provided by employment. Affordable housing is based upon local wages and salaries. In order to meet the demand of a variety of occupations, multiple types of housing and various pricing levels must be maintained in order to balance the housing market.

The city needs to review existing housing conditions to determine what percentage of the vacant market is serving the needs of the community. While a deeper analysis is warranted, the City should target veterans, senior and disabled housing units, owner occupied rehabilitation and consider development of more affordable rental units only to the extent that replacing the vacant, condemned/abandoned and dilapidated units is necessary.

Need for housing is based on the existing supply-demand relationship. A potential need exists to increase housing stock if two things occur. The first is an increase in employment opportunities. New job growth and new housing growth needs to be as simultaneous as possible in order to stabilize the market. In the absence of a balanced approach, the second method to increase the housing stock can be utilized – that is renovating and/or removing and returning the condemned, dilapidated, abandoned, blighted units to the market.

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

Introduction

Norwich home values are lower than the state average and that difference is likely to remain. Median home value has dramatically decreased since 2009. According to 2011-2015 ACS the city's median home value was \$208,800 according to the 2010 Census. Yet in the 2015 ACS, the median value is approximately \$176,400. Comparatively, the median sales price for New London County was \$200,475. Norwich continues to have favorable purchase prices for buyers however, part of the reason for that is the reality that the economy of Norwich is not yet thriving. Rents have increased from 2009 to 2015 minimally with the median rent being \$786.

Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2015	% Change
Median Home Value	208,800	176,400	(16%)
Median Contract Rent	737	786	7%

Table 29 – Cost of Housing

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

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than \$500	1,720	22.6%
\$500-999	4,295	56.5%
\$1,000-1,499	1,505	19.8%
\$1,500-1,999	80	1.1%
\$2,000 or more	15	0.2%
Total	7,615	100.1%

Table 30 - Rent Paid

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Housing Affordability

% Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	1,260	No Data
50% HAMFI	3,470	1,040
80% HAMFI	6,030	3,325
100% HAMFI	No Data	4,594
Total	10,760	8,959

Table 31 – Housing Affordability

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent (\$)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	0	0	0	0	0
High HOME Rent	0	0	0	0	0
Low HOME Rent	0	0	0	0	0

Table 32 – Monthly Rent

Data Source Comments:

Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

Norwich's median home sales prices are low but the median incomes are low as well at \$55,391 (2019 census.gov) compared to Connecticut which is \$76,106 and the United States at \$60,293. This translates to a more affordable housing stock. At the same time, Norwich's rental cost average remains lower than the national rental cost average. In addition, the rental vacancy rate has not been severely impacted though there has been an increase in monthly rental prices. A number of new, higher-end rental unit developments have appeared in the market over the last few years, diversifying Norwich's housing stock and the rental market. These units are priced above HUD Fair Market Rent rates yet lease agreements are being executed prior to completion. Additional units are being added to Norwich to entice the 25-44 age group to live in upgraded apartments.

Norwich has gaps at the upper and lower end of the market, both in owner occupied and rental units. The previous tables in this section provided data on the existing housing supply. Assessing the existing and future housing demand are more complicated than outlining the existing supply. Demand is a function of the unmet demand of existing population, the changing needs of the existing population, and the needs of future residents. Existing population demand is being met. As employment and income increase, the existing population will increase demand on certain types of units. It is anticipated that the demand will be for more modernized housing units, which could include rehabilitated properties. The needs of future residents will change only in as much as employability increases.

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

Owner occupied housing is at historically affordable levels within the City. More recent Census data (2015 ACS) shows a decrease of housing values of approximately 16% since 2009. The decrease in values may provide for movement of residents from rental to ownership. However, the income levels of Norwich remain suppressed as wages remain low and ownership costs, such as high property tax rates, remain out of reach for many. It is anticipated that owner-occupied housing will remain affordable during the period covered by this Plan but increases in interest rates could affect affordability.

Having a current rental supply with an above average vacancy rate places downward pressure on rental costs. Combine the market pressure with low living wages and the rents remain affordable in the 50-80% AMI range. However, 50% AMI or below residents remain stressed as it relates to housing cost burden. Therefore, change in rental affordability will be determined based on two factors: 1) returning existing inventory to the market with energy efficiency, code, and safety improvements; and 2) the combination of one and removing blighted, abandoned, condemned structures from the market.

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

Area median rents are lower than HOME/Fair market rents with the exception of three and four bedroom units. Larger units are equal to and in some cases higher than Fair Market Rent. Since those units represent a smaller percentage of the rental market (73% of the market has fewer than 3 bedrooms), this data does little in terms of impacting the community's strategy to produce or preserve affordable housing.

Discussion

Norwich has a mix of housing units and values adjust based on location within the City. However, values in Norwich trend lower than New London County and the State, but is on par with the national average. The housing stock value in relation to income of residents remains affordable in Norwich when compared to state-wide values in relation to income. However, the percent of household income allocated for housing costs remains higher than recommended "housing cost burdens". This is true in both the upper and lower ends of the market and for both owner occupied and rental housing. Since demand is a function of the unmet demand of the existing or current population, the ever changing needs of the existing population and the needs of the future residents may be different.

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

Introduction

The following section outlines “selected” housing conditions as defined by the Census. These conditions are generally considered identifiers of substandard housing, although the last two conditions on the list relate to household, not the housing unit. The census defines a “selected” condition as:

- Lacking complete plumbing facilities
- Lacking complete kitchen facilities
- More than one person per room (crowding)
- Housing costs greater than 30% of household income

According to the 2011-2015 CHAS data, 6,325 units of housing have one selected condition. 30% of those units are owner occupied, 50% are renter-occupied. Approximately 135 units have two selected conditions and 90 renter-occupied units have three selected conditions.

Definitions

Standard condition means a housing unit that meets or exceeds HUD’s Housing Quality Standards (HQS) (24 CFR 982.401) and all state and local codes and zoning ordinances.

Substandard means a housing unit lacking complete plumbing and kitchen facilities, and/or not meeting local building, fire, health and safety codes.

Substandard suitable for rehabilitation means a housing unit (or in the case of multiple unit buildings the building or buildings containing the housing units) which have at least three major systems in need of replacement or repair and the estimated cost of making the needed replacements and the repairs is less than 75% of the estimated cost of new construction of a comparable unit or units. (i.e. it is both financially and structurally feasible for rehabilitation).

Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	2,560	30%	3,765	50%
With two selected Conditions	25	0%	110	1%

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With three selected Conditions	0	0%	90	1%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	5,885	69%	3,640	48%
Total	8,470	99%	7,605	100%

Table 33 - Condition of Units

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	785	9%	270	4%
1980-1999	1,220	14%	1,335	18%
1950-1979	3,120	37%	2,595	34%
Before 1950	3,350	40%	3,405	45%
Total	8,475	100%	7,605	101%

Table 34 – Year Unit Built

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	6,470	76%	6,000	79%
Housing Units build before 1980 with children present	580	7%	195	3%

Table 35 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint

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

Vacant Units

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

Table 36 - Vacant Units

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS

Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation

Age is an important determinant in the condition of housing stock. Typically, the older the housing is, the more likely it is to need maintenance or rehabilitation. The above data indicates that 6470 or 76% of the City's owner-occupied units were built before 1980. 6,000 or 79% of the City's renter-occupied units were built prior to 1980. In general, housing stock that is more than 35 years old demonstrates a need for rehabilitation and updating of major systems.

Most of the owners and renters noted in Table 8 - Housing Problems 2 - located on previous pages, have at least one or more of four housing problems. For renters, 1325 households with incomes of less than 30% AMI have one or more of four housing problems and 755 owners under 50% have one or more of four housing problems. In addition, housing cost burden remains one of the most severe housing problems as part of the four possible problems acknowledged by HUD. Rehabilitation programs work to maintain properties and reduce costs through modernization, health and safety improvements and code corrections. This works to reduce housing cost burden while stabilizing units and property values within the neighborhood.

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

Lead Based Paint Hazards were prevalent and used specifically prior to 1978. Therefore, it is assumed housing units built prior to this date have the presence of lead. Therefore, we estimate 12,470 units contain lead based paint hazards. Of those, 52% are owner-occupied and 48% are renter-occupied. LMI residents represent greater than 51% of the residents City-wide and as much as 74% of the residents in targeted Census tracts.

Discussion

Norwich has an older housing stock which requires a high focus on maintenance. Issues such as code, safety, health, blight, and housing cost burden are among the top concerns of residents and the City. In order to adequately maintain property and reduce these issues, residents must utilize available resources. Since the population is predominately low-to-moderate income and the cost to renovate/remove/reduce lead based paint can be insurmountable, owners and renters need assistance provided through CDBG. Although rent levels are affordable, the suppression of rent in order to meet market demand could be reducing investor-owners reserve funds available for adequate property maintenance. By providing alternate funding that increases rental opportunities to LMI households (the City requires marketing to Section 8 tenants as part of receipt of funding), while protecting the city's financial investment through liens, the City can help protect its residents while stabilizing neighborhoods.

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

Introduction

Assisted housing can happen in two ways. In some cases the unit itself is subsidized, and renters are qualified to live there based on their lower incomes. In other cases, low-income residents receive subsidization through vouchers, which they can apply toward rent at different units. Public housing in Norwich is managed by the Norwich Housing Authority (NHA). There are approximately 686 public housing units and 782 housing vouchers managed by the housing authority. The number of properties varies month to month and year to year. The properties include units owned by the Norwich Housing Authority (NHA), private developers and non-profit groups.

The Connecticut Department of Housing (DOH) provides an annual list of affordable housing units receiving assistance. According to the most recent state housing list, Norwich has the following units assisted with federal, state and local programs: 1) 2,225 governmentally assisted units; 2) 784 units receiving temporary rental assistance; and 3) 484 single family, CHFA/USDA backed units. This totals 3,493 units focusing on low-moderate income individuals.

Totals Number of Units

	Program Type							
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers				
				Total	Project-based	Tenant-based	Special Purpose Voucher	Disabled *
# of units vouchers available			177	514		0	0	0
# of accessible units								
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition								

Table 37 -- 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 Authority has 686 public housing units and 514 rental vouchers. All of the Authority's units are on-line. Vacancies are renovated and reoccupied within three (3) weeks. Normally, there is less than (10) vacancies at any given point in time. 99% of residents are low income.

The physical condition of the Authority's federal complexes has been judged by HUD to be good as attested to by the last REAC inspection in which the Authority attained a high rating . Reduced federal capital funds make it challenging for the Authority to tackle needed capital improvements like modernization of kitchens and bathrooms. The State Department of Housing and CHFA have likewise found the Authority's state units to be in good condition, however, securing capital funds is an even greater challenge given the fact that the primary source of funding is derived from rental income from tenants. Since it is necessary to keep rents low in order to house the most needy, disabled and handicapped, there are limited reserves available.

Public Housing Condition

Public Housing Development	Average Inspection Score
REAC Inspection of federal Complexes at Norwich Public Housing Authority	95

Table 38 - Public Housing Condition

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

Work can vary, including site work of concrete, removal of trees to renovations of kitchen/bathrooms, flooring, roofs-gutters-siding, to insulation or electrical updates, or HVAC replacement. Capital funds are spent on public housing units when funding is available. NHA has been successful in securing funding to improve federal and state units. Funding may come from federal programs directly, or locally through CDBG.

NHA has an excellent maintenance department that maintains their units and the property grounds on a daily basis. Maintenance's goal is to respond to all work orders within three days and to emergency work orders within 24 hours.

Thorough inspections are done annually on all units.

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

The mission of the Norwich Housing Authority is to develop and operate each development solely for the purpose of providing decent, safe and sanitary housing for eligible individuals and families in a manner that promotes the serviceability, economy, efficiency and stability of the developments, and the economic and social well-being of the residents.

To effectuate the above, the Authority places a high priority on maintaining and rehabbing existing developments. The Authority strives to balance the needs of residents versus the economic realities facing all public housing authorities. The goal is to retain the existing affordable housing stock.

The Authority focuses on reducing the cost burden for extremely low income and very low income renter households and improving energy efficiency of its housing stock.

Through the efforts of the property managers and resident services coordinators, the Authority tries to be more than just a landlord by meeting the overall requirements of its residents.

Discussion:

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

Introduction

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	Under Development
Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	25	0	64	15	0
Households with Only Adults	8	0	22	167	0
Chronically Homeless Households	0	0	0	206	0
Veterans	0	0	0	31	0
Unaccompanied Youth	0	0	0	0	0

Table 39 - Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

Data Source Comments: Southeastern Mental Health Alliance/Permanent Supportive Housing & 2015 PIT Count related data.

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

There are a few agencies that provide services that are available and targeted to homeless persons. Agencies provide counseling and advocacy; street outreach through the police department as well as numerous state and non-profit human service agencies; and supportive services for alcohol & drug abuse, child care, healthcare, HIV/AIDS, life skills, mental health counseling and job training. The services are supplemental to the services and case management provided by the emergency shelters.

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.

Housing for people with AIDS is offered by Alliance for Living, a Continuum of Care partner located in New London. 27 individuals with HIV/AIDS were counted as unsheltered in during the most recent point in time count of the homeless. As previously stated, the Continuum of Care has a regional approach to addressing homelessness.

The Norwich Human Services Department, a municipal department, works intensely with several at-risk populations to avoid homelessness and end domestic abuse, unemployment and a range of other issues. Among other duties, NHS connects people with mental health and substance abuse to resources. This organization facilitates the Community Care Team where over 20 local agencies including Norwich Police, Backus Hospital and Adult Probation meet weekly to discuss all homeless or at risk individuals in the community and plan jointly to assist them in becoming or staying housed. NHS also offers job training slots in the city's jobs programs that prepares people for employment and is part of rapidly rehousing Norwich residents.

St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen is instrumental in helping to identify homeless people and connect them with services. Providers come directly to the kitchen to interact with the most vulnerable population.

Madonna Place, a Norwich non-profit, is dedicated to preventing child abuse and restoring functional family relations, particularly with non-custodial fathers. Madonna Place operates a play center where single mothers can bring their children for respite and operates a baby formula program.

