# Executive Summary

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

**1. Introduction**

The Program Year (PY) 2025 marks the first of the City of Kent's 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan period.  The PY2025 Annual Action Plan identifies the specific programs and projects the City plans to implement with its PY2025 Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) funding in the first year of its five-year Consolidated Plan period.  The selected projects will assist the City in its efforts to address the five-year goals the City established for addressing identified needs in the community, including housing needs, homeless issues, and community development initiatives.  The PY2025 Action Plan also includes the commitment of available revolving loan funds (RLF) to provide the City with additional resources to assist with addressing identified housing needs.

The City of Kent received notification from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) of its PY2025 CDBG funding allocation amount, which is $283,425. In response to a publicly issued RFP, a total of six (6) project proposals were received this year seeking CDBG funding assistance and the total amount of funding requested was $307,395. The City has committed a portion of its CDBG funding five (5) of the six (6) of the project proposals it received and also committed funds to fair housing and program administration. The sixth project did not meet the proposed objectives of the City’s Five Year Consolidated Plan.

**2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan**

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

The City of Kent identified the following specific funding objectives in its 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan:

OBJECTIVE #1: Targeted Infrastructure Improvements in Low-to-Moderate Income Residential Areas: Promote a suitable living environment by allocating CDBG resources to support infrastructure and public facility improvement activities that will assist with addressing the problem of aging and insufficient infrastructure in residential areas that have high concentrations of low-to-moderate income households.

OBJECTIVE #2: Offer Housing Programs to Provide Safe and Decent Housing for Low- to Moderate-Income Households: Promote safe and decent housing for low-to-moderate income households throughout the City by providing owner-occupied housing rehabilitation and an energy efficiency repair program that ensures basic housing needs are met.  Citywide, the percentage of households that are classified as low- to moderate-income is 49.17%.  The City’s housing stock is older, with 49.5% of housing units constructed prior to 1969.  Many of these older residential units have structural deficiencies which need to be corrected in order to ensure safe and decent housing.

OBJECTIVE #3: Provide Appropriate Supportive Services for Low- to-Moderate Income Persons: Provide assistance to nonprofit organizations that provide needed programs, public facilities, and supportive services for low-to-moderate income persons living in the community.  The City maintains a strong working relationship with the nonprofit organizations operating in the Kent community and has used CDBG funds to support many needed programs.

**3. Evaluation of past performance**

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

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

The City’s most recent Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for PY2023 was completed and submitted to HUD in October 2024. The PY2023 CAPER reported on performance for the program year August 1, 2023, through July 30, 2024. PY2023 was year four (4) of the five-year 2020-2024 Consolidated Planning period.  The PY2024 CAPER will be submitted in October 2025.

During the previous 2015-2019 Five Year Consolidated Strategic Plan, the City completed energy efficiency improvements to thirty-nine (39) low-to-moderate income owner-occupied housing units in the City of Kent; provided rehabilitation assistance for eleven (11) low- to moderate-income owner-occupied City of Kent Residents; provided homeless shelter services to four hundred eighty (480) homeless individuals; provided micro-enterprise assistance to thirteen (13) businesses; provided rehabilitation services to twenty-four (24) rental housing units for low- to moderate-income City of Kent residents; reconstructed three (3) City residential streets, completed one (1) Acquisition/Rehab/Resale of one (1) single family housing unit with Habitat for Humanity, which was then sold to a low-income homebuyer, and 2 public facilities - a cold storage facility expansion for Kent Social Services, and Axess Family Services, formally Family and Community Services.

During PY2023, the fourth completed year of the 2020 - 2024 Five Year Consolidated Strategic Plan, the City of Kent allocated CDBG funds for the following activities/projects:  $153,000 for construction costs associated with the full depth reconstruction 365 feet of Walnut Street, from Harris St. to Dodge St.  including concrete curbs and gutters, new catch basins, and storm sewers were installed, and the existing 6" water main will be replaced with an 8" line.  Driveway aprons will be rebuilt with concrete.  Existing sidewalk will be replaced with new concrete sidewalk. The project is expected to be completed by December 2024; $17,000 to the Kent Police Department to provide increased Patrols and education to residents of low- to moderate-income neighborhoods and assisted housing complexes; $35,000 to Community Action Council of Portage County for free furnace inspections/replacements and energy efficiency improvements for twelve (12) low- to moderate-income Kent homeowners; $21,000 to Coleman Health Services for the parking lot and sidewalk repair and resurface of the Anna Street Apartments, a permanent supportive services apartment complex located at 1040 Anna Street; $10,000 to Habitat for Humanity of Portage County for critical home repairs, such as roof repairs, bathrooms, and safety issues for how many? low-to moderate-income Kent residents in owner-occupied single-family homes; $15,000 to Miller Community House for the provision of shelter to fifteen (15) homeless individuals; $5,000 to Small Business Development Centers to provide one-on-one business counseling and business workshops/training to low-to moderate-income residents of the City of Kent, and $19,000 to Fair Housing Contact Service for the provision of fair housing services to low-to moderate-income Kent residents.