Several Norwich non-profits offer supportive housing including the Thames River Family program, Martin House, Katie Blair House and Reliance House.

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

Introduction

This plan provides, to the extent information is available, the facilities and services that assist persons who are not homeless but who require supportive housing, and programs for ensuring that persons returning from mental and physical health institutions receive appropriate supportive housing.

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/Seniors: 16.2% of households had at least one individual who was 65 years of age or older (ACS 2019). 40% over the age of 65 are deemed disabled, (approximately 6% of the population). The current population of 65+ is approximately 6,280, an 11% increase since 2015. The trend suggests that the senior population could be closer to 20% as the population in shifts into another age bracket. The City needs to evaluate demands for services as the age group reaches retirement years and beyond. This includes property maintenance, accessibility barriers, health care related assistance (including at-home-care, hospice, etc...) and emergency response services.

Persons with Disabilities: 10.2% of the City's population was affected by one or more disabilities (ACS 2019). Ambulatory disabilities were most prevalent, followed by cognitive, and independent living disabilities. The largest percentage of the city's population with disabilities is senior 65+. Persons with disabilities often have limited incomes with greater needs for services. As the majority of the City's housing stock is pre-1990 (pre-American with Disabilities Act), accessible housing is in limited supply. Service providers state that although new units are coming online, there is no documented set-aside for the elderly/disabled; there is concern that there is not enough supply to meet the growing demand.

Persons with Drug/Alcohol Addictions: Case managers state this is a real issue with homeless population. In 2018, the national survey from Health and Human Services found that 11 percent of Americans were dependent on alcohol/drug addiction issues. Applying this percent to Norwich's population, it is estimated that nearly 4,300 persons may have issues with alcohol and or drugs. It should be noted, however, that these estimates are based on national averages and may not reflect Norwich's population with 100% accuracy. Supportive housing with case management could help people change behavior in a safe environment.

Domestic Violence: 2,204 (2018) city residents per year receive some level of intervention or assistance from domestic violence related acts. Norwich had the 2nd highest rate of family violence offenses per

capita in the state in 2018 (Safe Futures). Access to education for victims, intervention opportunities prior to occurrences, and advocates within the judicial system and police department are necessary to help change behaviors. Economic dependency is the strongest predictor of a victim of domestic violence returning to an abusive relationship, even if they know their safety is in jeopardy. Supportive, permanent housing assists individuals affected by domestic violence by removing them from an unsafe living situation and education plays a role in keeping them away from the situation. Therefore, access to safe, affordable housing opportunities with strong case management is paramount.

Public Housing Needs: In addition to safe and affordable housing opportunities, public housing residents have a number of needs. These include: access to healthy/fresh food and education on nutrition; employment training/workforce opportunities; transportation to/from medical appointments/surgeries/interventions; and education/training on financial self-sufficiency.

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

The State of Connecticut mandates that discharges from foster care, health care, mental health facilities and the Department of Corrections be done in such a way as to minimize risk of homelessness. The Continuum of Care partners ensure that the proper steps are taken with regard to discharge planning. The following narrative is from the Continuum of Care Application:

Foster Care

Connecticut has built in an Independent Living Program that offers young people a continuum of independent living services along with specialized case management to ensure a successful transition to productive community life. The Community Housing Assistance Program provides youth aging out of Foster Care with a subsidy to cover living expenses.

Health Care

The two local hospitals, Lawrence and Memorial (New London) and Backus Hospital (Norwich) verbally confirmed that current discharge practice includes providing case management services. With the exception of extreme situations, local hospitals do not discharge into emergency shelters, the street or HUD McKinney–Vento funded beds. The New London Hospitality Center had 7 respite shelter beds funded by L&M Hospital for homeless people discharged from the hospital. These beds are monitored by Community Health Center medical staff.

Mental Health

The State of Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services have policies in place that dictate that every attempt shall be made to verify discharge housing arrangements. Clients are not discharged into emergency shelters, the street or HUD McKinney–Vento funded beds.

Corrections

The State of Connecticut Department of Corrections continues to complete an Offender Accountability Plan for each inmate, program outline and expectations during the entire time of incarceration. A standardized discharge plan is completed with inmates at the end of sentence, addressing issues including housing, identification and community resource needs. The Department has significantly increased staffing and the number of halfway house beds for parole and community services and contracts for a wide range of residential services in the community.

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 Norwich will continue to work with local nonprofit agencies and the CoC to provide housing and supportive services for persons who are not homeless or who may have special needs. The City will also utilize CDBG funding to address the needs of non-homeless persons with special needs. Norwich staffs a human services department (NHS) that incorporates the Adult and Family Services, Senior and Youth Service Bureau Departments. Through the coordinated efforts of these divisions and in collaboration with the Community Care Team, service needs of the population can be met efficiently. Some of these activities include:

Evaluate existing resources and programs that educate individuals on becoming financially self-sufficient, including budgeting, establishing/maintaining credit and building assets - this could apply to elderly, disabled, victims of domestic violence, and in public housing.

Develop a framework for promoting collaboration in providing services to persons experiencing chronic homelessness, at risk of homelessness or need access to various support services at federal, state, and local levels.

Use the local homelessness service providers and other community agencies to coordinate planning, programmatic activities, and evaluation that address chronic homelessness efforts in Norwich.

Promote programs and policies designed to ensure that persons returning to the community from institutional or other sheltered settings (including foster care) do not become homeless and have access to income supports.

Promote programs and policies that address the service and housing needs of persons identified as at-risk of housing loss who are currently participating in subsidized programs.

Please also review next section specific to entitlement grantees.

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))

Elderly/Seniors: Based on estimated statistical changes previously mentioned, seniors could make up closer to 20% as the population as one age bracket shifts into another. Therefore, the City needs to evaluate demands for services as the age group reaches retirement years and beyond. This includes property maintenance, accessibility barriers, health care related assistance and emergency response services. Examples of programs providing this assistance in the next year include: housing renovations focusing on code, health and safety issues; roof, gutter and chimney repair/ replacement of elderly housing; the provision of ramps/chairlifts providing accessibility opportunities for elderly/seniors/disabled; and training of home health aides. The CD office, through it's Property Rehabilitation Program, also offers favorable financing terms for our elderly residents to assist them in staying in their homes.

Persons with Disabilities: Service providers state that although new units are coming online, there is no documented set-aside for the elderly/ disabled; will there be enough supply to meet the growing demand of disabled individuals. Barriers exist regarding accessible transportation, and interpretive services. Through COVID-19 funding to the ARC of Eastern CT to provide PPE so they can continue to provide services to their clients. Additionally the City will be funding sidewalks/ramps in a low/mod area of town.

Persons with Drug/Alcohol Addictions: Norwich and local providers use a collaborative system called the Coordinated Access Network (CAN). CAN allows for an holistic approach to reducing homelessness & providing support to the most at-risk population. As part of this approach, the City follows the Housing First model. This seeks to stabilize individuals through the provision of safe, permanent housing first. The belief is that once individuals are housed, case management and education around removing barriers to long term stability can be addressed. Similarly, once housed, drug/alcohol addiction services and counseling is made available to these individuals. However, there are limited case management services available in Southeastern Connecticut to assist in this issue which affects so many. The City will be funding the Rapid Rehousing and Shelter Diversion Programs through Norwich Human Services and TVCCA.

Domestic Violence: Access to education for victims, intervention opportunities prior to occurrences, advocates within the judicial system and within the police department are necessary to help change behaviors. As a result, Norwich will continue to fund a domestic violence organization serving Norwich which includes a 24 hour crisis line, legal assistance, court advocates and temporary housing in undefined locations.

Public Housing Needs: The Norwich Housing Authority will receive funding to complete installation of heating/cooling mini-split ductless systems at it's Rosewood Manor site. Public housing residents have a number of needs not limited to: access to healthy/fresh food and education on nutrition; employment training and workforce opportunities; transportation to and from medical appointments/ surgeries/ interventions; and education/training on financial self-sufficiency. Public Housing residents will also have an opportunity to participate in a job training program provided through NHS's "Norwich Works" program, which is funded using CDBG dollars

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

Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment

The State of Connecticut restricts the way in which municipalities raise revenue through public policy. As a result, municipalities across the state must rely on local real estate/property taxes to stabilize revenue. Having a small taxable commercial/industrial base with limited developable land results in the potential for limited employment opportunities for Norwich residents. Areas with reduced employment opportunities typically have residents with limited discretionary income; thereby impacting things such as housing cost burden.

This taxing method impacts owner-occupants and renters because even an affordable mortgage or rent payment can be increased drastically by the taxes related to the property. In other words, the taxes on the property can make it unaffordable, not just the mortgage. This also reduces the amount of money property owners have to invest in maintaining their property, which can negatively impact neighborhood safety .

Norwich has it's "fair share" of affordable housing compared to area towns as noted in the 2018 Southeastern Connecticut Housing Needs Assessment. Towns must be encouraged to build and accept multi-family dwelling units. "Future housing development will be impacted by restrictions on land use that differ between municipalities and by the presence of lack of supportive infrastructure." "The absence of sewers is usually the greatest factor limiting potential housing production".

In 2018, a report released by the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG) stated the following issues:

- Sites physically suitable and appropriately zoned for new housing are limited and expensive;
- The availability of public water and sewerage systems is limited;
- Residential builders and labor in the construction trades are in short supply;
- Most suburban and rural towns have adopted restrictive residential zoning;
- The local regulatory process for residential development is complex;
- The high dependence on the property tax to fund local government makes residential development financially undesirable to most municipalities; and
- Public attitudes generally do not support the construction of additional housing, particularly lower-cost housing.

The report indicated that the scale and complexity of the affordable housing issue calls for a regional response.

Affordable housing development in Norwich is also hampered by the following factors:

- Lack of developable land
- Continuing housing market correction and tight supply of credit (specifically for LMI borrowers)
- Presence of substantial existing, but dilapidated, affordable housing supply
- Social opinions discouraging affordable development, particular in neighborhoods
- Lack of living wage employment opportunities in area, reducing private market interest in investment of affordable housing

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

Introduction

The consolidated plan is required to provide a summary of the city's priority non-housing community development needs that are eligible for assistance under HUD's community development programs by CDBG eligibility category. This is done in accordance with a table prescribed by HUD. This community development component of the plan must focus on data specific to the city's 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. This includes developing viable urban communities by: 1) providing decent housing; 2) a suitable living environment; and 3) expanding economic opportunities, principally for low-income and moderate-income persons.

This section identifies economic sectors in the City of Norwich where job opportunities exist and identifies reasons why some employment sector positions are not being filled. The main employment challenges are education, training, and certification deficiencies.

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	131	18	1	0	-1
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	2,162	1,340	16	10	-6
Construction	526	430	4	3	-1
Education and Health Care Services	3,496	5,700	26	41	15
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	738	651	5	5	0
Information	191	153	1	1	0
Manufacturing	1,507	569	11	4	-7
Other Services	647	698	5	5	0
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	875	740	6	5	-1

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	2,120	1,960	16	14	-2
Transportation and Warehousing	570	839	4	6	2
Wholesale Trade	516	819	4	6	2
Total	13,479	13,917	--	--	--

Table 40 - Business Activity

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

Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	22,210
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	19,950
Unemployment Rate	10.15
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	37.31
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	6.65

Table 41 - Labor Force

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	3,125
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	540
Service	3,725
Sales and office	4,740
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	1,195
Production, transportation and material moving	920

Table 42 – Occupations by Sector

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	14,095	73%
30-59 Minutes	3,955	21%
60 or More Minutes	1,210	6%
Total	19,260	100%

Table 43 - Travel Time

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Education:

Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	1,320	405	780
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	6,390	520	1,430
Some college or Associate's degree	5,490	400	1,170

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Bachelor's degree or higher	3,335	140	420

Table 44 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18-24 yrs	25-34 yrs	35-44 yrs	45-65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	50	95	115	555	805
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	690	460	520	780	695
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	1,800	2,395	1,700	4,305	2,080
Some college, no degree	935	1,880	1,545	1,890	760
Associate's degree	60	430	295	1,080	250
Bachelor's degree	285	845	430	1,280	465
Graduate or professional degree	35	220	490	685	340

Table 45 - Educational Attainment by Age

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	24,341
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	28,182
Some college or Associate's degree	35,048
Bachelor's degree	50,381
Graduate or professional degree	72,745

Table 46 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

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

According to the table above, the major employment sectors are education and health care services with 3,496 workers and 5,700 available jobs; retail trade with 2,120 workers and 1,960 available jobs; and arts, entertainment and accommodations with 2,162 workers and 1,340 available jobs.

Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:

Businesses look for a number of factors when considering relocation and expansion in an area – operational costs, access to major transportation routes and a trained/talented workforce. In reviewing the above data and addressing the needs of workforce and infrastructure, a number of things become apparent.

First, the operational costs for businesses in the City are highly competitive in terms of utility costs and costs per square foot (including construction). Real property and real estate tax rates, however, drive total operational costs upward making it closer to average in terms of being competitive with other Connecticut municipalities. There are multiple barriers for expansion and relocation into the municipality. Norwich Public Utilities (NPU) is a city owned utility company which provides electricity, sewer, water and gas to residents and businesses. NPU also provides fiber optic lines which could provide low cost/high speed internet connectivity, a now-a-day necessity, to both LMI individuals and businesses. Removing barriers for businesses to upgrade utility lines and access high speed fiber optic is a current need.

Second, the City has multiple transit routes, including access to major interstates such as RT 395 (provides access to RT 95 which covers Maine to Florida and access to RT 90 which covers Boston to Albany); Rt 2 (provides access to RT 84 and RT 91 gaining access to northern VT); access to a deep water port and federal turning basin in close proximity to commercial rail provides for an advantage for expanding manufacturing opportunities. Unfortunately, transportation for residents is limited. In the Census tracts with the lowest median household income, more than 25% require public transportation, carpooling and/or walk to work. Arguably, efficient transportation, including buses and rail lines, is a key commercial workforce need.

Third, approximately 86% of the workforce over the age of 18 has greater than a high school diploma/GED. The need of the workforce would be an increase of employment opportunities that pay a living wage. The need of the business community is to have talented/trained workforce. Therefore, access to training and educational programs that generates trained and talented workforce is one need. Based on employment gaps from the above data, training Norwich residents in the fields of education and healthcare could provide workforce opportunities.

Regardless of the sector, job training needs to include topics such as job readiness, job preparedness of employees with post-secondary education, and competence in basic and technical skills. The community's infrastructure needs are an efficient, safe and reliable transportation system, including street, water, public transportation and rail; internet service to access online learning opportunities and education; and reliable and low cost electric, gas and water service that helps reduce housing cost burden.

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.

Some of the major impacts have been from the economic development growth and investments from local companies.

- General Dynamic, a large-scale manufacturer of submarines and related components was recently awarded a multi-year building contract which will positively impact the region for close to a decade.
- Ponemah Mill Adaptive Reuse Project. This \$72 million project converted a 19th century Taftville mill into 237 residential apartment units. The first phase was 113 units and approximately \$24 million which is nearing the completion of finance assembly. The third phase of the project is expected to be finished in 2020.
- Medical centers. Several walk-in medical centers have opened in Norwich in the last few years.
- Expanded business development on Route 82 where a chain restaurant and automotive parts store opened
- Several small businesses in the downtown area have opened working with NCDC
- The State in conjunction with the City is going to add rotaries (roundabouts) on heavily travelled Route 82 which should allow for safer travel to area businesses
- Starwood Market closed in Greeneville/Taftville section of the City which leaves that area without a grocery store.

In 2020 we must consider the lasting effect of the Corona Virus and how it has negatively impacted businesses globally. In Norwich we have seen businesses close down and we anticipate there may be other closures within the next year to two. It will be necessary to work with lenders, landlords, NCDC and others to prevent businesses from closing or assisting others to open.

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

According to the chart above, there are almost 3 times as many residents with a manufacturing skill set versus the number of jobs currently available. In other words, there is capacity for manufacturing jobs, such as those associated with General Dynamics, Collins and Jewels, Solar Energy Field, and even the

Juice Bottling Plant, will provide manufacturing and administrative employment opportunities for existing residents and draw in new residents.

Education and Health Care has an abundance of trained workers with limited employment opportunities in the area. The increase in satellite or walk-in medical facilities may help close the gap between employed and unemployed. In addition, the growing senior population may provide opportunities in the health care field.

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.

There are several workforce training initiatives, including: NHS Job Training Program; Three Rivers Community College's (located in Norwich) Manufacturing and Advanced Manufacturing Training Program; and Norwich Technical High Schools Work-Based Learning Model, introducing students to hands-on learning opportunities in the trades.

The Eastern Workforce Investment Board (EWIB) is also providing the following:

- Jobs First Employment Services (JFES) Adults and Out-of-School minor recipients of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families learn to gain and maintain independence from federal and state financial assistance through employment, education, training services, and case management. All participants receive assistance in preparing and looking for a job, transportation assistance, and help with payment for childcare.
- Summer Youth Employment Program is a short-term summer work experience for income eligible youth ages 14-21. Youth are placed in individual worksites or in teams for a project based experience. Youth work on average 15-25 hours per week, for approximately 6 weeks and earn no less than state minimum wage. The work experience provides youth with an opportunity to not only earn money but to also gain experience. The experience also develops educational and work maturity skills.
- Regional Transportation Collaborative assists with transportation for employment related purposes, including transportation to and from job interviews, training, or employment. "Car Based Solutions" also provides flexible and individualized options for transportation to employment related activities including car insurance, registrations, car inspections, back taxes, and car repairs. Car Based Solutions is designed to increase the individuals' ability to secure and maintain employment by providing them with reliable transportation, especially in areas where public transportation is unable to accommodate them.
- The Incumbent Worker Training provides grant funding for customized training for existing businesses. Through this customer-driven program, the EWIB is able to effectively retain and keep businesses competitive through upgrade skills training for existing full-time employees.

The program has been structured to be flexible to meet the business's training objectives. The training is designed to benefit business and industry by assisting in the skill development of existing employees, increasing employee productivity and the growth of the company.

- Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) Pathway Project will create a statewide, web-based interface that will: a) facilitate the linkage of scientists, engineers, and other technical professionals with K-12 teachers in Connecticut looking for curriculum resources and guest lectures; and b) inventory and track student internship opportunities and summer youth jobs. The value proposition relates directly to the synergy produced by combining a common interface between the education system and the workforce development system to maximize employer participation and improve relationship management with employers.
- Healthcare Advisor prepares person for a career in healthcare, thus addressing Connecticut's healthcare workforce needs.
- Eastern CT Manufacturing Pipeline provides free training for area manufacturers to hire directly from

These programs: work to train resident for a variety of employment opportunities which typically begin at living wage levels; incentivize businesses to move existing employees into higher paying jobs while opening up the previous position to a new employee; improve transportation opportunities thereby removing a large barrier to employment; and provides job experience to increase future opportunities.

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

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.

There are a number of economic development initiatives that may be coordinated with the Consolidated Plan based on meeting CDBG associated eligibility criteria. This includes the CEDS and the City of Norwich's Economic Development Strategic Plan. Depending on the application, some or part of the following activities or projects may be eligible:

- Implementation of the Waterfront Development Plan, including redevelopment of Shipping Street parcels in order to provide environmental remediation and utility upgrades to support commercial growth opportunities and/or recreational activities
- Market Norwich as a living center for young and creative populations, integrating arts, heritage, and ethnic communities into development
- Improve Existing Public Access Facilities including designing/upgrading facilities according to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA);
- Increase access for trails with waterfront areas providing walking, jogging, picnicking fishing, bicycling, and boating opportunities

- Complete an assessment of infrastructure barriers in the targeted areas, as well as strengths such as access to rail, deep water, water/sewer service, fiber optic, natural gas, and electricity.
- Ensure utility capacity, especially for target areas
- Create an implementation plan that aligns with the 5-year Capital Plan to address infrastructure impediments, including road systems, with a focus on targeted areas
- Improve Public Transportation Infrastructure, including passenger and commercial rail improvements and streamlined local bus/transit routes and shelters for users E
- Establish action plan with activities and timeline focusing on Mill and Underutilized Site Reuse

Discussion

Norwich has opportunities for growth within the existing market. It would be advantageous to bridge the gap between business activity and the current labor force. In other words, there is capacity in the labor force and there remains some availability in the number of jobs that match the skill set. Where there is currently a mismatch, Norwich is leveraging local, state and federal programs to build capacity and/or retrain the workforce to increase employment. A simultaneous track that actively seeks bringing in new employers/employment into the area is a must if Norwich is to impact low, moderate, middle, and high income residents. The biggest barriers to achieving this continue to be the lack of clean (non-brownfield), available, developable space, access to public transportation, and the statewide issues surrounding taxation (land, personal property, commercial and residential property).

In 2020 we must consider the lasting effect of the Corona Virus and how it has negatively impacted businesses globally. In Norwich we have seen businesses close down and we anticipate there may be other closures within the next year to two. It will be necessary to work with lenders, landlords, NCDRC and others to prevent businesses from closing or assisting others to open.

MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

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

In community development and housing issues, concentration is in the most distressed neighborhood(s) that are afflicted with the highest rates of crime, poverty and vacant homes and some of the lowest property values. Areas of housing problem concentrations (at least 10 percentage points greater than the jurisdiction as a whole) include households that expend more than 30% of their income on housing related costs. The most critical housing problem in Norwich is the extent to which low and moderate income residents experience housing cost burden. The following tracts reflect areas that have at least one housing problem.

Census tract 6968 has the lowest median household income, highest poverty rate, and highest minority households.

Census tract 6967 has the second lowest median household income, poverty rate, third highest minority households

Census tract 6964 has the third lowest median household income, third highest poverty rate, and second highest minority households.

Census tract 6961 has the fourth lowest median household income, poverty rate, and minority households.

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

As previously mentioned, concentration is in the most distressed neighborhood(s) that are afflicted with the highest rates of crime, poverty and vacant homes and some of the lowest property values. In many cases, these areas represent the most diversity in terms of race and ethnicity. Concentration is being defined as a percentage greater than the jurisdiction as a whole and compared to the average of the City.

Census tract 6968 contains the highest number of minority households, followed by Census tract 6964, 6967 and 6961, respectively.

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

According to 2011-2015 ACS

Census Tract 6964:

58% of units are single family residences (SFR). 44.9% of units are rentals -21% of SFRs being used as rentals. The remaining are multi-family: close to 50% are 2-4 family and 50% are 5+ units. Almost 80% of units are built prior to 1979. The tract has the highest number of 2 or 3 bedroom units and may have the fewest occupants per room (crowding versus overcrowding). This tract has residents with the longest length of time in their existing housing unit. It has the 3rd highest median house cost, 2nd highest median rent costs and the lowest number of residents that pay greater than 30% of their income on housing costs. (Housing Cost Burden).

Census Tract 6967:

48.76% of units are single family residences (SFR). 44% of all units are rentals - 22% of SFRs being used as rentals. The remaining are multi-family: one-third are 2-4 family and three-quarters are 5+ units. Approximately 80% of properties were built prior to 1979. This tract contains the 3rd highest number of 2 or 3 bedroom units and the fewest occupants per room (crowding versus overcrowding). The tract has the 2nd most residents with the longest length of time in their existing housing unit. It contains the highest values above the 2015 median home value, the 3rd highest median rent costs and 2nd highest number of residents that pay greater than 30% of their income on housing costs (Housing Cost Burden).

Census Tract 6968

21% of units are single family residences (SFR). 57.6% of all units are rentals -9% of SFRs being used as rentals. The remaining are multi-family: 40.02% are 2-4 family and 22.42% are 5+ units. This tract contains the oldest housing stock with 92% being built prior to 1979 and 78% being built prior to 1940. The area contains the lowest number of 2 or 3 bedroom units but the highest number of 1 bedroom units and the 2nd highest occupants per room (overcrowding). The ownership vacancy rate is unknown, but the rental vacancy rate is estimated at 17% - the highest in the city. It also contains the greatest number of units with incomplete plumbing and/or kitchen facilities. The tract has the fewest number of properties valued above the 2015 median average home value, the highest median rent costs, and the greatest number of residents paying more than 30% of their income on housing costs (Housing Cost Burden).

Census Tract 6961:

41% of units are single family residences (SFR). 39% of all units are rentals - 11.64% of SFRs being used as rentals. The remaining are multi-family: 39.33% are 2-4 family and 19.29% are 5+ units. More than 80% of properties were built prior to 1979. This tract contains the 2nd highest number of 2 or 3 bedroom units, is the 3rd highest for cost burden, 2nd highest rent and 3rd highest house costs.

Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?

Each of the four Census tracts mentioned below contain some level of open space. With the exception of 6968, these tracts contain playgrounds, baseball fields, basketball and/or tennis courts. 6968 does not contain a playground, however, there are multiple assets available to the community. These include Otis Library; Howard Brown Park which provides access for car top boaters and general public fishing; the Slater Museum; Norwich Free Academy (founded in 1854, NFA is one of few remaining endowed academies in New England and serves as a regional high school); Senior Center Heritage Walk, which is an historical walking trail allowing participants a view of waterfront and Native American-Early American history that begins in downtown (6968) and leads to Uncas Leap (a waterfall with associated ties to a battle between two Native American tribes).

In addition to various playgrounds and fields, tract 6967 contains a municipal maintained dog park and walking trails that tie to the aforementioned Uncas Leap/Heritage Walk.

Similar to tract 6967, Census tract 6964 contains 2 public playgrounds, but it is much smaller in scale with one basketball court. It also has a fish-ladder and river access for those looking to do recreational fishing. Tract 6961 has 2 playgrounds, one with water access, and 3 basketball courts.

Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?

There are a number of strategic opportunities within these areas. Census tract 6967 contains an area referred to as "Shipping Street". The area consists of multiple brownfield sites. Shipping Street is a former commercial industrial area that is located on the water and has access to commercial rail line. This 40-acres of underutilized property has the ability to be converted into a mixed use development that contains retail, commercial industrial and a resurgence/renovation of existing housing. A significant portion of the property would have residential restrictions due to being in a designated flood-way, however the surrounding neighborhoods could support residential development that compliments activities in this area. The access to waterways in that area provide an opportunity for a boat launch area that would satisfy a large community need for improved access to waterways for recreational purposes. The mixed used development including recreation would work to create jobs, remove blight, increase affordable housing options and stabilize the tax base. The City was awarded a brownfield assessment grant from the State of Connecticut and has received an extension to continue to utilize this funding.

Census tract 6964 has a number of abandoned and blighted properties in strategic areas. This includes both residential and commercial stock. There is limited commercial/industrial space remaining within this tract. The increase in employment opportunities coupled with the decrease in blight associated

with these sites can help stabilize this neighborhood and the connected housing stock, if the commercial properties can be renovated and brought back online. One parcel in particular is located on the water, with high visibility to car and pedestrian traffic. The parcel consists of 6 acres and an abandoned/burned out factory occupying more than 320,000 square feet. Developers have shown interest in renovating the site for mixed use and/or mixed income housing.

Census tract 6968 contains some of the most historic commercial and residential properties in the City. It contains significant water access points for private and public use, excellent architecture and an eclectic mix of usable space. There is a city bond approved by voters that provides incentives for businesses to relocate into this tract.

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 services and connections for residential neighborhoods are highly accessible according to the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) datasets. The City is well covered and offers 4 providers (ComCast, Frontier, Viastat and HughesNet).

In 2020 broadband was put to the test as school work was done from home. All children, who were in need, received devices to work with from home utilizing the internet. Internet services were provided to ensure that children could access their school. The low and moderate income households and neighborhoods have access to internet and, when needed, were provided the service by ComCast.

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

The dominant providers are ComCast and Frontier. Having more than one provider allows for competition which should result in better services for the customer. ComCast offers the quickest service for both downloading and uploading.