**4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process**

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The City conducted two public hearings in 2025 while preparing its 5-year 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan.  The City also held two in-person public hearings while preparing its PY2025 Action Plan. Announcements for these public hearings were posted as legal advertisements that appeared in the local general circulation newspaper, The Record Courier. The first public hearing was held on February 19, 2025, and the second public hearing was held May 21, 2025. The PY2025 Action Plan and 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan were available for viewing and public comment for a 30-day period from April 21, 2025, to May 21, 2025 via the City of Kent's website, at www.kentohio.gov and in hard copy draft format.  Copies of these notices are available in the Appendix. The City also held discussions with nonprofit organizations and City personnel from various departments to identify needs and to collect insights on possible priority needs that should be considered for inclusion in the PY2025 Action Plan.

**5. Summary of public comments**

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

No public comments were received.

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

No public comments were received.

**7. Summary**

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

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

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

| **Agency Role** | **Name** | **Department/Agency** |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| CDBG Administrator | KENT | Department of Community Development |

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

**Narrative (optional)**

The City of Kent Community Development Department is the lead entity responsible for overseeing the development of the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and each annual Action Plan and is responsible for administering programs and activities covered by the 5-Year Plan. The City’s Community Development Department staff has been responsible for addressing all administrative aspects of the CDBG program since the City became an entitlement community in 1984.  Department personnel were responsible for developing and administering the City’s prior 5-Year Consolidated Plans and addressing all regulatory requirements associated with the CDBG program.  The City implements specific CDBG activities on its own or through the use of subrecipients and contractors.

**Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information**

Bridget Susel, Community Development Director

Kailyn Cyrus, Development Planner

930 Overholt Road

Kent, OH 44240

p: (330) 678-8108

f: (330) 678-8030

Kailyn.Cyrus@kentohio.gov

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

**1. Introduction**

The City of Kent’s 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan process incorporated several different methodologies for gathering comments and input in order to identify needs and priorities the City should consider during the development of its 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan. The City of Kent distributed an electronic survey to numerous nonprofit organizations requesting information on current affordable housing inventory, the needs of the homeless, supportive services, special needs, community development needs and other proposed services that would benefit low-to moderate-income persons. The City also held discussions with City personnel from various departments to identify needs and to collect insights on possible priority needs that should be considered for inclusion into the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan.

**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(l))**

Coordination among different service providers is an integral component in providing quality affordable housing opportunities and needed supportive services. The City has funded and collaborated on numerous housing and supportive service activities through the years with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding, Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) program funding and local social service funding. The City sought input from numerous agencies in the community that provide a variety of housing and social service programs for specific beneficiaries. The Portage County Housing Services Council is an organization that meets on a quarterly basis and that provides an excellent forum for housing and service providers to discuss needs facing the community and to coordinate the provision of services to meet those needs.

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

The City of Kent is part of Region 5 of the State of Ohio’s Continuum of Care (CoC) Balance of State program.  Each year the City verifies and provides certification that the projects undertaken with CoC funding are consistent with the goals of the City’s Consolidated Plan.  The City also often funds activities undertaken by both Axess Family Services and the Region 5 lead agency, Coleman Professional Services, in efforts to address the needs of the homeless within the City and in Portage County.  The City currently provides funding to Axess Family Services for the operation of the only emergency homeless shelter in Portage County which is located in the City of Kent.  The City also provides support for Axess Family Services’ Safer Futures, a domestic violence shelter and Axess Family Services’ Housing and Emergency Support Services program which provides homelessness prevention for those facing eviction and homelessness.  Many of the non-housing supportive services that the City supports aim to address some of the conditions that often eventually lead to homelessness.

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

The City of Kent is part of Region 5 of the State of Ohio’s CoC Balance of State program which does not receive ESG funding.

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

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | Portage Metropolitan Housing Authority |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | PHA |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy |
| **Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?** | This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2025 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period. |
| 2 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | Coleman Professional Services |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Employment Health Agency |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy |
| **Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?** | This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2025 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period. |
| 3 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | TOWNHALL II |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Services-Health Health Agency |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Mental Health and Addiction Services |
| **Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?** | This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2024 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period. |
| 4 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL (CAC) OF PORTAGE COUNTY |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | 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 |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy |
| **Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?** | This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2024 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period. |
| 5 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | Summit Medina Business Alliance (SBDC) |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Services-Education Services-Employment |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Economic Development |
| **Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?** | This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2024 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period. |
| 6 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | Habitat for Humanity of Portage County |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Housing |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy |
| **Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?** | This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2024 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period. |
| 7 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | Neighborhood Development Services |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Housing |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy |
| **Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?** | This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2024 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period. |
| 8 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | AxessPointe Community Health Center |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Services-Health Health Agency |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Community Development Needs |
| **Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?** | This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2024 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period. |
| 9 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | City of Kent |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Other government - Local |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Community Development Needs |
| **Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?** | This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2024 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period. |
| 10 | **Agency/Group/Organization** | Family and Community Services, Inc. |
| **Agency/Group/Organization Type** | Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services - Victims Health Agency |
| **What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?** | Housing Need Assessment Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy |
| **Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?** | This agency was included in the process for developing the overall goals and objectives of the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan. The agency was invited to submit any comments about the PY2024 Action Plan during the 30-day public comment period. |