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 City of Norwich has three rivers that converge and flow through it. As such, Norwich has the risk of flooding and more frequent storms can cause flooding issues in areas.

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

Low to Moderate income households are vulnerable to flooding. Norwich will continue to mitigate risks through consistent analysis of Coastal Flood Maps and regulatory enforcement.

Strategic Plan

SP-05 Overview

Strategic Plan Overview

The purpose of the strategic plan section is to describe the city's objectives and priorities to be addressed over the five-year period of the Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan compiles all the planning document/elements and serves as the principal resource for city's allocation of CDBG funds during this period. CDBG funds are the main resource for housing and community development projects for the city. Other local tax dollars, which the city has some discretion in allocating to different activities, will be used as leverage with the CDBG funds where appropriate. Other than public housing authority monies, the city does not receive any other direct housing funding from HUD. Since the city has limited funds to address the numerous community needs, it is extremely important that the plan define these needs and then establish priorities and identify strategies to best use their resources. These needs were derived from demographic data, reports, studies and the public participation process.

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

Geographic Area

Table 47 - Geographic Priority Areas

1	Area Name:	City-wide
	Area Type:	City-wide
	Other Target Area Description:	City-wide
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	
	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)

Although most projects in the Action Plan are city-wide, some projects fall geographically within CDBG-eligible areas where very-low to moderate-income individuals are directly benefited. Therefore, those projects will meet the Low-Mod Area (LMA) national objective. It is important to note, however, that the majority of projects will be directed to meet the Low-Mod Clientele national objective (LMC).

- Project supports the general protection and/or safety of residents as well as housing stock
- Project allows for an opportunity to improve quality of life, including improved accessibility to transportation, employers and businesses

- Project allows for stabilization of physical housing structures and works to reduce the overall housing cost burden

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

Priority Needs

Table 48 – Priority Needs Summary

1	Priority Need Name	Affordable Housing
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children veterans Victims of Domestic Violence Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Victims of Domestic Violence
	Geographic Areas Affected	City-wide
	Associated Goals	Administration Creating a Suitable Living Environment Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing 2
	Description	Rental Assistance; Rehabilitation of Existing Units; Acquisition of Existing Units; Production of New Units for Special Needs Population
	Basis for Relative Priority	The need for more affordable housing in improved condition is required. Current market data shows an older, non-maintained housing stock and a considerable number of vacancies classified as "other"/non rentable due to the dilapidated condition. These units may need to be removed from the market in order to stimulate investment (public and private) into the affordable housing market.

2	Priority Need Name	Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	City-wide
	Associated Goals	Administration Creating a Suitable Living Environment Creating a Suitable Living Environment 2 Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing 2 Economic Opportunity

	Description	Support efforts (infrastructure or services) that fall under the Continuum of Care providing services and supportive housing for the homeless populations. This includes outreach; emergency shelter and transitional housing; and rapid rehousing and prevention.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Stabilizing most vulnerable and at risk populations of Norwich is necessary based on recent data trends and current economic conditions within the City. The loss of Continuum of Care funding and the growing need for case managers has reduced the potential positive impact needed in the Norwich area.
3	Priority Need Name	Non-Housing Community Development
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	City-wide

	Associated Goals	Administration Creating a Suitable Living Environment Creating a Suitable Living Environment 2 Economic Opportunity
	Description	Public Facilities; Public Improvements and Infrastructure; Non-at-risk Public Services Economic Development. These include upgrades to infrastructure in targeted areas, such as sidewalks, streets, curbs, parks/playgrounds, lighting and ADA compliance; Economic Development includes English language skills training, job training, job creation programs and removing barriers to work.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Current conditions demonstrate the need for infrastructure upgrades in target areas, evidenced by the current conditions of the infrastructure. Needs Assessment and Market Assessment suggest employment opportunities and increase in income will help reduce housing cost burden, stabilize the tax base, have property owners invest in their properties, thereby reducing blight and crime. Removing barriers to work, such as child care and transportation will increase discretionary income and provide living wage opportunities.
4	Priority Need Name	Economic Development
	Priority Level	Low
	Population	Low
	Geographic Areas Affected	City-wide
	Associated Goals	Administration Economic Opportunity
	Description	Given 2020 and the Corona Virus implications the City may choose over the 5 year period to invest in Economic Development.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Given the current economic climate with the 2020 Corona Virus pandemic the City may choose to utilize funds for Economic Development over the 5 year period.

Narrative (Optional)

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)	Over the last three years, the City of Norwich has received less than \$900,000 annually in CDBG funds and does not receive HOME funds. Given the limited funding, the City does not plan to utilize CDBG funds for Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA).
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	Over the last three years, the City of Norwich has received less than \$900,000 annually in CDBG funds and does not receive HOME funds. Given the limited funding, the City does not plan to utilize CDBG funds for Non-homeless special needs Tenant Based Rental
New Unit Production	Over the last three years, the City of Norwich has received less than \$900,000 annually in CDBG funds and does not receive HOME funds. Given the limited funding, and that CDBG cannot be used directly for new unit production, we do not anticipate allocating funding directly towards new unit production.
Rehabilitation	Over 80 percent of the City's housing stock is at least 35 years of age, indicating significant need for rehabilitation. The City will provide assistance to rehabilitate single-family and multi-family units.
Acquisition, including preservation	The City may utilize funds to acquire, preserve and/or provide clearance related activities in order to eliminate blight, preserve properties of historical significance, and stabilize neighborhoods and or benefit LMI populations.

Table 49 – Influence of Market Conditions

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

Introduction

The City of Norwich is a CDBG (only) entitlement jurisdiction and anticipates receiving approximately \$861,120 in CDBG funds and no HOME funds for FY 2020. Norwich does not receive funding under the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) or Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) programs.

In recent years, the levels of CDBG funds for Norwich have fluctuated but have been primarily held steady. In estimating the amounts of funding available over this Consolidated Plan period, the City took a conservative approach to assume a level amount of funding.

The City does not run programs that generate program income, however, the Property Rehabilitation Program does generate return of loan funds. During the past five years, the level of return of loan received was approximately \$75,000 annually. Return of loan and any program income that might be received from the repayment of any future (CDBG) grants/loans will automatically be re-programmed for grant activities in those same or similar programs from which the funds were originally provided to the extent possible. If additional program income funds are received that are not automatically reprogrammed, specific projects will be identified during the Action Plan process.

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	861,120	6,780	55,552	923,452	3,444,480	The estimated amount of CDBG funds available over the planning period is based on level funding of the CDBG program.

Table 50 - 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 encourages matching or leveraged funds with any CDBG award it makes to any non-profit requesting funding.

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

The City may acquire property through tax foreclosure during the 5-year period. If financially feasible and approved by Council, the City will make efforts to address needs identified in the plan, including creating open space, reducing blight, preserving affordable housing, and taking steps to improve income of residents. Any actions will work to meet national objectives and/or eligible activities associated with CDBG requirements.

Discussion

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
CITY OF NORWICH	Government	Economic Development Homelessness Non-homeless special needs Ownership Planning Rental neighborhood improvements public facilities public services	Jurisdiction
NORWICH HOUSING AUTHORITY	PHA	Public Housing Rental	Jurisdiction

Table 51 - Institutional Delivery Structure

Assess of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

Norwich has a 6 member council, Mayor, and City Manager. The Council is elected every two years, the Mayor every 4 years. The CD Office serves as the lead entity in carrying out Consolidated Plan objectives; coordinates CDBG funding and the implementation process; and maintains the process for funding applications, private agency support, and program implementation to address established priorities.

City Council is responsible for review and approval policies of the CDBG program; to coordinate proposed activities & funding sources; and to evaluate policies as they affect the provision of affordable housing and other community development programs.

The City has also established a Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) comprised of 7 residents of the City who are actively involved in the assessment and determination of community development needs and establishment of funding priorities.

The City uses non-profit organizations that are often sub-recipients administering and implementing programs funded through the City. These agencies play a key role in delivering services to the public and providing programs essential to the community such as homeless services, youth programs, and special needs services.

Private entities can effectively support the delivery of programs and services by offering additional resources that can be leveraged to supplement existing services or fill in gaps.

The City will continue to do the following to enhance coordination of housing and community development: Consult with housing and social service providers; Encourage collaboration of service providers as opposed to competing as separate entities; Participate in regional discussions to address housing; Participate with SCCOG; Re-establish neighborhood investment groups such as NRZs/blockwatches.

NHS will continue the collaborative efforts to bring together social service providers, non-profit housing providers, health and mental health professionals, youth development program providers and others. This will provide a more effective delivery of resources.

Housing, supportive services, and community development activities for residents in Norwich are delivered by a large number of public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private entities. Several gaps exist in the delivery system:

- Staffing Capacity: With limited CDBG allocations, as well as limited general funds, the City of Norwich, PHA and local housing providers are not in the position to maintain the staff capacity as in the past, limiting the implementation of housing and community development programs and providing necessary case management that impacts change.
- Coordination: Many residents are not aware or understand the programs and services available. According to statistics compiled by the 2-1-1 service, less than one-third of the callers for services have ever sought assistance from available programs and services.

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	X		
Rental Assistance	X	X	X
Utilities Assistance	X	X	X
Street Outreach Services			
Law Enforcement	X	X	
Mobile Clinics	X	X	
Other Street Outreach Services	X	X	

Supportive Services			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X	X	X
Child Care	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			
	X		X

Table 52 - 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)

As previously discussed in the Needs Assessment and Housing Market Analysis sections, while services are available to Norwich residents, the level of services available is not adequate to meet the needs. An increase in trained case managers will help change behavior, attitude, circumstance, knowledge and skills of persons most at risk. This will have a noticeable impact on the most vulnerable population.

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

There are a variety of services for special needs population and persons experiencing homelessness in City of Norwich. However, major gaps in the service delivery system exist include:

- Inadequate funding to provide the level of services needed; and
- Too few case managers available to ensure appropriate impacts, such as changes in behavior, attitude circumstances, knowledge and skills

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

Gaps in institutional structure/service delivery relate to funding. Calls for service are disproportionate to available case managers. Research shows that the most impactful way to change behavior, attitude, circumstance knowledge and/or skills of individuals is through regular meetings. This form of counseling shows measured results compared to non-intervention. Case management is not possible without funding. In addition, lack of adequate resources (the provision of safety-nets) creates barriers for people experiencing hardships or temporary set-backs in quickly returning to stability. The greatest set-back/barrier involves the provision of adequate shelter (permanent housing). The elimination of this issue allows for greater focus on long-term problems such as addiction, lack of employment, lack of education, health/medical issues, and transportation. Therefore, focusing on housing first, provides the greatest opportunity for success.

As a result, Norwich participates in the Coordinated Access Network (CAN). A CAN provides people facing housing crises a single access point to community resources. All continuums of care (CoC) must establish a comprehensive and standardized coordinated access system for shelter, prevention, rapid rehousing, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing. (A CoC is a geographical administrative unit through which HUD funds are distributed. Each CoC serves as an area's lead agency for community-wide initiatives related to homelessness.) Norwich is now a member of the Balance of State CoC.

In a CAN, the 2-1-1 Infoline serves as the gateway to a streamlined process for helping clients facing homelessness. The 2-1-1 Infoline is a single telephone source for information about community services, referrals to human services programs, and crisis intervention. The 2-1-1 website (www.211ct.org) also provides information for individuals and families facing homelessness, including information about mortgage and rental payment assistance programs.

CAN PROCESS includes an initial screening over-the-phone to assess issues and other immediate resources available. If these options do not meet the client's needs, the screener refers the client to meet with a CAN intake team.

CAN Intake: the team first attempts shelter diversion, which may include (1) mediation between the client/landlord or (2) financial assistance. If shelter diversion efforts are not successful, the team completes a full assessment and refers the client (1) to a shelter or, (2) if a shelter is not available, to the homeless outreach team (HOT).

Housing Placement: focus is to move clients into a permanent living situation as quickly as possible through "rapid rehousing." Rapid rehousing means moving clients "from shelter or emergency situations into housing quickly and creating stability once they are housed." If a client needs more intensive assistance, a referral to CAN Housing Team occurs. The team, in collaboration with a community care team, assigns the client to housing. The care team provides community-level accountability for all housing placements, including:

1. permanent supportive housing (i.e., affordable housing linked to community based services such as case management and employment support);
2. critical time intervention (i.e., assistance is provided to individuals with mental illness transitioning from hospitals, shelters, prisons, or other facilities);
3. treatment and recovery housing (i.e., housing associated with intensive substance abuse recovery programs); and
4. transitional housing (i.e., short term supportive housing, generally from two to 24 months).

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	Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Public Housing	City-wide	Affordable Housing Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety	CDBG: \$1,500,000	Rental units rehabilitated: 125 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 25 Household Housing Unit
3	Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing 2	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	City-wide	Affordable Housing Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety	CDBG: \$200,000	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 200 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 75 Persons Assisted
4	Creating a Suitable Living Environment	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	City-wide	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety	CDBG: \$75,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5000 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 25 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 2	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	City-wide	Non-Housing Community Development Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety	CDBG: \$750,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 21000 Persons Assisted Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 250 Persons Assisted Buildings Demolished: 5 Buildings
7	Economic Opportunity	2020	2024	Public Housing Homeless Non-Housing Community Development	City-wide	Non-Housing Community Development Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety Economic Development	CDBG: \$250,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 200 Persons Assisted Jobs created/retained: 10 Jobs Businesses assisted: 5 Businesses Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
8	Administration	2020	2024	Administration	City-wide	Affordable Housing Non-Housing Community Development Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety Economic Development	CDBG: \$861,120 Other: 2	Other: 2

Table 53 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing
	Goal Description	Conserve and improve existing affordable housing, provide homeownership assistance and assist in the development of affordable housing. Programs may include rehabilitation of existing units that include addressing code, safety and health issues as well as reduce housing cost burden.
3	Goal Name	Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing 2
	Goal Description	Conserve and improve existing affordable housing, specifically related to shelters, homelessness prevention and/or rapid rehousing and/or permanent supportive housing
4	Goal Name	Creating a Suitable Living Environment
	Goal Description	Provide funding for financial education, outreach, access to benefits, removing barriers around transportation related to medical/health, reducing domestic violence

5	Goal Name	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 2
	Goal Description	Provide funding for projects that provide neighborhood or infrastructure improvements, including community facilities/infrastructure in income qualified census tract/block groups.
7	Goal Name	Economic Opportunity
	Goal Description	Provision of services associated with job creation, job training and increasing employment opportunities for Norwich residents. Provide funding for education and/or training related to residents under the age of 18, that may lead to improved employment opportunities.
8	Goal Name	Administration
	Goal Description	General Administration of the Community Development Program, including salaries, fringes, supplies and marketing for the CD Office

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)

This Consolidated Plan has established the following objectives:

- Provide rehabilitation assistance to 5 single-family units, and 30 rental units **extremely low-income**
- Provide rehabilitation assistance to 5 single-family units, and 45 rental units **low-income**
- Provide rehabilitation assistance to 15 single-family units, and 50 rental units **moderate-income**

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)

The Authority has no such agreement. However, based on public inquiries, there is a need to increase the number of handicapped accessible apartments in the community, in particular, family units. In developing plans to upgrade/restore state elderly and family complexes, the Authority will incorporate additional handicapped accessible units, either by conversion or expansion.

Activities to Increase Resident Involvements

In developing plans for upgrades and/or restoration of existing state and federal complexes, the Authority will develop Resident Participation Plans which will actively encourage resident participation at all stages of planning, development and execution. The Authority already has a tenant serving on the Board of Commissioners and a Resident Advisory Board that meets periodically to discuss annual budgets, finances, capital improvements and resident related concerns.

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

The State of Connecticut restricts the way in which municipalities raise revenue through public policy. As a result, municipalities across the state must rely on local real estate/property taxes to stabilize revenue. Having a small taxable commercial/industrial base with limited developable land results in the potential for limited employment opportunities for Norwich residents. Areas with reduced employment opportunities typically have residents with limited discretionary income; thereby impacting things such as housing cost burden.

This taxing method impacts owner-occupants and renters because even an affordable mortgage or rent payment can be increased drastically by the taxes related to the property. In other words, the taxes on the property can make it unaffordable, not just the mortgage. This also reduces the amount of money property owners have to invest in maintaining their property, which can negatively impact neighborhood safety .

Norwich has it's "fair share" of affordable housing compared to area towns as noted in the 2018 Southeastern Connecticut Housing Needs Assessment. Towns must be encouraged to build and accept multi-family dwelling units. "Future housing development will be impacted by restrictions on land use that differ between municipalities and by the presence of lack of supportive infrastructure." "The absence of sewers is usually the greatest factor limiting potential housing production".

In 2018, a report released by the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG) stated the following issues:

- Sites physically suitable and appropriately zoned for new housing are limited and expensive;
- The availability of public water and sewerage systems is limited;
- Residential builders and labor in the construction trades are in short supply;
- Most suburban and rural towns have adopted restrictive residential zoning;
- The local regulatory process for residential development is complex;
- The high dependence on the property tax to fund local government makes residential development financially undesirable to most municipalities; and
- Public attitudes generally do not support the construction of additional housing, particularly lower-cost housing.

The report indicated that the scale and complexity of the affordable housing issue calls for a regional response.

Affordable housing development in Norwich is also hampered by the following factors:

- Lack of developable land
- Continuing housing market correction and tight supply of credit (specifically for LMI borrowers)
- Presence of substantial existing, but dilapidated, affordable housing supply
- Social opinions discouraging affordable development, particular in neighborhoods
- Lack of living wage employment opportunities in area, reducing private market interest in investment of affordable housing

Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing

City of Norwich plans to work to remove barriers to affordable housing and the financial impact of efforts to protect public health and safety by taking actions to reduce costs or provide off-setting financial incentives to assist in the production of safe, high quality, affordable housing. To mitigate the impacts of these barriers, the City will:

- Apply for State and federal funding to gap finance affordable housing production and rehabilitation of existing affordable housing stock.
- Continue to streamline the environmental review process for housing developments, using available state categorical exemptions and federal categorical exclusions, when applicable.
- Continue to improve the permit processing and planning approval processes to minimize the delay in housing development in general and affordable housing development in particular.
- Continue to provide rehabilitation assistance and homeownership assistance, and to assist in the construction and preservation of affordable housing.

The City recently completed its housing needs assessment, Plan of Conservation and Development and Comprehensive Plan which identifies an inventory of sites with residential development, including sites that would be rezoned/upzoned to higher density development or redevelopment. This expanded inventory of mixed use and multi-family sites could facilitate the development of affordable housing.

A number of recommendations have also been discussed, including:

1. Work with CT Fair Housing to conduct testing of sale and rental properties to identify violations of the Fair Housing Act at an early stage.
2. Work with Eastern Connecticut Association of Realtors (ECAR) to provide training of real estate professionals to discourage steering based on race, ethnicity, familial status, or disability, the four primary bases of fair housing complaints.
3. Require “affirmative marketing” of all new residential developments and buildings in order to receive a building permit, zoning, or subdivision approval. The underlying concept is to make home seekers aware of the full array of housing choices available to them. For the developer, affirmative marketing means taking special steps to promote traffic from particular racial or ethnic groups that are otherwise unlikely to compete for their housing.

4. Train key staff (including everybody who might answer the phone at the police department) to refer callers about fair housing to the designated staff person in City Hall. The designated individual should be well-versed in fair housing law and practices. At least one backup individual should be assigned to field calls for when the designated individual is not available.

Information about fair housing violations and remedies should be easy to find on the city's website. The proper number to call for assistance with fair housing should be listed on the "Who Do I Call?" web page under a clear heading like "Fair Housing Complaints." However, the city should not rely heavily on the Internet because many of those who face housing discrimination may not have ready access to the Internet, be very skilled on the Internet, or read English well enough to use the city's website effectively.

SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.215(d)

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

A number of activities and services are funded to help the needs of the homeless and other special needs populations. Overall, these services address the high priority of reducing homelessness and the threat of becoming homeless. The allocations to alleviate homelessness include working with the Continuum of Care to ensure that Emergency Shelter Grant funds provide stability to those that are transitioning from a shelter to their own apartment; energy assistance; meals; food staples; and counseling. Other actions to help homeless persons transition to permanent housing and independent living through the Continuum of Care are:

- Supportive Housing Programs that provide housing units and congregate living units which include supportive services.
- Shelter Plus Care Program provides grants for rental assistance for homeless individuals and families with disabilities
- The Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) through Alliance for Living provides individuals and families with permanent housing with supportive services that have been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS.
- Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

- Assess the capacity of area shelter and transitional housing programs to conform to rapid re-housing and Housing First strategies specified in the plan.
- Provide evaluation of transitional housing programs in the region.
- Utilize diversion funds from CDBG and foundations including the New London County Fund to End Homelessness to avoid shelter stay. P
- Previous success allocating resources to cover hotel stays in blizzards/crisis situations
- Work closely with CAN to ensure homeless are receiving appropriate care.
- Work with City to complete listing of available buildings for development as permanent supportive housing.
- Traditional funding opportunities and advocacy on a local and state level for inclusionary zoning and fast track development.
- NHS has worked with housing authority residents to provide job training opportunities, working to raise tenant income so they move towards private market rentals – thereby freeing up units.

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

The City supports the continuum of care providers and agencies in an efforts in ending chronic homelessness. NHS coordinates services and funding for the homeless to move people from homelessness to permanent housing. Rapid rehousing and diversion money is used create a paradigm shift where shelter becomes an absolute last resort versus first placement option when housing becomes difficult. Chronically homeless persons require rehabilitation services, employment training and placement, health services, and case management to move from homelessness to transitional housing, and then to supportive/permanent housing. The Continuum of Care Strategy coordinated by the partner agencies offers a full range of services and facilities. The City supports this strategy for constructing housing facilities that help transition chronically homeless persons to a stable housing situation and to receive supportive services that would improve their employment skills.

NHS and partner agencies have a long goal to ensure emergency housing and transitional to permanent housing for all with a long-term measure of having zero homeless population.

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 State of Connecticut mandates that discharges from foster care, health care, mental health facilities and the Department of Corrections be done in such a way as to minimize risk of homelessness. The Continuum of Care partners ensure that the proper steps are taken with regard to discharge planning. The following narrative is from the Continuum of Care Application:

Foster Care

Connecticut has built in an Independent Living Program that offers young people a continuum of independent living services along with specialized case management to ensure a successful transition to productive community life. The Community Housing Assistance Program provides youth aging out of Foster Care with a subsidy to cover living expenses.

Health Care

The two local hospitals, Lawrence and Memorial (New London) and Backus Hospital (Norwich) verbally confirmed that current discharge practice includes providing case management services. With the exception of extreme situations, local hospitals do not discharge into emergency shelters, the street or HUD McKinney–Vento funded beds. The New London Hospitality Center had 7 respite shelter beds funded by L&M Hospital for homeless people discharged from the hospital. These beds are monitored by Community Health Center medical staff.

Mental Health

The State of Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services have policies in place that dictate that every attempt shall be made to verify discharge housing arrangements. Clients are not discharged into emergency shelters, the street or HUD McKinney–Vento funded beds.

Corrections

The State of Connecticut Department of Corrections continues to complete an Offender Accountability Plan for each inmate, program outline and expectations during the entire time of incarceration. A standardized discharge plan is completed with inmates at the end of sentence, addressing issues including housing, identification and community resource needs. The Department has significantly increased staffing and the number of halfway house beds for parole and community services and contracts for a wide range of residential services in the community.

One of the key strategies for homeless prevention is employment development. The goal is enhance a person's ability to obtain and keep a job, and to make an adequate income to be self-sufficient. These resources are described under job training initiatives in Section MA-45 Non- Housing Community Development Assets of this Consolidated Plan. The City also works diligently to expand and conserve its affordable housing inventory, especially affordable rental housing that benefits the extremely low and low income households who are most at risk of becoming homeless. The Continuum of Care agencies work closely with hospital in the region to address their discharge policies to avoid discharging patients into homelessness and the school system families that are not falling through the cracks.

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

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

The City will continue to address Lead Based Paint in coordination with the Property Rehabilitation Program. In 2019, the CD office received another \$2.9 million Lead Based Paint Hazard Control grant targeted to residential properties from HUD's Office of Healthy Homes. The \$2.9 million grant allows the Rehab Program to increase its volume of lead safe housing unit production annually and it allows us to provide full-time community outreach in multiple languages, educating people on lead hazards.

The program's performance is excellent, achieving a "green" designation on HUD quarterly evaluations. Due to the Corona Virus pandemic we are lagging in meeting goals/benchmarks but are continuing to accept and process applications.

Capacity Building Efforts:

- Retaining Lead/Rehabilitation Officer to provide overall project delivery and oversight
- Use of designated *Intake/Outreach Specialist* to manage outreach, recruitment and community coordination
- Utilize per-diem *Diversity Outreach Specialists* to better assist/access underserved and limited English proficient populations
- Ability to provide blood screenings to children under 6
- Certified Contractor training/education to build a talented/trained workforce
- Training/Education to property owners, renters and multiple housing/health inspectors (fire marshals, building inspectors, health inspectors)

Community Impacts: we have had numerous positive impacts in the community to date:

- Produce 110 newly lead-safe housing units
- Used lead funding in coordination with the federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) to return foreclosed and uninhabitable/abandoned properties back to the market
- Increased property value assessments and tax revenues within target area
- Use lead funding in coordination with CDBG
- Conduct educational/outreach events in the community
- "Diversity Outreach Specialists" employed to target the burgeoning populations of non-English speaking families here in Norwich (Chinese, Hispanic, Haitian). Through the use of these "Ambassadors" we will reach underserved immigrant populations; this builds community relationships and trust
- Create employment opportunities for small and minority contractors
- Test Children 6 and under, addressing elevations before they become poisonings
- Train local individuals to be hired by existing lead contractors
- Provided refresher/EPA training allowing contractors to maintain proper certification

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

The number of lead poisoning cases in Norwich is still too high. One child with an EBLL is unacceptable. The actions, above, have increased the knowledge of the dangers of lead paint in our community.

Our need is evidenced in our poisonings, population and housing stock. The state incident rate of EBLLs > 5 ug/dl 5.6% as a percent of documented tested children under 6; > 10ug/dl is 1.2% ;> 15ug/dl 0.3 %and > 20 ug/dl 0.3 and the national is .56% (CDC National Surveillance Data). Norwich's incident rate is 1.4%, double the state and almost triple the national (2013 CT DPH Surveillance Report). In New London County, the average EBLL >10 ug/dl is 0.3% (20135CT DPH Surveillance Report).

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

When public funds are used to assist in the substantial rehabilitation of housing units, testing for lead-based paint is required and when lead-based paint is found, the abatement efforts are included in the scope of the rehabilitation assistance. Policies and Procedures exist for each program. The Department of Community Development is consulted when state and federal funds are used to address housing issues in properties built prior to 1978.

The City will continue to address Lead Based Paint, as well as other environmental concerns in coordination with the Property Rehabilitation Program. The City also provides brochures and information on the health and safety lead-based paint hazards and danger they pose to occupants. This information is provided in the City's three most predominantly languages in addition to English. The languages are Haitian-Creole, Spanish, Chinese.

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

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

The anti-poverty strategy utilizes existing job training and social service programs to increase employment marketability, household income, and housing options. The City's anti-poverty strategy also includes direct activities that focus on job creation. In Norwich, there are a number of barriers to employment, including transportation, affordable child care, health/medical care, and even language skills.

As a means of reducing the number of persons with incomes below the poverty line and reducing employment barriers, the City will continue to coordinate its efforts with those of other public and private organizations providing economic development and job training programs. Over the last few years, the number of public, quasi-public, and nonprofit organizations providing economic development and job training services in Norwich has increased. This includes youth programming that teaches basic jobs skills and exposes youth to paid opportunities where they are counseled in the position by case managers as well as employee supervisors. This works to reduce future barriers to employment while building real life job experience.