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

N/A

**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 |  |  |

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

**Narrative (optional)**

## AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

**1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation**

**Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting**

The City conducted two public hearings while preparing its 2025-2029 Five Year Comprehensive Plan and will have two public hearings for each individual action plan as well, including this PY2025 Annual Action Plan.  Announcements for the two public hearings were posted as display advertisements that appeared in the local general circulation newspaper fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled public hearings.  Notices of the two public hearings were also posted on the City bulletin board fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled meetings.  The first public hearing was held on February 19, 2025.  This session occurred early in the planning process and was held before a scheduled City Council session.  The hearing occurred in an open forum and was promoted as an opportunity to present information about the CDBG program and to gather information and comments from interested persons concerning needs in the community or specific activities the City should consider funding during PY2025. The second public hearing was held on May 21, 2025 at 6:55 pm in the same format as the first.

The City provided a thirty (30) day public comment period for the PY2025 Draft Annual Action Plan that spanned the time-period of April 21, 2025, to May 21, 2025.  Various community-oriented agencies and service providers were invited to review the draft and submit comments during the 30-day public comment period.  A notice was published in a local newspaper of general circulation announcing the 30-day comment period and availability of the draft for review and comment.  Paper copies of the draft were made available for review at the City of Kent Clerk of Council office and the City of Kent Community Development Department.  Each advertisement indicated that persons with special needs and non-English speaking residents were encouraged to participate and that they should contact the City so that any needed accommodations could be arranged.

**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 | Non-targeted/broad community | Notice of February 19, 2025 public hearing published in Kent-Ravenna Record Courier on 2/5/25. | No comments were received. | N/A |  |
| 2 | Newspaper Ad | Non-targeted/broad community | Public Notice of availability of DRAFT PY2025 CDBG Action Plan and 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan for Review: published in the Kent-Ravenna Record Courier on 4/21/2025 for a 30-day Public Comment Period commencing on Monday, April 21, 2025, and ending on Wednesday, May 21, 2025. | No comments were received. | N/A |  |
| 3 | Public Meeting | Non-targeted/broad community | Notice of May 21, 2025, Public Hearing #2 published in the Kent-Ravenna Record Courier on May 7, 2024. | No comments were received. | N/A |  |
| 4 | Internet Outreach | Non-targeted/broad community | Draft PY 2025 CDBG Action Plan and 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan posted to the City of Kent website in the "Spotlights" section. | No comments were received. | N/A | https://www.kentohio.gov |

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

# Expected Resources

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

**Introduction**

**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 | 283,425 | 25,000 | 0 | 308,425 | 0 | The City of Kent anticipates that it will have $308,425 available for the first year of the 2025-2029 Five Year Consolidated Plan. |
| Other | public - state | Housing | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |

Table 1 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

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

Leveraging other resources is an important part of the CDBG program and will be vital for meeting the needs and goals of the City’s 5-year Consolidated Plan, including activities undertaken during PY2025, because it increases the impact of CDBG funding above and beyond what would be feasible through the City’s yearly CDBG allocation on its own.  The importance of leveraged funds is seen in the projects that the City funds and significant weight is given to leveraged funds as part of the City’s project evaluation process.  Most of the projects and activities undertaken provide some sort of leverage whether it be local agency funds into a project, funding through the State of Ohio, or through other sources.  Projects that will leverage funding during PY2025 include the Community Action Council of Portage County’s Energy Efficiency Program, which anticipates leverage of over $36,475 in other federal, state and local sources. Phase II of the Elm Street Reconstruction project, which is being funded in part with CDBG funds, will leverage an estimated $561,165 in federal funds and $497,035 in local capital funds. CDBG funds will be leveraged with $274,000 in federal, state and other funds to provide shelter and wrap-around services at the Miller House homeless shelter.