As part of job training, participants have previously been eligible to receive safety-net assistance, such as temporary transportation and child-care assistance. However, these funds are limited based on application and allocation from CDBG or other resources. There is no on-going source of funding. To stimulate business growth, Norwich has been using CDBG funds to encourage Norwich businesses to hire Norwich residents that are LMI. The strategy not only focuses on individual businesses, but works to tie in the job training programs. This way, Norwich residents graduating from the training programs have a greater chance of becoming employed.

It is also important to note that English as a Second Language and/or specific outreach to individuals/families with limited English proficiency is seen as an important investment in Norwich. Without basic understanding of English and the ability to communicate with everyone from neighbors, employers, emergency responders and public safety, many will remain in poverty.

Our partners in this endeavor include, but are not limited to:

- Norwich Human Services
- Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce
- Norwich Adult Education
- Eastern Connecticut Workforce Investment Board
- Norwich Community Development Corporation
- Community Economic Development Fund

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

As previously mentioned, Norwich subscribes to the Housing First model, where housing issues (ensuring the availability of decent, permanent and affordable housing) are addressed first. Once housing is addressed, other opportunities for services are reviewed and appropriate referrals/connections are made.

It is also generally accepted by those dealing with poverty reducing programming and housing issues that expanding and preserving affordable housing opportunities will reduce the housing cost burden of households living in poverty. If we can successfully reduce housing cost burden, a portion of the disposable income may be used to pursue other educational or career goals, as well as for other daily necessities. This not only establishes an opportunity for longer-term financial stability/sufficiency, it also works to drive the local economy as more income is infused in the buying and selling of goods.

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

Subrecipients execute an agreement with performance requirements prior to work beginning. On-site employee interviews for construction projects are handled by the CD Office to ensure adherence to the Davis-Bacon Act. The Purchasing Agent is involved with the bidding process for non-Housing Authority infrastructure jobs. All public service programs collect information based on the HUD methodology of qualifying clients. Information is maintained by the grantees and is available in a redacted form for monitoring purposes.

The CD Office conducts monitoring throughout the year for public service and construction. Public service subrecipients submit quarterly reports to the CD Office. During on-site visits, a CD staff member completes a questionnaire regarding performance measures and financial records. The questionnaire is a mix of questions, verifiable data requests, evidenced responses from multiple file review and anecdotal evidence. All clients receiving direct assistance will be required to submit income information per program guidelines. Clients of subrecipients will submit this information to the subrecipients who will certify that at least 51% of the population they serve are low or moderate-income.

Property owners receiving assistance certify they will maintain HUD fair market rents for the period of time required by regulation for units rehabilitated with CDBG funds. Section 504 discrimination regarding handicapped accessibility will be monitored through individual inspections by the CD Office and the Housing Department. Adherence to Davis Bacon requirements will be assured through on-site visits and interviews to any CDBG funded construction project by a member of the CD Office or the Norwich Housing Authority.

The CD Office will seek authorization from the State Historic Commission whenever work on a historic structure is contemplated. Environmental review will be performed on all projects, as applicable, and in concert with the Planning Director and the Fire Marshall.

In the event of timeliness concerns, the subrecipient will be placed on a performance improvement plan in order to remedy such concerns, including a work-out schedule starting from an end date to achieve compliance with revised benchmarks.

Per HUD guidelines and in coordination with our CDBG application process, all recipients of funds are subject to minority business as well as Section 3 outreach. This includes signing a Section 3 Certification which states the purpose and requirements of Section 3.

Advertising of opportunities are in locations that increase likelihood for minority contractors to apply (public housing authority, City/State procurement websites, ESL programs, and Lead Based Paint certification trainings). Many community based projects funded lend themselves to minority business owner opportunity criteria. In the event an unfair ratio of non-minority business owners were not responding to and/or winning bids, this office would implement requirements to ensure such contractors were fairly represented in the process. This may include additional statements promoting preference for and/or encouraging WBE/MBEs to apply.

Expected Resources

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

Introduction

The City of Norwich is a CDBG (only) entitlement jurisdiction and anticipates receiving approximately \$861,120 in CDBG funds and no HOME funds for FY 2020. Norwich does not receive funding under the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) or Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) programs.

In recent years, the levels of CDBG funds for Norwich have fluctuated but have been primarily held steady. In estimating the amounts of funding available over this Consolidated Plan period, the City took a conservative approach to assume a level amount of funding.

The City does not run programs that generate program income, however, the Property Rehabilitation Program does generate return of loan funds. During the past five years, the level of return of loan received was approximately \$75,000 annually. Return of loan and any program income that might be received from the repayment of any future (CDBG) grants/loans will automatically be re-programmed for grant activities in those same or similar programs from which the funds were originally provided to the extent possible. If additional program income funds are received that are not automatically reprogrammed, specific projects will be identified during the Action Plan process.

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: \$		
			\$	\$	\$	\$	

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	861,120	6,780	55,552	923,452	3,444,480	The estimated amount of CDBG funds available over the planning period is based on level funding of the CDBG program.

Table 54 - 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 encourages matching or leveraged funds with any CDBG award it makes to any non-profit requesting funding.

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

The City may acquire property through tax foreclosure during the 5-year period. If financially feasible and approved by Council, the City will make efforts to address needs identified in the plan, including creating open space, reducing blight, preserving affordable housing, and taking steps to improve income of residents. Any actions will work to meet national objectives and/or eligible activities associated with CDBG requirements.

Discussion

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	Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing	2015	2019	Affordable Housing Public Housing	City-wide	Affordable Housing Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety	CDBG: \$387,500	Rental units rehabilitated: 22 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 8 Household Housing Unit
3	Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing 2	2015	2019	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	City-wide	Affordable Housing Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety	CDBG: \$50,000	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 75 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 95 Persons Assisted
4	Creating a Suitable Living Environment	2015	2019	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs	City-wide	Affordable Housing Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety	CDBG: \$5,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2000 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 2	2015	2019	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	City-wide	Non-Housing Community Development Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety	CDBG: \$177,486	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 4600 Persons Assisted Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 110 Persons Assisted Buildings Demolished: 1 Buildings
7	Economic Opportunity	2015	2019	Public Housing Homeless Non-Housing Community Development	City-wide	Economic Development	CDBG: \$42,610	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 180 Persons Assisted
8	Administration	2015	2019	Administration	City-wide	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$179,004	Other: 2 Other

Table 55 -- Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing
	Goal Description	
3	Goal Name	Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing 2
	Goal Description	

4	Goal Name	Creating a Suitable Living Environment
	Goal Description	
5	Goal Name	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 2
	Goal Description	Substantial Amendment in Year 1 added Safe Futures, Taftville Sidewalks, and Taftville Park, Phase I
7	Goal Name	Economic Opportunity
	Goal Description	Economic opportunities will be made available by providing access to job training through Norwich Works. Additionally NCDC will be providing an opportunity for youth to train in an entrepreneurial experience.
8	Goal Name	Administration
	Goal Description	

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The Annual Action Plan process produced a number of projects to address priorities stated in the Consolidated Plan. Those priorities included provided: 1) decent housing; 2) a suitable living environment; and 3) economic opportunities, principally for low and moderate-income persons. The following 10 Council approved programs/projects cover at least one of the three priorities.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	CD Administration
2	NHS Norwich Works
3	CCT Rapid Rehousing & Shelter Diversion
4	Safe Futures
5	TVCCA Home Again
6	Children in Placement
7	Immigration Advocacy & Support - CLEAR
8	NCDC Working Lab
9	Rosewood Manor Phase IV Ductless Splits - NHA
10	Boswell Ave Sidewalks
11	Taftville Basketball Courts Phase II
12	Property Rehabilitation & Code Compliance

Table 56 – Project Information

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

Job Training – Access to employment is a barrier to financial self-sufficiency. Training is for individuals in fields that have shortages, such as medical technology and CNAs, where they will make a living wage.

Single/Multi-family Rehabilitation/Energy Efficiency/Handicap Accessibility- Norwich Rehabilitation program will continue energy efficiency upgrades for 25 eligible properties receiving lead/rehabilitation work. Improving property values and lowering housing cost burden aid residents in preserving scarce resources. This also helps to protect and maintain our affordable housing stock.

In addition, the Norwich Public Housing Authority will receive funding to complete the next phase of it's

Rosewood Manor ductless split heating/cooling. This has been a multi-year project to relieve the cost of heating and cooling to our low income elderly citizens. Public housing is home to the most vulnerable of populations. For many PH residents, a rise in rent will mean homelessness.

Lastly, the City will continue efforts to improve housing accessibility options. Providing handicap access to houses aids residents who would otherwise be restricted from leaving their home. Due to the financial burdens associated with assisted living and nursing homes, many Norwich residents are aging in place. In many cases, the property is not handicap accessible and residents find themselves unable to fully utilize the property.

Homeless Services- Norwich Community Care Team, a group made up of 19 agencies that provide services across an array of disciplines, will provide temporary rapid re-housing vouchers to allow individuals to remain housed instead of being accepted into a shelter. These individuals will receive counseling and financial self-sufficiency information that will work to increase personal stability. This assistance will not exceed more than 3-months per CDBG regulations. Sheltering is a temporary solution and has proven to be less cost effective than permanent housing. This program will work to reduce the single/individual population needing shelter and increase permanent housing opportunities. Another program managed by TVCCA will offer the same service, but targeting families needing shelter and permanent housing opportunities.

Youth Related Activities –The City is proud to continue the support of programs that train and place disenfranchised youth into career path opportunities. NCDC looks to help youth become entrepreneurs.

Domestic Violence Prevention - The City has invested in programming to assist victims of domestic violence by addressing this issue at the time of the incident, providing support services during the criminal court cases and providing crisis intervention as well as on-going support.

Community Facilities

The City continues to invest in it's low income neighborhoods by providing safe pedestrian areas as well as recreational areas.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	CD Administration
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Administration
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$179,004
	Description	CD Administration.
	Target Date	8/31/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
Planned Activities		
2	Project Name	NHS Norwich Works
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Economic Opportunity
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000
	Description	Job Training Employability
	Target Date	8/31/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	24 low income residents will receive services
	Location Description	Norwich Human Services, 100 Broadway, Norwich, CT
Planned Activities	Provide job training opportunities that may include (but not limited to): CNA; Pharmacy Technician; Emergency Medical Technician; EKG Technician; Bartending; Patient Care Tech and other trainings.	
3	Project Name	CCT Rapid Rehousing & Shelter Diversion
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing 2
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety

	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000
	Description	Prevention of homelessness.
	Target Date	8/31/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Homelessness activity: 15 Rapidly Rehoused/Diverted from shelter 28 Referred to shelter
	Location Description	Norwich Human Services, 100 Broadway, Norwich, CT
	Planned Activities	Assess and divert Norwich homeless or at risk of homelessness from becoming homeless. Works collaboratively with other providers to assess needs and provides funds, when necessary, to have residents remain in their homes. When not possible to divert will assist in placing into homeless shelter.
4	Project Name	Safe Futures
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment
	Needs Addressed	Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000
	Description	Domestic violence counselors and advocate position.
	Target Date	8/31/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	120 Victims of domestic violence will be provided assistance.
	Location Description	241 Main Street, Norwich, CT
	Planned Activities	An advocate responds with the Police Department and follows up with the victim as well as provides court support/services to the victim
5	Project Name	TVCCA Home Again
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing 2
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	Description	Homelessness prevention and diversion.

	Target Date	8/31/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	31 individuals/families are prevented from becoming homeless
	Location Description	401 West Thames Street, Norwich, CT
	Planned Activities	Assist in the prevention of homelessness by providing intervention services prior to the resident becoming homeless. Case Managers work with landlords, utilities, etc. to prevent the resident from facing homelessness.
6	Project Name	Children in Placement
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment
	Needs Addressed	Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000
	Description	
	Target Date	8/31/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	21
	Location Description	Norwich, Ct - various locations
	Planned Activities	The Children in Placement Guardian ad Litem (GAL) will provide a voice for abused children.
7	Project Name	Immigration Advocacy & Support - CLEAR
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment
	Needs Addressed	Promotion of Self-Sufficiency, Health & Safety
	Funding	CDBG: \$3,000
	Description	CLEAR program to support legal immigration.
	Target Date	8/31/2021

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	26
	Location Description	8 Washington Street, New London, Ct
	Planned Activities	Provide specialized expert legal advice ad assistance to legal immigrants ensuring they remain legal by filing all necessary paperwork.
8	Project Name	NCDC Working Lab
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Economic Opportunity
	Needs Addressed	Economic Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	Entrepreneurship/Job training for young adults.
	Target Date	8/31/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	5-10
	Location Description	NCDC, 66 Franklin Street, Norwich, CT 06360
	Planned Activities	Teach job skills and entrepreneurial development to young adults.
9	Project Name	Rosewood Manor Phase IV Ductless Splits - NHA
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$100,000
	Description	Public Housing Authority heating/cooling
	Target Date	8/31/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	10
	Location Description	Rosewood Manor elderly housing.
	Planned Activities	Provide heating/cooling ductless splits at this elderly housing complex.

10	Project Name	Boswell Ave Sidewalks
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 2
	Needs Addressed	Non-Housing Community Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$200,000
	Description	Installation of sidewalks/handicap ramps
	Target Date	8/31/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This project is located in census tract 6968 and is a heavily travelled pedestrian area.
	Location Description	Installation of sidewalks between Roath Street and Oak Street.
	Planned Activities	Replace dilapidated and dangerous sidewalks in this low/moderate area of Norwich.
11	Project Name	Taftville Basketball Courts Phase II
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Creating a Suitable Living Environment 2
	Needs Addressed	Non-Housing Community Development
	Funding	CDBG: \$70,000
	Description	Installation of basketball courts in low/mod neighborhood
	Target Date	8/31/2021
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	This project is located in census tract 6961 which is a low/mod income area and qualified census tract. Numerous families utilize the park area of which the basketball court will be part of and enhance the quality of life for the residents.
	Location Description	Taftville Playground - South Street/Providence ST
	Planned Activities	Installation of a new basketball court.
12	Project Name	Property Rehabilitation & Code Compliance
	Target Area	City-wide
	Goals Supported	Decent, Affordable and Safe Housing
	Needs Addressed	Affordable Housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$246,447

Description	Property Rehabilitation Program
Target Date	8/31/2021
Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	18 families will receive benefits.
Location Description	City-Wide: Program applications available at 23 Union Street, Norwich, CT
Planned Activities	Provide funding to eligible properties for code related activities at their residence. Improvements can include new heating systems, roofing, windows, siding, insulation, electrical etc.

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

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
City-wide	100

Table 57 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Programs are City-wide.

With limited resources it is difficult to address all LMA needs. The City has an application process and the Community Development Advisory Committee recommends the spending plan for the year. The plan is presented to the City Council who votes on the funding and plan.

Discussion

Most projects are conducted City-Wide under the LMC benefit category. However, there is so much need and so little resources, the CDAC and the City Council try to allocate funds as requested by City Department heads and organizations.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines "affordable" as housing that costs no more than 30 percent of a household's monthly income. That means rent and utilities in an apartment or the monthly mortgage payment and housing expenses for a homeowner should be less than 30 percent of a household's monthly income to be considered affordable.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	50
Non-Homeless	0
Special-Needs	0
Total	50

Table 58 - 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	28
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	28

Table 59 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

Norwich will continue the funding of property rehabilitation projects that work to reduce the housing cost burden of low-to-moderate income individuals. Through the Rehabilitation/Lead Program, the City will aid homeowners in bringing properties "up-to-code" while making the home "lead safe". Units receive energy efficiency upgrades helping to reduce utility costs which increases available income. Reduced cost burden, increase in property values and reduction in crime are a few consequential outcomes. The program will benefit 18 units of housing. At the same time, Norwich Public Housing Authority will install ductless splits in 10 unit sof housing.

The Norwich community works hard to reach out to homeless and those at risk of being homeless on a year-round, non-stop basis. During warmer months, residents find "homes" in unexpected and sometimes unpleasant places. During the winter months, however, housing for this at risk population becomes difficult. It has sadly become lethal over the last several years. During the next program year, the City will address the issue of homelessness by implementing a different strategy. Instead of providing temporary shelter for this most at-risk population, the Norwich Community Care Team and TVCCA will stabilize residents through permanent housing. CDBG funds will be used to provide

temporary rental subsidies to prevent homelessness. These subsidies will not exceed 3 months. This program will benefit approximately 60 people with subsidies and 60 individuals will receive shelter assistance as well as counseling. The City will also work with programs to provide domestic violence intervention; youth education and mentoring; English language education; and job training.

All housing development partners are encouraged to work closely with the TVCCA family shelter, transitional living facilities and Norwich Human Services to identify eligible tenants to work to benefitting low-to-moderate income individuals. Please also see information in the next section under public housing.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Norwich Housing Authority (NHA) owns/manages 686 units of public housing of which 177 are federal and 509 are state. NHA also administers 514 Section 8 Vouchers that are tenant based. The mission of the NHA is to develop and operate each development solely for the purpose of providing decent, safe and sanitary housing for eligible individuals and families in a manner that promotes the serviceability, economy, efficiency and stability of the developments, and the economic and social well-being of the residents.

To effectuate the above, the Authority places a high priority on maintaining and rehabbing existing developments. The Authority strives to balance the needs of residents versus the economic realities facing all public housing authorities. The goal is to retain the existing affordable housing stock.

The Authority focuses on reducing the cost burden for extremely low income and very low income renter households and improving energy efficiency of its housing stock. Through the efforts of the property managers and resident services coordinators, the Authority tries to be more than just a landlord by meeting the overall requirements of its residents.

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

For PY 2020 the Office of Community Development will invest \$100,000 in building rehabilitation of Norwich Housing Authority's Rosewood Manner. All units are very low-income, State Elderly/Disabled public housing. The units were constructed in 1970 and 81. The Norwich Housing Authority has been installing these units over the past 4 years in an attempt to lower the operating costs of heating and cooling these units.

This is a State, not a federal, public housing facility and therefore does not receive adequate funds for maintenance. There are 110 residents living at Rosewood Manor.

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

In order to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in homeownership opportunities, it is necessary to increase individuals earning potential. In order to purchase a home, residents must improve credit, decrease debt and save. This can only be accomplished through increasing income. This requires greater employability. To promote employment opportunities for very-low to moderate income residents, when appropriate, all subrecipients will be required to sign the Section 3 Certification which states the purpose of Section 3 and that work performed under this contract is subject to the requirements of Section 3. The documentation lists requirements for recruiting Section 3 residents, which includes: where job notices/advertisements should be listed to ensure Section 3 residents have an opportunity to apply; maintaining a list of Section 3 residents who have previously applied for job opportunities; and that the contractor must certify that vacant employment and training positions were not filled to circumvent the contractor's obligation under 24 CFR Part 135. Contractors must sign that they will make every effort to "...comply to the greatest extent feasible with the objectives and percentage goals established in the Section 3 Plan for Housing and Community Development Assistance of the City of Norwich."

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

The PHA is not designated as trouble.

Discussion

Maintaining decent housing for low-income and disabled individuals is much less expensive than having to maintain the same individuals in shelters, hospitals or at assisted living facilities at the government's expense. The maintenance of this housing at affordable levels keeps the cost of this service within reasonable limits for the government.

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

Introduction

The Director of Norwich Human Services has served on the Executive Committee of the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Partnership to End Homelessness and is a lead in the region for prevention of homelessness. She also served on the Board of the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness.

The service providers funded by the Continuum of Care grant include a wide variety of service providers. The vast array of services offered through these programs include two-year transitional housing for homeless women and women with children, a family homeless shelter, supportive housing for single adults, security deposit, rental assistance, utility assistance and food assistance programs for populations at risk for homelessness, landlord-tenant mediation programs, mobile and stationary medical care for homeless individuals and individuals with HIV, case management services, mental health services, life skills counseling and transportation for residents of supportive housing.

CDBG funds administered through Norwich Department of Human Services will do several things to support homeless individuals in their quest to become housed and to prevent homelessness for individuals on the edge.

The Norwich Public Schools uses the McKinney-Vento assistance to provide transportation to the school of origin of clients, to the staff salary for a paraprofessional who helps homeless children and to provide partial payment of a salary for the coordinator of homeless services at the Norwich Public Schools. The City of Norwich Housing Authority, Department of Human Services and Office of Community Development work closely together on retaining vouchers for residents living in subsidized complexes that have been privatizing. The local shelter, TVCCA, also administers additional vouchers to place families in permanent affordable housing. The Norwich Housing Authority managed 514 housing choice vouchers for Norwich residents in the past year.

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

Norwich Community Care Team, a group made up of 19 agencies that provide services across an array of disciplines, will provide temporary rapid re-housing vouchers to allow individuals to remain housed instead of being accepted into a shelter. These individuals will receive counseling and financial self-sufficiency information that will work to increase personal stability. This assistance will not exceed more

than 3-months per CDBG regulations. Sheltering is a temporary solution and has proven to be less cost effective than permanent housing. This program will work to reduce the single/individual population needing shelter and increase permanent housing opportunities. Another program managed by TVCCA will offer the same service, but targeting families needing shelter and permanent housing opportunities.

A number of activities and services are funded to help the needs of the homeless and other special needs populations. Overall, these services address the high priority of reducing homelessness and the threat of becoming homeless. This year, the City will fund programs to alleviate homelessness include working with local providers to provide stability to those that are transitioning from a shelter to their own apartment; energy assistance; meals; food staples; and counseling.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Norwich participates in the Coordinated Access Network (CAN). A CAN provides people facing housing crises a single access point to community resources. All continuums of care (sub-CoC) must establish a comprehensive and standardized coordinated access system for shelter, prevention, rapid rehousing, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing. (A CoC is a geographical administrative unit through which HUD funds are distributed. Each sub-CoC serves as an area's lead agency for community-wide initiatives related to homelessness.)

In a CAN, the 2-1-1 Infoline serves as the gateway to a streamlined process for helping clients facing homelessness. The 2-1-1 Infoline is a single telephone source for information about community services, referrals to human services programs, and crisis intervention. The 2-1-1 website (www.211ct.org) also provides information for individuals and families facing homelessness, including information about mortgage and rental payment assistance programs.

CAN PROCESS includes an initial screening over-the-phone to assess issues and other immediate resources available. If these options do not meet the client's needs, the screener refers the client to meet with a CAN intake team.

CAN Intake: the team first attempts shelter diversion, which may include (1) mediation between the client/landlord or (2) financial assistance. If shelter diversion efforts are not successful, the team completes a full assessment and refers the client (1) to a shelter or, (2) if a shelter is not available, to the homeless outreach team (HOT).

Housing Placement: focus is to move clients into a permanent living situation as quickly as possible through "rapid rehousing." Rapid rehousing means moving clients "from shelter or emergency situations

into housing quickly and creating stability once they are housed." If a client needs more intensive assistance, a referral to CAN Housing Team occurs. The team, in collaboration with a community care team, assigns the client to housing. The care team provides community-level accountability for all housing placements, including:

1. permanent supportive housing (i.e., affordable housing linked to community based services such as case management and employment support);
2. critical time intervention (i.e., assistance is provided to individuals with mental illness transitioning from hospitals, shelters, prisons, or other facilities);
3. treatment and recovery housing (i.e., housing associated with intensive substance abuse recovery programs); and
4. transitional housing (i.e., short term supportive housing, generally from two to 24 months).

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

There are multiple levels of homelessness and multiple activities used to reduce and potentially end homelessness. The City is adjusting its current strategy to end homelessness by increasing permanent housing solutions through temporary rental subsidies and other means. The City closed its winter overflow shelter in 2013 to expend resources on the strategies of rapid re-housing and shelter diversion. (Shelter services were provided by the regional, state funded shelter, the New London Homeless Hospitality Center under the HUD mandated process of coordinated access to shelter.) At the same time, individuals are paired with resources that include: job training and job creation (incentives for businesses to hire LMI residents); shelters; mental health and addiction related services, financial counseling; utility assistance; and resources to reduce food scarcity concerns.

As previously mentioned, the City participates in the Continuum of Care and shares services along a broad array of providers. Homelessness Prevention Services are provided by several members including Norwich Human Services, the United Way, Catholic Charities, Bethsaida Community Inc., DCF, Child and Family Agency, Reliance House, Salvation Army, Sound Community Services, SMHA, Stonington Institute, TVCCA, Thames River Family Program, the Women's Center. In addition, Norwich Human Services will provide emergency rental assistance to a greater number of individuals in order to increase permanent housing opportunities. Extremely low income individuals receive free or reduced legal assistance,

counseling and advocacy assistance, job training opportunities, and emergency funds for food as well as shelter support.

The City works with the Southeastern Partnership to End Homelessness and the other providers to meet the need and connect the most vulnerable of populations with supportive services that allow individual to achieve as much independency and self-sufficiency as possible. The Partnership is now a sub-continuum of care as it has merged with the Balance of State Continuum for better efficiencies.

Case management teams will look to create a community profile to uncover city-wide needs that are not being addressed adequately or efficiently. Conversations with residents include a focus on barriers to stability as well as income, emotional, physical, and educational needs of the clients. Norwich was the first to implement the Community Care Team model which is a recognized state best practice and is incorporated into many towns Ten Year Plans for coordinating care within this population.

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 State of Connecticut mandates that discharges from foster care, health care, mental health facilities and the Department of Corrections be done in such a way as to minimize risk of homelessness. The Continuum of Care partners ensure that the proper steps are taken with regard to discharge planning. The following narrative is from the Continuum of Care Application:

Foster Care

Connecticut has built in an Independent Living Program that offers young people a continuum of independent living services along with specialized case management to ensure a successful transition to productive community life. The Community Housing Assistance Program provides youth aging out of Foster Care with a subsidy to cover living expenses.

Health Care

The two local hospitals, Lawrence and Memorial (New London) and Backus Hospital (Norwich) verbally confirmed that current discharge practice includes providing case management services. With the exception of extreme situations, local hospitals do not discharge into emergency shelters, the street or HUD McKinney–Vento funded beds. The New London Hospitality Center had 7 respite shelter beds funded by L&M Hospital for homeless people discharged from the hospital. These beds are monitored

by Community Health Center medical staff.

Mental Health

The State of Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services have policies in place that dictate that every attempt shall be made to verify discharge housing arrangements. Clients are not discharged into emergency shelters, the street or HUD McKinney–Vento funded beds.

Corrections

The State of Connecticut Department of Corrections continues to complete an Offender Accountability Plan for each inmate, program outline and expectations during the entire time of incarceration. A standardized discharge plan is completed with inmates at the end of sentence, addressing issues including housing, identification and community resource needs. The Department has significantly increased staffing and the number of halfway house beds for parole and community services and contracts for a wide range of residential services in the community.

Discussion

One of the key strategies for homeless prevention is employment development. The goal is enhance a person's ability to obtain and keep a job, and to make an adequate income to be self-sufficient. These resources are described under job training initiatives in Section MA-45 Non- Housing Community Development Assets of this Consolidated Plan. The City also works diligently to expand and conserve its affordable housing inventory, especially affordable rental housing that benefits the extremely low and low income households who are most at risk of becoming homeless. The Continuum of Care agencies work closely with hospital in the region to address their discharge policies to avoid discharging patients into homelessness and the school system families that are not falling through the cracks.

The City will continue to address needs of the non-homeless special needs to ensure the most vulnerable of populations are protected. This includes working with the Continuum of Care, Southeastern Mental Health Affiliates and the partner agencies affiliated with these programs and the activities mentioned previously.

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

Introduction:

The State of Connecticut still remains the location as one of the highest state-wide housing prices. In New London County, the high prices combined with fewer jobs, lack of transportation and lower wages creates a situation where housing choice is impaired. The City of Norwich, while one of the highest providers of affordable housing in the region, continues to try to increase the supply of affordable housing.