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

N/A

**Discussion**

# 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** | Neighborhood Policing Program | 2025 | 2029 | Non-Housing Community Development |  | Crime Prevention | CDBG: $10,000 | Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 8097 Persons Assisted |
| **2** | Energy Efficiency Housing Rehabilitation | 2025 | 2029 | Affordable Housing |  | Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation | CDBG: $44,100 | Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 6 Household Housing Unit |
| **3** | Nonprofit Public Facilities | 2025 | 2029 | Non-Housing Community Development |  | Non-Profit Public Facilities |  | Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 10 Households Assisted |
| **4** | Homeless Shelter Services | 2025 | 2029 | Homeless |  | Homeless Shelter Services | CDBG: $15,000 | Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 45 Persons Assisted |
| **5** | Elm Street Reconstruction | 2025 | 2029 | Non-Housing Community Development |  | Public Infrastructure Improvements | CDBG: $170,000 public - state: $300,000 | Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 18040 Persons Assisted |

Table 2 – Goals Summary

**Goal Descriptions**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | **Goal Name** | Neighborhood Policing Program |
| **Goal Description** | $10,000 of CDBG Funds will be allocated to the City of Kent Police Department to provide increased Patrols and education to residents of low- to moderate-income neighborhoods and assisted housing complexes. |
| **2** | **Goal Name** | Energy Efficiency Housing Rehabilitation |
| **Goal Description** | $44,100 of CDBG funds will be allocated to Community Action Council to continue its “Kent Furnace Inspection/Targeted Replacement Program” that provides the services of furnace inspections, tune-ups, or the replacement of failing or inefficient furnaces and/or hot water tanks for low-to-moderate income Kent households. |
| **3** | **Goal Name** | Nonprofit Public Facilities |
| **Goal Description** | $17, 995 of CDBG Funds will be allocated to Axess Family Services to do a complete roof replacement at 161-163 Currie Hall Parkway, a two-family dwelling that provides transitional housing to individuals and families experiencing housing insecurity in the City of Kent. |
| **4** | **Goal Name** | Homeless Shelter Services |
| **Goal Description** | This activity will allocate $15,000 of CDBG funds to Miller Community House for the provision of shelter to fifteen (15) homeless individuals |
| **5** | **Goal Name** | Elm Street Reconstruction |
| **Goal Description** | This activity will use CDBG funds to assist with the design and full-depth reconstruction of Elm Street from Dodge Street to South Water Street.  The work involves new sidewalks, concrete curbs and gutters, catch basins, and storm sewers to improve drainage along the roadway.  This is a multi-year project and construction is scheduled for 2027 (Elm St. Reconstruction Phase 2 – Dodge St. to S. Water St.). |

## Projects

## AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

**Introduction**

The City is proposing to undertake the projects listed in Table 3 during PY2025, the first year of the 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Planning period. The proposed projects are a result of an open request for proposal process and a thorough staff review which takes into account the proposed objectives and priority needs outlined in this plan, as well as all regulatory requirements of the CDBG program.

**Projects**

| **#** | **Project Name** |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | 2025 Elm Street Reconstruction Phase I |
| 2 | 2025 Neighborhood Policing Program |
| 3 | 2025 Furnace Inspection/Targeted Replacement Program |
| 4 | 2025 Homeless Shelter Services |
| 5 | 2025 Roof Replacement, 161 & 163 Currie Hall Pkwy |
| 6 | 2025 CDBG Administration |
| 7 | 2025 Fair Housing Services |

Table 3 - Project Information

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

The allocation priorities are driven by the proposed goals and objectives set forth in the City's 5-year Consolidated Plan that spans the time period PY2025-PY2029 and how the projects that were proposed as part of an open request for proposal process align with the goals and objectives of the Consolidated Plan.  The largest obstacle to addressing underserved needs is the limited amount of funding that is available when compared to the amount of need that is in the community.  The City best addresses this issue by keeping in close communication with other service providers in the community to ensure there is no overlap or duplication of services and by expending funds that are targeted towards the largest, and most underserved, needs in the City.

## AP-38 Project Summary

**Project Summary Information**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | **Project Name** | 2025 Elm Street Reconstruction Phase II |
| **Target Area** |  |
| **Goals Supported** |  |
| **Needs Addressed** | Public Infrastructure Improvements |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $170,000 public - state: $3,730,000 |
| **Description** | This activity provides funding to assist with the design and full-depth reconstruction of Elm Street from Dodge Street to South Water Street. The work involves rehabilitation of the asphalt pavement, new sidewalks, concrete curb and gutter, catch basins and storm sewers to improve drainage along the roadway. This is a multi-year project and construction is scheduled for 2027 (Phase 1 Franklin Ave -S. Water Street). |
| **Target Date** | 12/31/2027 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | 8,097 low- to moderate-income residents of the City of Kent. |
| **Location Description** | Elm Street from Dodge Street to South Water Street. |
| **Planned Activities** | The work involves rehabilitation of the asphalt pavement, new sidewalks, concrete curb and gutter, catch basins and storm sewers to improve drainage along the roadway.  This is a multi-year project and construction is scheduled for 2027 (Phase 1 – Franklin Ave -S. Water Street). |
| **2** | **Project Name** | 2025 Neighborhood Policing Program |
| **Target Area** |  |
| **Goals Supported** | Neighborhood Policing Program |
| **Needs Addressed** | Crime Prevention |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $10,000 |
| **Description** | The Neighborhood Policing Program provides additional patrols and police visibility primarily in low-to-moderate income neighborhoods and in publicly assisted housing complexes. The program has a goal of improving communication, trust and understanding between residents and the Police Department. Funding for this activity is counted toward the Public Service 15% funding limitation. |
| **Target Date** | 7/31/2026 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | 8097 low- to moderate-income individuals. |
| **Location Description** | Funded (subsidized) housing projects, the Downtown business district, and residential neighborhoods as well as the 8 Planning Districts of the City of Kent will benefit from additional police patrols, bicycle patrols and public education and outreach by the City of Kent police department. |
| **Planned Activities** | The program objectives are to improve police-neighborhood relationships, improve methods of identifying sources of crime and neighborhood disruption, increase the rate at which crimes are reported to the police, enhance crime prevention activities and disseminate security information resources by promoting greater interaction between police officers and residents through additional police patrols, bicycle police patrols, and educational outreach. |
| **3** | **Project Name** | 2025 Furnace Inspection/Targeted Replacement Program |
| **Target Area** |  |
| **Goals Supported** | Energy Efficiency Housing Rehabilitation |
| **Needs Addressed** | Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $44,100 public - state: $21,075 |
| **Description** | Community Action Council is requesting funding from the CDBG program to continue its Kent Furnace Inspection/Targeted Replacement Program that provides the services of furnace inspections, tune-ups, or the replacement of failing or inefficient furnaces and/or hot water tanks for low-to-moderate income Kent households. |
| **Target Date** | 7/31/2026 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | 4 low- to moderate-income households. |
| **Location Description** | Project location will be an estimated 4 owner-occupied low- to moderate-income housing units on scattered sites throughout the City of Kent.  Specific locations will be determined at a later date. |
| **Planned Activities** | Community Action Council of Portage County will secure applications for CDBG services for at least 4 households.  Services may include basic furnace inspection and diagnostics; installation of high efficiency heating systems; installation of replacement hot water tanks and associated expansion tanks, and consumer education services. |
| **4** | **Project Name** | 2025 Homeless Shelter Services |
| **Target Area** |  |
| **Goals Supported** | Homeless Shelter Services |
| **Needs Addressed** | Homeless Shelter Services |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $15,000 public - state: $187,600 |
| **Description** | The Homeless Shelter Services program provides services at Miller Community House, which is an emergency homeless shelter. Funding helps pay for shelter nights spent by Kent residents including needed case management, counseling and housing placement. Funding for this activity is counted toward the Public Service 15% funding limitation. |
| **Target Date** | 7/31/2026 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | 20 homeless families will receive overnight shelter and wrap around services. |
| **Location Description** | 1211 Anita Drive, Kent, Ohio 44240. |
| **Planned Activities** | Community Action Council of Portage County will secure applications for CDBG services for at least 7 households.  Services may include basic furnace inspection and diagnostics; installation of high efficiency heating systems; installation of replacement how water tanks and associated expansion tanks, and consumer education services. |
| **5** | **Project Name** | 2025 Roof Replacement, 161 & 163 Currie Hall Pkwy |
| **Target Area** |  |
| **Goals Supported** | Nonprofit Public Facilities |
| **Needs Addressed** | Non-Profit Rental Rehabilitation |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $17,995 |
| **Description** | Axess Family Services will utilize CDBG funds to do a complete roof replacement at 161 & 163 Currie Hall Pkwy, a two-unit transitional housing. |
| **Target Date** | 7/31/2026 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | 10 low- to moderate-income families living in this permanent supportive housing apartments will benefit from the roof replacement. |
| **Location Description** | 161 &163 Currie Hall Pkwy, Kent, OH 44240 |
| **Planned Activities** | A complete roof replacement at 161 & 163 Currie Hall Pkwy a two-unit transitional housing. |
| **6** | **Project Name** | 2025 CDBG Administration |
| **Target Area** |  |
| **Goals Supported** |  |
| **Needs Addressed** |  |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $3,000 |
| **Description** | These funds are used to cover grant administration costs such as the cost of staff, supplies, advertising, postage, copying, travel costs for trainings, and other related costs. Funding for this activity is counted toward the Planning and Administration 20% funding limitation. |
| **Target Date** | 7/31/2026 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | Funds will be used to cover grant administration costs associated with the oversight of CDBG-funded programs. |
| **Location Description** | CDBG Administration activities will be conducted at 930 Overholt Road, Kent, OH. |
| **Planned Activities** | Funds will be used to cover grant administration costs associated with the oversight of CDBG-funded programs. |
| **7** | **Project Name** | 2024 Fair Housing Services |
| **Target Area** |  |
| **Goals Supported** |  |
| **Needs Addressed** |  |
| **Funding** | CDBG: $19,000 |
| **Description** | Fair Housing Contact Service will use funds to cover the cost associated with the provision of fair housing service. The consultant will provide counseling in the areas of housing discrimination and landlord-tenant issues. They will investigate fair housing complaints and provide a variety of public education and outreach services in the City. Funding for this activity is counted toward the Planning and Administration 20% funding limitation. |
| **Target Date** | 7/31/2025 |
| **Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities** | An estimated fifty low- to moderate-income residents of the City of Kent will receive Fair Housing services. |
| **Location Description** | Fair Housing Contact Service will provide fair housing services to residents of the City of Kent, OH. |
| **Planned Activities** | Services will include homebuyer counseling, tenant/landlord counseling, investigation of discrimination complaints, educational workshops/trainings and testing. |