In 2020, the Norwich Property Rehab Program will make 28 housing units lead safe and provide rehabilitation funding to 18 of those housing units. As part of the rehabilitation program, the majority of units will receive energy efficiency upgrades that include windows, heating and insulation. As a result, the rehabilitation program not only improves housing stock while providing adequate housing for very-low to moderate income individuals, it also works to reduce housing cost burden.

Low wages in the region work to impair housing choice. Therefore, it requires more than just a housing rehabilitation strategy to make housing affordable. The City of Norwich has committed a significant portion of its grant to attacking the sources of poverty at the root. The job training assistance program will be augmented to train eligible applicants for higher paying jobs. Enabling people to earn living wages and retain more of their earnings by assisting them with basic needs such as education, childcare and food will improve their ability to have a choice of housing.

For existing homeowners, the City of Norwich also refers homeowners having difficulties paying mortgages to a HUD approved housing counseling service at Catholic Charities.

From a policy perspective, the City will focus on helping to support an increase in the housing and community development function in the Congressional budget resolution(s), specifically HUD related funding. Deep cuts decrease the availability of affordable housing. The lack of affordable housing impacts all facets of the American economy. It is a primary driver of homelessness, prevents stability in those slightly above poverty and works to create additional health and safety barriers for low-to-moderate income people. It, in turn, increases other line-items in the National budget.

As part of pursuing these opportunities to advocate, the City will work to advocate for Housing Choice Vouchers program. Community Development will work to educate elected officials and residents on the real impact of supportive housing and affordable housing programs. We will work with organizations to help advocate for policies that not only remove barriers directly but also provide adequate resources to meet the HUD housing objectives.

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

City of Norwich plans to work to remove barriers to affordable housing and the financial impact of efforts to protect public health and safety by taking actions to reduce costs or provide off-setting financial incentives to assist in the production of safe, high quality, affordable housing. To mitigate the impacts of these barriers, the City will:

- Apply for State and federal funding to gap finance affordable housing production and rehabilitation of existing affordable housing stock.
- Continue to streamline the environmental review process for housing developments, using available state categorical exemptions and federal categorical exclusions, when applicable.
- Continue to improve the permit processing and planning approval processes to minimize the delay in housing development in general and affordable housing development in particular.
- Continue to provide rehabilitation assistance and homeownership assistance, and to assist in the construction and preservation of affordable housing.

The Southeastern Connecticut Housing Needs Assessment indicates that Norwich has already undertaken many actions that provide for the development of affordable housing. However, as progressive as the the City has been the City's Plan of Conservation and Development and Comprehensive Plan which identifies an inventory of sites with residential development, including sites that would be rezoned/upzoned to higher density development or redevelopment. This expanded inventory of mixed use and multi-family sites could facilitate the development of affordable housing.

A number of recommendations have also been discussed, including:

1. Work with CT Fair Housing to conduct testing of sale and rental properties to identify violations of the Fair Housing Act at an early stage..
2. Adjust zoning regs to work with larger undeveloped parcels of land

Discussion:

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

In order to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs, foster affordable housing and reduce the number of poverty-level families, the City will focus on 3 overarching priorities and objectives during the next year. We will work to (1) Provide Decent Affordable Housing by managing programs that increase and promote code improvement and energy efficient housing; (2) Create a Suitable Living Environment by focusing on activities working to address quality of life issues that encourage collaboration and foster a sense of community on a city-wide scale; and (3) Expand Economic Opportunities for Low-to-Moderate Income Residents by supporting programs that increase self-sufficiency and stability of residents.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

Provide Decent Affordable Housing - The City will continue to provide a Property Rehabilitation Program, which is available to both owner-occupants and investor-owners. The program anticipates performing full property rehabilitation including lead hazard reduction for 18 housing units and associated project delivery costs (partial salary and fringe benefits for Rehab/Lead Officer and Program Assistant.) The Lead Hazard Reduction Program will make units lead-safe. The program requires rents to remain accessible to low and moderate-income renters after completion of rehabilitation.

The DIME savings bank continues to operate the CHAMP program. The CHAMP program offers below market rate loans to developers of affordable housing. There is a requirement that the rents remain affordable. The DIME savings bank also has a down payment assistance program where low and moderate-income client funds are matched by the bank up to \$5,000 for a required down payment.

Chelsea Groton Savings Bank has offered a down payment "match program".

Norwich is unique in that it has its own utilities company. Norwich Public Utilities (NPU) provides electricity, gas, water and sewer to residents. We will partner using local dollars and the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund to help residents lower utility costs and their housing cost burden. NPU will provide energy audits and energy solutions, while working to incentivize residents to upgrade antiquated systems.

The City of Norwich continues to support efforts in the State legislature that increase opportunities to make housing affordable in Connecticut, including the HOME Connecticut Program and the CT Housing Trust Fund.

Southeastern Connecticut is home to a broad range of individuals who hail from diverse backgrounds in education, wealth, race and ethnicity. While the region is diverse, the community has the same

concerns involving crime, education, poverty and infrastructure maintenance found in more densely settled regions. In those more densely populated settled regions, you will find a multitude of talented social service agencies and non-profits available to assist low-to-low-moderate income individuals. Norwich provides an inequitable amount of resources towards assisting low-income individuals. In PY 2020, programs that help increase job training skills, provide transportation to and from work, and provide permanent housing instead of sheltered housing will be funded.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

Create a Suitable Living Environment – Improving quality of life has a different meaning based on what your needs are. It can begin, for some, at a young age. Learning proper behavior, language, social skills, values, attitude and work ethic early on increases the opportunities in the future. It also works to strengthen community ties and improve neighborhood safety through better communication. That is why the City is investing heavily in: a training and job placement program for youth that lead into a career path; guardian at litem for DCF children; park improvements in densely settled LMI area; and sidewalk installation to connect neighborhoods in a high traffic area which leads to new park improvement areas benefitting LMI residents.

Expand Economic Opportunity - There are a number of key methods to increase self-sufficiency and stability of residents. It can be achieved by increasing residents' income, decreasing debt or financial obligations, increasing assets and improving their ability to communicate effectively. That is why funding NCDC Working Lab for Entrepreneurs and Norwich Works job training and education programs are essential to improving the economic efficiency of LMI residents.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City will continue to address Lead Based Paint in coordination with the Property Rehabilitation Program. In 2019, the CD office received another \$2.9 million Lead Based Paint Hazard Control grant targeted to residential properties from HUD's Office of Healthy Homes. The \$2.9 million grant allows the Rehab Program to increase its volume of lead safe housing unit production annually and it allows us to provide full-time community outreach in multiple languages, educating people on lead hazards..

Capacity Building Efforts:

- Retaining Lead/Rehabilitation Officer to provide overall project delivery and oversight
- Use of designated *Intake/Outreach Specialist* to manage outreach, recruitment and community coordination

- Utilize per-diem *Diversity Outreach Specialists* to better assist/access underserved and limited English proficient populations
- Ability to provide blood screenings to children under 6
- Certified Contractor training/education to build a talented/trained workforce
- Training/Education to property owners, renters and multiple housing/health inspectors (fire marshals, building inspectors, health inspectors)

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

The anti-poverty strategy utilizes existing job training and social service programs to increase employment marketability, household income, and housing options. The City's anti-poverty strategy also includes direct activities that focus on job creation. In Norwich, there are a number of barriers to employment, including transportation, affordable child care, health/medical care, and even language skills.

As a means of reducing the number of persons with incomes below the poverty line and reducing employment barriers, the City will continue to coordinate its efforts with those of other public and private organizations providing economic development and job training programs. Over the last few years, the number of public, quasi-public, and nonprofit organizations providing economic development and job training services in Norwich has increased. This includes youth programming that teaches basic jobs skills and exposes youth to paid opportunities where they are counseled in the position by case managers as well as employee supervisors. This works to reduce future barriers to employment while building real life job experience.

As part of job training, participants have previously been eligible to receive safety-net assistance, such as temporary transportation and child-care assistance. However, these funds are limited based on application and allocation from CDBG or other resources. There is no on-going source of funding. To stimulate business growth, Norwich has been using CDBG funds to encourage Norwich businesses to hire Norwich residents that are LMI. The strategy not only focuses on individual businesses, but works to tie in the job training programs. This way, Norwich residents graduating from the training programs have a greater chance of becoming employed.

In PY20 we are working with Norwich Human Services and NCDC to provide training to LMI individuals.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

The Community Development Administration currently administers the Community Development Block Grant program and in past years, has administered a series of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development grants as well as a City's CDBG-R grant. As such, it has established itself as the lead agency in the City for housing related programs, except for the local public housing authority. Long standing financial, as well as professional, ties serve to assist communications between the Community Development Office and the Norwich Housing Authority. The Community Development Director and the Executive Director/Staff of the Norwich Housing Authority are in contact with each other on a regular basis to discuss the needs of the City.

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

Norwich has a good history of successful partnerships aimed at providing housing and community development programs to its citizens. A variety of public and private resources are coordinated to help Norwich families and individuals through traditional and innovative approaches to meeting the needs.

Annually, local service providers and departments are invited to submit applications for funding. The funds are awarded to eligible nonprofit, for-profit, faith-based, and other organizations to implement community and economic development programs. The funds through this process are primarily available for programs that benefit low and moderate-income persons of Memphis and must be aligned with the City of Norwich 5-year Consolidated Plan.

The Office of Community Development will continue to work with key local government departments to carry out housing and community development strategies. Other partners include but are not limited to: Police Department, Fire Department, Public Works, Engineering, Human Services,, the Office of Planning and Neighborhood Services, Norwich Housing Authority, Uncas Health District, Norwich Public Utilities, Norwich Public Schools, Weatherization Programs, the Lead Hazard reduction Program. All of these departments have a role in shaping and maintaining healthy communities. The Office of Community Development will communicate and coordinate with appropriate departments as needed.

Equally important are the partnerships with local nonprofit service providers, homeless service and housing providers, community housing development organizations, community development corporations, faith-based institutions, organizations serving persons with special needs, foundations, intermediaries, private housing developers, quasi government agencies, and others. The partnerships may include the grant funding, coordination with programs provided through these organizations, leveraging resources, information sharing, and other activities aimed at identifying and meeting the needs within the community.

Discussion:

Program Specific Requirements

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

Introduction:

The City of Norwich does not have any projects generating program income. The City estimates the percentage of funding going to LMI residents to be at least 70%. While we anticipate the percentage to be higher, funding has been set aside to demolish city owned buildings that are hazards, blighted and/or cannot be returned to the market. The amount available is equal to 30% of the allocation minus administration.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(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.	70.00%

Overall benefit will be determined annually.

Attachments

Appendix - Alternate/Local Data Sources

1	Data Source Name	Southeastern Connecticut Housing Needs Assessment
	List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.	Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments and Southeastern Connecticut Housing Alliance.
	Provide a brief summary of the data set.	A comprehensive regional housing study of the Southeastern Connecticut Housing market including Norwich. This study indicates the number of housing units necessary for the region, trends in housing, population trends etc. A look into the various planning and zoning issues of towns in the region as well as subsidized housing units in each locale.
	What was the purpose for developing this data set?	The purpose of the data set is to determine the future growth and needs of the region and impact on the communities.
	How comprehensive is the coverage of this administrative data? Is data collection concentrated in one geographic area or among a certain population?	It is limited to housing need but is comprehensive in it's approach to type of housing, socio-economic needs of housing and is inclusive of aging population needs.
	What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set?	The study was released to the public in 2018
	What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)?	Complete
2	Data Source Name	Census Data
	List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.	U.S. Census
	Provide a brief summary of the data set.	Census data is utilized to provide low/mod area decisions as well as helpful in determining trends within the City.
	What was the purpose for developing this data set?	Census data is necessary for CDBG allocations to ensure that low/mod area benefit is met.
	How comprehensive is the coverage of this administrative data? Is data collection concentrated in one geographic area or among a certain population?	Census data is available for each neighborhood in Norwich.

	<p>What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set?</p> <p>We attempted to use the most current data and, you will note, that may vary depending on the data needed.</p>
	<p>What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)?</p> <p>Consistently in progress</p>
3	<p>Data Source Name</p> <p>City of Norwich Community Development Needs</p>
	<p>List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.</p> <p>City of Norwich Community Development Office.</p>
	<p>Provide a brief summary of the data set.</p> <p>The data is attached for review. . Essentially it showed that Norwich still has work to do with Human Services - job training, benefits. Housing services - still a need for rehabilitation funding. Infrastructure - Parks/sidewalks etc.</p>
	<p>What was the purpose for developing this data set?</p> <p>The purpose for developing the data set was to gather as much information, as possible, on community needs from individual members of the community.</p>
	<p>Provide the year (and optionally month, or month and day) for when the data was collected.</p> <p>Created: 02/05/2020 Closed: 06/11/2020</p>
	<p>Briefly describe the methodology for the data collection.</p> <p>We utilized survey monkey and past surveys for information. Due to Covid-19 data collection was tough as we were not allowed to hold public meetings. However, we were able to put a notice in the local newspaper, upload on our website and make available to the Senior Center.</p>
	<p>Describe the total population from which the sample was taken.</p> <p>City-Wide</p>
	<p>Describe the demographics of the respondents or characteristics of the unit of measure, and the number of respondents or units surveyed.</p> <p>Unfortunately the survey was sparsely responded to.</p>
4	<p>Data Source Name</p> <p>CT Point-in Time Count 2019</p>

<p>List the name of the organization or individual who originated the data set.</p> <p>Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness</p>
<p>Provide a brief summary of the data set.</p> <p>The data provides a point in time look at homelessness in Norwich region.</p>
<p>What was the purpose for developing this data set?</p> <p>To identify the trends in homelessness.</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>Certain population - homeless</p>
<p>What time period (provide the year, and optionally month, or month and day) is covered by this data set?</p> <p>January 2019</p>
<p>What is the status of the data set (complete, in progress, or planned)?</p> <p>Complete</p>