## 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**

During this Consolidated Plan process (2025-2029), the City will target its available CDBG and other local resources toward supporting public infrastructure improvement projects and activities within the neighborhoods of the City that have some of the highest concentrations of low- to moderate-income and minority households.  The City is continuing this geographic targeting of public infrastructure improvements during the PY2025 period by contributing funding to the Elm Street Reconstruction project. This project will meet this priority need and is located in a low- to moderate-income area and an area of minority concentration as shown on the maps attached to this plan in the appendix.  The Neighborhood Policing program will again be undertaken during PY2025 and provide additional police outreach to low-to moderate-income geographic areas of the City, some of which also have a higher concentrations of minority populations.  The program has a goal of improving communication, trust and understanding between residents and the Police Department.  The other programs being proposed during PY2025 provide a citywide benefit to residents or assistance to eligible households that could be located anywhere throughout the City, rather than on the basis of a geographic area.

**Geographic Distribution**

| **Target Area** | **Percentage of Funds** |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |

Table 4 - Geographic Distribution

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

The City targets some of its available CDBG and other local resources towards neighborhoods of the City that have some of the highest concentrations of low-to moderate-income households.  The intent of this shift and its continuance during this 2025-2029 Five-year Consolidated Plan period, and PY2025, is to ensure that resources are allocated to the geographic areas of greatest need in the City.

**Discussion**

# Affordable Housing

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

**Introduction**

| **One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported** | |
| --- | --- |
| Homeless | 40 |
| Non-Homeless | 14 |
| Special-Needs | 2 |
| Total | 56 |

Table 6 - 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 | 16 |
| Acquisition of Existing Units | 0 |
| Total | 16 |

Table 7 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

**Discussion**

The City of Kent has allocated $15,000 in PY2025 CDBG funds to Axess Family Services’ Marie Miller Community Center for Homeless, which will provide overnight shelter and wrap-around services for an estimated 40 homeless individuals.  Community Action Council (CAC) of Portage County was allocated $44,100 in PY2025 CDBG funding for the continuation of its “Kent Furnace Inspection/Targeted Replacement Program” that provides the services of furnace inspections, tune-ups, or the replacement of failing or inefficient furnaces and/or hot water tanks for owner-occupied low-to-moderate income Kent households. This program will serve an estimated 4 low-to-moderate income owner-occupied City of Kent households.  Axess Family Services was allocated $17,995 in PY2025 CDBG funding for a roof replacement at 161 & 163 Currie Hall Pkwy which provides transitional housing to individuals and families experiencing housing insecurity in the City of Kent.

## AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

**Introduction**

The City is one of the smallest entitlement communities in the State of Ohio and receives a limited amount of CDBG funding on an annual basis. The City does not have the funding available to support a Tenant-Based Rental Assistance program or to complete rehabilitation activities at PMHA units located within the City. Although the City cannot provide financial assistance, it works collaboratively with the PMHA on various housing issues, including possible homeownership programs that may benefit households participating in PMHA’s public housing or Section 8 voucher assistance program.

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

The Portage Metropolitan Housing Authority (PMHA) has approximately 303 public housing units that can be used for housing extremely low-income (0-30% of AMI) and low-income households (31-50% of AMI) which includes households with annual household incomes between 0 - 50% of the area median income (AMI). The PMHA’s 2025 Annual Agency Plan identified the following goals and objectives:

1. Achieve and Maintain Excellence in Tenant-Based Housing Programs

* Two households will become new homeowners through the Housing Choice Voucher Homeownership Program

2. Improve Productivity and Cost Effectiveness

* Examine opportunities to improve productivity and cost effectiveness through technology.

3. Collaborate with Community Partners to Leverage Resources to Benefit Households Assisted by PMHA  
   and Portage County

* PMHA will investigate opportunities to develop and manage permanent supportive housing.
* PMHA will investigate methods of inter-agency cooperation that will lessen barriers to assistance for applicants and participants.

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

PMHA provides programming for residents of Public Housing through a number of different measures including their Resident Opportunity Self Sufficiency (ROSS) grant program and their Good Neighbor Program which is funded through the City of Kent’s local Social Service Grant Program. ROSS is a HUD-funded ROSS-Service Coordinators FY2019 grant.  Under the 2019 Resident Opportunity and Supportive Services (ROSS) Service Coordinator grant, PMHA was awarded 3-year renewal funding to retain a Service Coordinator which is specifically for public housing units that helps families and individuals obtain self-sufficiency and improve quality of life. The Good Neighbor program provides an array of services that aim to improve the living environment of LMI families residing in public housing. Programming through the Good Neighbor program includes: a forum for interaction between public housing residents and the Kent Police Department, referral and service coordination that to meet needs of residents, distribution literature promoting healthy lifestyles, and employment services. All of these measures are taken with the goal of increasing resident involvement and improving the living environment of PMHA residents in Kent. PMHA offers a homeownership program through its Housing Choice Voucher Program. PMHA’s most recent "Moving to Work" plan had a goal for two (2) residents to obtain homeownership.

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

N/A

**Discussion**

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

**Introduction**

**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**

Services for the homeless in Portage County are usually undertaken by one of two housing and services providers in the area, Axess Family Services and Coleman Health Services (CHS). The City plans to fund 2 projects for Axess Family Services during PY2025 for the services that they provide to the homeless and those at risk for homelessness. The City will fund Axess Family Services’ Homeless Shelter Services Program, which provides emergency shelter nights at an emergency homeless shelter along with connected supportive services that aim to meet the specific needs of each client. The City will also provide assistance to Axess Family Services for a roof replacement at a two-unit (duplex) that provides transitional housing to individuals and families experiencing housing insecurity within the City of Kent. The City will provide Coleman Professional Services with non-CDBG/local funding for an eviction prevention program.

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

The City will use CDBG funding for Axess Family Services’ Homeless Shelter Services Program during PY2025, which provides emergency housing for individuals and families, as well as supportive services that may be needed.

**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 goals mentioned above are designed to help individuals and families transition from homelessness to stable housing situations. Services needed for self-sufficiency vary depending on the needs of each specific client. An assessment is conducted at intake by local housing providers that identifies needs with the goal always being sustaining a self-sufficient housing/living situation as expeditiously as possible given the unique characteristics of each client. Local services providers, including the agencies mentioned in this section who are scheduled to receive funding from the City during PY2025, coordinate well with each other and keep in close contact through a number of different forums, most notably the Portage County Housing Services Council. These agencies, including the City of Kent, are cognizant of programming that is available in the Community that provides services and emergency, transitional and supportive housing. These relationships are key to facilitating a housing and support service structure that, to the greatest extent feasible, ensures no gaps exist.

**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 support network described in the previous sections is designed to prevent homelessness and provide housing and any needed services to those who become homeless. This support structure is in place with the intention of limiting the amount of time individuals or families experience homelessness and to provide tools for them to become self-sufficient. In addition to the projects and activities mentioned in the previous areas of this section, the City allocates local social service funding to Axess Family Services and Coleman Health Services for homelessness prevention rental assistance programs. Unfortunately, the City of Kent is one of the smallest entitlement communities in the State and the needs for many different services far outweigh the resources that are available with CDBG funding alone. For this reason, the City and local service providers rely on the pooling of different funding sources and good coordination among providers to ensure the best housing and service delivery network is in place, given the amount of resources that are available, to meet the needs of the homeless.

**Discussion**

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

**Introduction:**

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

The City of Kent does not have any local public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing. The primary barrier to affordable housing for many low- to moderate-income households remains the limited number of affordable housing units in the community. The City is home to Kent State University and the student population has created a large rental market in the community. The City recognizes that there still is a need for more affordable housing in the community and that the City’s large student population does limit the availability of rental units for low- to moderate-income households, especially larger families. The City has implemented code violation and zoning ordinances to address some of the issues that have developed over the years as a result of the student renters. These ordinances are not restrictive in terms of limiting the availability of affordable housing, but rather, are focused on property maintenance issues to ensure landlords maintain safe and decent housing. The zoning code, and its enforcement, also limits the use of boarding houses in the city, which can be rented out by the bedroom. This enforcement helps the affordability of housing by lowering rent structures that can escalate as a result of houses rented on a per bedroom basis. This enforcement, which is achieved through the City of Kent's Rental Licensing program, helps to maintain the affordability of housing by lowering rent structures that can escalate as a result of houses being rented on a per bedroom basis. The City does not have tax policies or other public policies that affect the valuation of land or other property in a manner that adversely impacts the availability of housing in the community. It is also challenging for many low- to moderate- income households to make the transition from being renters to homeowners because of the difficulties associated with saving for a down payment and securing financing from traditional lenders.

The City is committed to allocating CDBG funds to affordable housing initiatives and has designated offering housing programs to provide safe and decent housing for low-to moderate-income households as a primary funding objective for PY2025 and during the 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan period. In addition, the City will utilize Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) funds from the State of Ohio to help expand affordable housing opportunities for the low- to moderate-income households in Kent. All of these efforts are a strategy to remove barriers to affordable housing by increasing the supply and availability of affordable housing. The City is always continuing its housing code enforcement that targets illegal boarding houses that rent to students on a per bedroom basis that limit available housing for larger families and can increase rent levels. The City of Kent participates in the Portage County Housing Services Council (PCHSC), which is a collaborative volunteer group comprised of nonprofit agencies, developers and government agencies that are involved with housing programs throughout Portage County. The PCHSC meets quarterly and routinely discusses strategies to remove barriers to affordable housing.

**Discussion:**

## AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

**Introduction:**

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

The City will continue its collaboration with area nonprofit organizations in order to identify the most immediate underserved needs in the community along with possible funding sources that can be accessed to address these needs.  The City provides CDBG funding for several programs that serve the needs of the underserved in the City of Kent.  Often organizations that receive CDBG funding through the City use the grant award as match to try and secure additional funding from other government or private sources in order to expand or create new programs to meet the needs of the underserved.  The largest obstacle to addressing underserved needs is the limited amount of funding that is available when compared to the amount of need that is the community.  The City best addresses this issue by keeping in close communication with other service providers in the area to ensure there is no overlap or duplication of services and by expending funds that are most targeted towards the largest, and most underserved, needs in the City. The various projects undertaken in past Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program years, in this PY2025 CDBG Action plan and through the City’s locally funded Social Service Grant Program are rooted in the purpose of addressing underserved needs in the Community.

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

The City has identified offering programs to provide safe and decent housing for low- to moderate-income households as a primary funding objective during the PY2025-2029 Consolidated Plan and anticipates undertaking activities on a continuing basis to further this objective.  During PY2025 the City plans to foster and maintain affordable housing by undertaking the Energy Efficiency Housing Rehabilitation program at four (4) households, replace the roof at a two-unit transitional housing facility owned by Axess Family Services in order to provide increased safety and accessibility, and have RLF and Community Housing Impact and Preservation program (CHIP) funding available for the Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation that can assist with substantial housing rehabilitation  and emergency water/sewer connection. The City will continue to fund the Homeless Shelter Services program, which will provide emergency housing for an estimated forty (40) homeless persons. Concurrently with this Action Plan, the City is preparing an application for a Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) grant through the State of Ohio Development Service Agency’s Office of Community Development to help expand affordable housing opportunities for the low- to moderate-income households in Kent.

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

The City and its subrecipient agencies that are involved in housing rehabilitation activities continue to implement the current requirements involving the reduction of lead-based paint hazards.  Depending on the nature of each individual project and scope of work, the City requires that contractors working on housing rehabilitation projects have the proper Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) Certification though the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or lead-based paint abatement licensure through the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). A licensed third-party vendor is used for conducting both lead risk assessments and clearance testing.  In addition, a City staff member that oversees the entire rehabilitation process has received lead-based paint training and holds lead-licensure as a certified lead-abatement contractor.  Anytime construction activity is undertaken on housing that was built prior to 1978, all required lead-based paint measures are taken to ensure that all regulatory guidelines are met and the safety of its occupants.

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

During PY2025, the City will also continue to provide financial support to the various nonprofit agencies in the community that work with persons living at the poverty level.  Many of the services local non-profit agencies provide, including housing initiatives and supportive services, have a primary goal of reducing the number of families and individuals living below the poverty-level.  Infrastructure investment, such as the Elm Street Reconstruction project, within low- to moderate-income Census Block Groups that are likely to have a higher proportion of families below the poverty line, are designed in-part to help improve the economic conditions within those areas. The City was awarded a Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) grant through the State of Ohio Development Service Agency’s Office of Community Development to help expand affordable housing opportunities for the low- to moderate-income households in Kent, including those below the poverty-level. Many of the activities undertaken in past Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program years, in this PY2025 CDBG Action plan and through the City’s locally funded Social Service Grant Program share a common goal of reducing the number of poverty-level families.

**Actions planned to develop institutional structure**

The City plans to work closely with local social service agencies and nonprofit housing providers during the PY2025 Action Plan year to identify local needs within the community and to identify possible methods for minimizing the gaps in service.  By maintaining its working relationship with local agencies, the City has an ongoing understanding of the needs of special needs populations within the community.  The local institutional structure is further supported though the coordination of activities provided through the Portage County Housing Services Council.  The City will continue its involvement in the PY2025 year because such involvement creates an important link to a number of social service agencies and housing providers in Kent and throughout Portage County. The Community Resource Connect will help further solidify institutional structure. Beyond providing information and resources for residents in the community, Community Resource Connect will allow service and housing providers to further collaborate, or make new connections, which helps ensure the provision of housing and related services from various organizations in the community is as efficient as possible.

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

Coordination between the City of Kent, the Portage Metropolitan Housing Authority (PMHA) and various social service agencies is an ongoing process.  The City, PMHA and many area nonprofit service and housing providers are active members of the Portage County Housing Services Council (HSC).  The HSC provides a forum for the exchange of ideas and discussions on affordable housing needs within Portage County.  Information gathered through these meetings is utilized by the City in the development of its housing goals and is used by other HSC participating organizations to identify the needs of the homeless during the annual Continuum of Care (CoC) process.

**Discussion:**

# Program Specific Requirements

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

**Introduction:**

**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. | 100.00% |